

News Release



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mesa Transmission Repair Shop to Pay \$30,000 Penalty to Resolve Illegal Discharge of Oil into City of Mesa Sewer Line

PHOENIX (April 21, 2010) – The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and Arizona Attorney General's Office announced today that a Mesa transmission repair shop has agreed to pay a \$30,000 penalty for used oil violations under a consent judgment.

Arizona Transmissions System, LLC, located at 868 S. Country Club Drive, was issued a Notice of Violation in 2007 by ADEQ for discharging used oil and water into a sewer line, not doing a hazardous waste determination on the oil and failing to clean up the used oil spill prior to the ADEQ investigation.

A notice of violation was served on the company by ADEQ after a City of Mesa inspector noted foul smells and oil in the sewer line where the facility was the only user of the line.

As part of the settlement, the company agreed to install a three-stage oil-water separator and to develop and implement an Environmental Management System.

"Arizona Transmissions System now knows an ounce of oil pollution prevention is worth a pound of cure. Fortunately, the company is stepping up to fix the problem and set a better example of how to protect public health and the environment because oil and water and sewage shouldn't be mixed," ADEQ Director Benjamin H. Grumbles said.

"This negligent act potentially put Mesa city workers maintaining the line at risk," Attorney General Terry Goddard said. "Automobile repair shops must follow Arizona law and dispose of automotive fluids in an environmentally safe way."

The consent judgment is subject to court approval.