



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

# NEWS RELEASE

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Department of Toxic Substances Control

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## **DTSC Secures Hefty Civil Penalties for Hazardous Waste Violations**

**SACRAMENTO** -- The California Environmental Protection Agency's Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) today announced a court-ordered settlement conveying penalties of \$450,000 against ACME Fill Corporation of Martinez.

In an eight-year investigation, DTSC inspectors found ACME to be in violation of dozens of hazardous waste control laws at the ACME landfill on Waterbird Way in Martinez.

Violations at the facility included the illegal storage, treatment and disposal of hazardous waste, long after DTSC revoked ACME's hazardous waste permit in July 1997. At one point, DTSC found 30 contaminated underground storage tanks at the site, illegally disposed lead-based paint, and vehicle batteries. At the time, ACME was only permitted to accept vegetable waste from the City of Martinez.

DTSC Director Jesse R. Huff said, "the substantial penalties levied at the conclusion of our on-site investigation prove the dedication and commitment of DTSC to ensure compliance of hazardous waste laws, and protection of public health and the environment."

Based on court documents, ACME agreed to pay a total settlement of \$450,000, comprising \$100,000 in penalties for past activities, and \$350,000 in administrative costs to DTSC for reimbursement of inspection and enforcement.

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