



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Department of Toxic Substances Control

News Release

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PILKINGTON NORTH AMERICA, INC. AGREES TO PAY \$207,723 TO SETTLE CHARGES THAT IT ENDANGERED THE ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC HEALTH

SACRAMENTO, CA – Pilkington North America, Inc. (PNA), a company that manufactures float glass used by architectural and automotive markets will pay more than \$200,000 to settle violations of hazardous waste laws, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) announced today.

A Stipulation for Entry of Final Judgment on Consent (Stipulation) filed by the California Attorney General's Office on behalf of DTSC secures injunctive relief and requires that PNA pay a total of \$207,723, including \$187,975 in civil penalties and \$19,748 in reimbursement of DTSC's costs.

PNA has a history of hazardous waste violations that date back to 2007 at its Lathrop facility at 500 East Louise Avenue.

A Complaint filed in Sacramento County Superior Court contains fifteen causes of action, including illegal storage of hazardous waste, illegal disposal of hazardous waste, failure to have a legally mandated contingency plan to deal with spills or other unplanned releases, and inadequate training of staff who handle hazardous waste at the facility.

"Compliance with the Hazardous Waste Control Law is vital to protecting the environment and precluding health risks to workers and the community," said Paul Kewin, Division Chief for DTSC's Enforcement and Emergency Response Program. "This settlement signifies the department's continuing efforts to uphold both environmental safety and compliance with existing law."

Some of the most serious violations that DTSC identified during its December 2010 inspection of PNA included illegal disposal of hazardous and extremely hazardous waste onto the floors of the facility. Inspectors found acid spills in the battery recharging area, selenium powder in the raw materials section and used oil on the ground throughout the facility.

PNA also appears to have operated an aerosol can processing device without first obtaining required approval from the local Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA). DTSC found the aerosol can puncturing device improperly stored on a wooden pallet without secondary containment, and employees were allowed to operate the device without proper training.

Click [here](#) to see court documents related to the enforcement action.



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FOR GENERAL INQUIRIES: Contact the Department of Toxic Substances Control by phone at (800) 728-6942 or visit www.dtsc.ca.gov. To report illegal handling, discharge, or disposal of hazardous waste, call the Waste Alert Hotline at (800) 698-6942.

The Mission of DTSC is to protect California's people and environment from harmful effects of toxic substances by restoring contaminated properties, identifying and promoting safer ingredients in consumer products, and ensuring stewardship through enforcement, regulation and pollution prevention.