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Bostwick Laboratories Inc. of Tempe to Pay $129,900 Civil Penalty to Resolve Hazardous Waste Violations in Maricopa County

PHOENIX (July 8, 2011) – The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and Arizona Attorney General’s Office announced today that Bostwick Laboratories Inc. of Tempe has agreed to pay a $129,900 civil penalty under a consent judgment for hazardous waste violations.

The company, located at 1700 Desert Dr. in Tempe, provides laboratory services specializing in the monitoring and diagnosis of cancer.

During an inspection of the facility in February 2010 by ADEQ’s hazardous waste inspection and compliance unit, it was found that the company did not put decontamination equipment in one storage area and also had not made local police and fire authorities and area hospitals familiar with its emergency procedures.

The company also had incomplete inspection logs, did not have contingency emergency plans or an emergency coordinator, lacked training records for hazardous waste storage personnel, did not mark “Hazardous Waste” on five-gallon containers and shipped hazardous waste without obtaining the required ID number from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

In addition, a records review determined that Bostwick Laboratories did not register with ADEQ, pay annual registration or hazardous waste generation fees or submit annual reports since beginning operations in 2006.

“This lack of management of hazardous waste put employees and the community at risk. Agreeing to pay this sizeable penalty is an acknowledgement of the severity of the situation,” ADEQ Director Henry Darwin said.

"Any company handling hazardous waste needs to rigorously comply with state standards to protect the health of our citizens and our environment," Attorney General Tom Horne said.

The consent judgment is subject to court approval.