



SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT PRESS RELEASE

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South Coast AQMD Issues Violation to Chrome Plating Facility for Release of Hexavalent Chromium, Failure to Maintain Equipment

DIAMOND BAR – Today, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) issued a Notice of Violation (NOV) to V&M Aerospace LLC, a chrome plating facility in Los Angeles, California for its failure to maintain equipment in good operating condition and for other permit violations, resulting in hexavalent chromium solution being released in the facility and to an adjacent business.

V&M is located in an industrial area just north of the [AB 617](#) designated community of Wilmington, Carson, West Long Beach and east of West Rancho Dominguez. The company conducts plating of aerospace components using hexavalent chromium for defense and commercial aviation industries and operates chrome plating tanks that are equipped with air pollution control systems.

On June 2, 2023, South Coast AQMD inspectors conducted an on-site inspection and discovered that equipment had malfunctioned, but the company failed to notify the agency as required by air quality regulations. The investigation also revealed that multiple locations outside of the facility, including a shared parking lot and an adjacent business, were contaminated with hexavalent chromium. In addition to permit violations, the facility was cited for failing to timely report an equipment breakdown and for its failure to follow best management practices, adhere to housekeeping requirements, and inspect, operate, and maintain its air pollution control equipment under South Coast AQMD Rule 1469. The Los Angeles County Fire Department Health Hazardous Materials Division (Hazmat) was called to the facility to assist with the investigation.

NOVs can result in civil penalties. In some cases, the company can choose to implement voluntary measures to reduce emissions or otherwise prevent further violations. If no settlement is reached, a civil lawsuit may ultimately be filed in superior court.

South Coast AQMD is the regulatory agency responsible for improving air quality for large areas of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, including the Coachella Valley. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at www.aqmd.gov, download our award-winning app, or follow us on [Facebook](#), [X](#) (formerly known as Twitter) and [Instagram](#).

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