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BTZ, Inc. of Yuma Agrees to Pay \$40,000 Settlement For Not Maintaining Air Quality Control Device

PHOENIX (Oct. 7, 2013) – Arizona Department of Environmental Quality officials announced today that BTZ, Inc. has agreed to pay a \$40,000 penalty for not properly maintaining the air pollution control device at its Yuma plant .

In December 2011, an emission test was conducted at the BTZ hot mix asphalt plant. The test results revealed that the facility’s emission rate for particulate matter-10 (dust) was 15 times the permitted emission limit. Subsequent inspections conducted by ADEQ along with documents provided by the company revealed that the emissions device had not been properly maintained by BTZ.

ADEQ issued a notice of violation to BTZ for emitting pollution in excess of the facility’s permitted limits in January 2012. After repairing the emissions control device, BTZ demonstrated compliance with its permitted emission limits the next month.

“Failing a stack test is a serious issue, especially in areas where dust pollution is a concern,” said ADEQ Director Henry Darwin. “After being notified of the violation, BTZ took action to return to compliance quickly.”

Portions of Yuma County have been designated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as a moderate non-attainment area for PM₁₀. Exposure to PM₁₀ can cause respiratory problems, particularly in the young and old, and can aggravate existing respiratory conditions.

BTZ Inc., doing business as Zeller’s Excavating & Paving, operates a hot mix asphalt plant and crushing and screening operation in Yuma. The facility contracts services for excavation, demolition, paving and crushing.

The consent judgment is subject to court approval.

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