Bay Area Air District

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 18, 2025
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Air District directs Crown Hill Materials to cease operating unpermitted concrete batch plant

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air District has issued Crown Hill Materials, a concrete facility in Vallejo, a Notice of Violation for operating a concrete batch plant without the required air quality permit. The Air District has also issued a cease-and-desist letter directing the company to stop operating the unpermitted plant.

The Air District discovered the unpermitted batch plant after a community member raised concerns about the facility's operations. The Air District launched an investigation and found the facility operating the batch plant without a permit, in violation of Air District regulations. The facility also has a second, smaller batch plant that is exempt from Air District permitting requirements because of its small size and is not affected by this action.

"Operating equipment without a required permit is a serious violation that puts public health at risk and undermines the safeguards we have in place to protect overburdened communities," said Dr. Philip Fine, executive officer of the Air District. "We are taking firm action to ensure compliance, and we appreciate the community members whose concerns helped bring this issue to light."

On August 18, the Air District issued a Notice of Violation and a cease-and-desist letter directing the facility to immediately cease operating the batch plant. If the company continues operating it, the Air District will take formal legal action to obtain an order requiring the equipment to be shut down. The Air District is also coordinating with the City of Vallejo on enforcement efforts, and it will seek monetary penalties against Crown Hill Materials to hold the company accountable for its illegal operation of the batch plant.

"This action is an important step forward for our community," said Ed Kelley, a community advocate who lives near the Crown Hill Materials facility. "My neighbors and I have worked hard to raise awareness about these operations, and I appreciate the Air District for taking our concerns seriously and acting on them. We'll stay engaged to make sure our community gets the protections it needs and deserves."

Bay Area residents can report air quality concerns via the Air District's online form or by calling the 24-hour hotline at 1-800-334-ODOR. Reports are confidential, and complaints can be made anonymously.

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 Facebook, X, Instagram and YouTube.

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