

News Release



ARIZONA DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
1110 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
Contact: Mark Shaffer, 602-771-2215
www.azdeq.gov

ARIZONA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE
1275 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
Contact: Molly Edwards, 602-542-8019
www.azag.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Goodyear Tire and Rubber to Pay \$45,000 Penalty to Resolve Hazardous Waste Violations at Goodyear Airport Superfund Site

PHOENIX (April 23, 2010) – The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and Arizona Attorney General's Office announced today that Goodyear Tire and Rubber Comp. has agreed to pay a \$45,000 penalty under a consent judgment for hazardous waste violations at its groundwater treatment facility in Goodyear.

On Dec. 14, 2006, Goodyear Tire and Rubber released about 6,700 gallons of groundwater contaminated with sulfuric acid and trichloroethylene (TCE) into the soil at the Phoenix Goodyear Airport South superfund site. A pipe fitting in the groundwater treatment system failed and a containment pond did not have the capacity to contain the spill. The site where the contaminated water entered the ground was documented the next day by ADEQ investigators.

ADEQ issued a Notice of Violation to Goodyear Tire and Rubber in February 2007 for the release, citing treating, storing and disposing of hazardous waste without a permit.

"Environmental stewardship is always good business because it saves money over the long run and reduces risk to public health. In this case, the company stepped forward to fix the waste violations and invest in long-term compliance and that's good news for the environment and economy of Arizona," ADEQ Director Benjamin H. Grumbles said.

"Any company handling hazardous waste like sulfuric acid and TCE needs to rigorously comply with state standards to protect the health of our citizens and our environment," Attorney General Terry Goddard said.

The Goodyear treatment and storage facility is located in an area where Goodyear Aerospace once repaired military aircraft using industrial solvents like TCE. State inspectors first found groundwater contaminated with TCE and chromium at the site in 1981 and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency listed it as a superfund site in 1983.

The consent judgment is subject to court approval.