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Stark County Company Pays Penalty for Violating Ohio's Air Pollution Control Laws

Akron Iron & Metal LLC agreed to pay [Ohio EPA](#) a \$142,200 penalty as a settlement for violating Ohio's air pollution control laws at its metal salvage operation located at 1451 Trump Road in Canton.

In March 2008, the company installed three jet torches without first obtaining a permit-to-install and operated them for more than 30 months without employing best available technology (BAT) and reasonably available control measures (RACM) to control particulate and fugitive dust emissions. Excessive visible emissions were documented on two occasions in 2010.

Akron Iron & Metal uses the torches to cut scrap metal pieces for steel mills and other end users. Because the torches contain oxygen-pressurized nozzles fueled by propane and natural gas, they are regulated as air contaminant sources. On January 1, 2011, the company completed installation of a three-sided enclosure with baghouse and began using it to properly control emissions.

The violations were documented by the [Canton City Health Department – Air Pollution Control Division](#), Ohio EPA's contractual representative responsible for administering the air pollution control program in Stark County.

The [settlement](#) included a civil penalty of \$113,760 to support state and local air pollution control programs and the [Ohio Environmental Education Fund](#), and \$28,440 to Ohio EPA's [clean diesel school bus program](#) fund.

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