

News Release



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Meadow Valley Contractors Inc. to Pay \$80,000 for Air Quality Violations during 2007 Construction in Buckeye

PHOENIX (Feb. 18, 2010) – The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and Arizona Attorney General's Office announced today that Meadow Valley Contractors, Inc., of Phoenix will pay \$80,000 under a consent judgment with ADEQ for air quality violations at the company's asphalt and gravel facility that was temporarily located at the intersection of Miller Road and Sunrise Road in Buckeye in late 2007 through early 2008.

In February 2008, ADEQ inspected the facility and discovered multiple permit violations, including seven days of operation in excess of operating hours restrictions set in the permit occurring between Oct. 17 and Nov. 19, 2007, and failure to ensure that visible emissions from the facility were kept to a minimum. Visible emissions are emissions that can be detected without the aid of instruments that contain particulate matter.

On Feb. 21, 2008, Meadow Valley conducted a performance test at this facility in compliance with its permit conditions. The test results revealed emissions above the permitted limits for particulate matter (PM₁₀), carbon monoxide, sulfur oxides and volatile organic compounds.

After the inspection, ADEQ issued two notices of violation. Meadow Valley Contractors worked closely with ADEQ, and returned to compliance with its permit conditions by June 5, 2008.

"ADEQ takes air pollution violations seriously, particularly particulate matter in Maricopa County, but we also appreciate Meadow Valley's cooperation and swift work to come into compliance," said ADEQ Director Benjamin H. Grumbles.

"Air quality in metro Phoenix is a significant health issue, and any company with multiple violations needs to be held strictly accountable," Attorney General Terry Goddard said.

Meadow Valley Contractors produces hot mix asphalt and gravel products and provides contracting services specializing in the construction of highways, bridges, overpasses, and the paving of highways and airport runways. The company uses portable equipment throughout Arizona.

In addition to the civil penalty, Meadow Valley Contractors is required to submit an application to ADEQ for an individual permit which will help to ensure continued compliance. The consent judgment is subject to court approval.