

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Air District settles case with Bio-Rad Laboratories, Inc.

Company to pay \$990,000 for air quality violations

**SAN FRANCISCO** – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District announced today that Bio-Rad Laboratories, Inc. has agreed to pay \$990,000 to settle air quality violations at its facility in Hercules.

The settlement covers violations that occurred at Bio-Rad Laboratories from 2003 to 2014 for non-compliance at its facility.

"Complex facilities, like Bio-Rad, must comply with all regulations and permit conditions throughout their system," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. "This significant penalty will ensure that this life science research facility adheres to their operational requirements moving forward."

The Air District issued air quality violations in connection with the installation, start-up, operation, maintenance and monitoring of three permitted co-generation systems, each of which included a natural gas-fired internal combustion engine and associated equipment. Bio-Rad shut down their co-generation system soon after it was determined they were out of compliance with Air District regulations.

The notices of violation include:

- Operation of three natural gas-fired co-generation engines without abatement by catalytic converters, resulting in excess nitrogen oxide, carbon monoxide and non-methane hydrocarbon emissions;
- Failure to conduct three start-up source tests on the cogeneration engines; and
- Failure to check nitrogen oxide and carbon monoxide emissions from the co-generation systems on a quarterly basis.

The violations that led to this settlement have been corrected. All settlement funds will be used to fund Air District programs.

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

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