



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
NEWS RELEASE

Department of Toxic Substances Control

T - 03 - 06
For Immediate Release
January 9, 2006

Contact: Sandra Friedman
714.484.5383
Ron Baker
916.324.3142

Settlement Reached With Abatement Services Operations Inc

San Diego – The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) today announced a \$14,000 settlement with Abatement Services Operations, Inc (ASO) of El Cajon for violations of hazardous waste transportation and storage regulations. During a DTSC transporter inspection it was revealed that the company was operating as a registered hazardous waste hauler with a lapsed registration.

Under the terms of the Consent Order, Abatement Service Operation, Inc. will pay a total of \$4,000 in penalties. The Department will waive \$5,000 of the settlement amount on the condition that ASO refrain from transportation of hazardous waste for five years. A copy of the order formalizing the settlement is available on the DTSC website: www.dtsc.a.gov

The settlement stems from a transporter inspection and a subsequent inspection of the facility by DTSC inspectors.

The violations revealed included:

- Operation as a registered hauler without renewing registration
- Holding Hazardous waste at its transfer facility for more than 10 days without authorization from the department
- Improperly handling approximately 35 bags of lead based paint material and debris causing torn or damaged bags to be exposed to the elements.
- Failing to label or clearly mark approximately 35 bags of lead based paint materials
- Failing to label or clearly mark four 55 gallon drums containing hazardous wastes

ASO has corrected the violations and agrees as a condition of the Consent Order not to transport hazardous waste as a registered hauler for five years. In addition, the DTSC will waive \$5,000 of the payment if the company sends one or more of its employees successfully complete course work at the California Compliance School within 90 days.

###

The Department of Toxic Substances Control's mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment and ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.