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Ohio EPA, Carmeuse Lime Reach Agreement About Air Pollution Violations

Ohio EPA and Carmeuse Lime Inc. have reached a [settlement](#) to address violations of air pollution control requirements for operating unpermitted emission sources, excess visible emissions and other issues at its Jackson Township, Sandusky County plant. Most actions to correct the violations have been completed. The company also agreed to pay a \$147,335 civil penalty.

The company has held a federal and state operating permit for the air pollution sources at the lime manufacturing plant since May 2003. The permit sets emission limitations, record keeping and reporting requirements for significant air pollution sources. The violations were:

- exceeding visible particulate emissions limitations on three emissions sources;
- failing to obtain a permit-to-install for two emissions sources before installing the equipment;
- failing to demonstrate compliance with particulate emission limits for the lime kilns after failed stack tests in 2007, 2008 and 2009 and failing to report the test results within the required time frame;
- failing to maintain air pollution control equipment within required ranges and failing to report pressure drop deviations as required by the permit; and
- failing to submit semi-annual compliance reports for 2008 and 2009 and conduct visible emission checks on stone-handling operations as required.

The company obtained the necessary permit-to-install from Ohio EPA on July 15, 2009. Carmeuse has begun monthly visible emissions checks. And while using only coal with no petroleum coke as fuel, the plant passed an emissions stack test in August 2009.

Under the terms of the settlement with Ohio EPA, Carmeuse must submit a revised permit renewal application incorporating the lime transloader and all storage piles as emission units and making other revisions. It also requires the company to demonstrate compliance with federal regulations before using petroleum coke for production in the lime kilns.

Of the \$147,335 civil penalty, \$29,467 will go to Ohio EPA's [Clean Diesel School Bus Program Fund](#). The remaining \$117,868 will be split between the Ohio Environmental Education Fund and a fund to administer air pollution control programs.