



# CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

## NEWS RELEASE

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### Department of Toxic Substances Control

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#### **\$35,240 Order Issued to Crosby & Overton, Inc.**

LOS ANGELES – Citing the need to ensure that all hazardous waste facilities are in compliance and are updating their equipment to meet state and industry standards to protect the public and the environment from potential exposures to hazardous waste, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) announced the issuances of a Consent Order to Crosby & Overton, Inc., which resolves hazardous waste violations revealed at its 1630 West 17<sup>th</sup> Street facility in Long Beach. The Consent Order, issued July 27, 2006, requires Crosby & Overton (C&O) to pay \$35,240 of which \$17, 240 is a penalty and \$13,000 is reimbursement for the Department's costs.

"It is imperative that operating facilities are in compliance and are updating their equipment," said DTSC Director Maureen Gorsen. "These elements of management ensure safe operation, prevent accidental releases, and limit potential exposure – for employees and California communities," Gorsen added.

Effectively immediately, the order was based on a series of DTSC inspections: (June 28, 2005, October 5, 2005, and January 24-26, 2006). In addition to the penalty, under the Order's "Schedule for Compliance" the facility was given thirty (30) days to:

- Identify a replacement unit for the "Lectro Clear System" a piece of equipment that removes impurities, such as metals and trace oils from water, with an equivalent unit of the same type and capacity, and have the new system certified by a registered professional engineer.
- Replace an existing obsolete carbon vessel, known as Tank CA-30, which must be replaced with an equivalent unit of the same type and capacity.

The facility was given 90 days to replace an old paint can crusher with an equivalent unit of the same type and capacity. Prior to replacement of these units, the facility shall submit drawings and specifications to the Department for review.

Other violations revealed during the inspections included:

- Failure to properly classify a hazardous waste. C&O declared as empty a total of nine drums that contained a mixture of solvents and paints.
- Failure to conduct and record "ignitability" tests for two hazardous waste tanks in their facility inspection logs.
- Failure to prepare a hazardous waste manifest prior to transporting hazardous waste on a public street by forklift.
- Failure to remove a leaking tank from service.
- Failure to store hazardous waste in the designated storage area.
- Failed to have a secondary containment system impervious to releases.

DTSC will waive \$5,000 of the payment when two or more employees successfully complete the California Compliance School within 180 days of the effective date of this Order.

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***The Department of Toxic Substances Control is a department of the California Environmental Protection Agency. DTSC'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.***