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Air District files lawsuit against Acme Fill Corporation for illegal landfill emissions

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air District has <u>filed a lawsuit</u> against Acme Fill Corp. for illegally emitting high levels of methane and other organic compounds from its landfill in Martinez. The complaint, filed today in Contra Costa County Superior Court, seeks monetary penalties for multiple violations of state and local air quality regulations following a compliance inspection conducted by the Air District on August 24, 2023.

The Air District's inspection revealed that the landfill's gas collection system was leaking. The inspection also revealed four landfill surface leaks, all of which exceeded legal emission limits, including one that measured 23 times and one that was 31 times over the allowable threshold.

"Methane is a potent greenhouse gas that contributes significantly to climate change," said Dr. Philip Fine, executive officer of the Air District. "We take our enforcement responsibilities seriously, and when facilities fail to comply with air quality regulations, we are prepared to pursue legal action to ensure violators are held accountable."

The pollutants involved in this case include methane, a potent greenhouse gas, and other organic compounds. These pollutants contribute to smog formation and particle pollution and are linked to respiratory and cardiovascular harm.

The Bay Area Air District is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality and the global climate in the nine-county Bay Area. Connect with the Air District via <u>Facebook</u>, <u>X</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and <u>YouTube</u>.

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2025-031 Page 1 of 1