# **U.S EPA, U.S Department of Justice Settle with Kern Oil & Refining Co. for Violations at Bakersfield Refinery**

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**Body**

Washington: U.S Environmental Protection Agency has issued the following news release:

The U.S Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S Department of Justice announced a settlement with ***Kern*** ***Oil*** & Refining Co. that resolves alleged violations at its petroleum refinery in Bakersfield. ***Kern*** ***Oil*** will pay a $500,000 penalty to address the refinery’s failures to comply with flare emissions monitoring and leak inspection reporting requirements under the Clean Air Act and toxic chemical release reporting requirements under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA). ***Kern*** ***Oil*** will spend an additional $200,000 to comply with the requirements of the settlement.

“This settlement requires ***Kern*** ***Oil*** to comply with the Clean Air Act and reinforces the monitoring and reporting requirements,” said McGregor W. Scott, U.S Attorney for the Eastern District of California. “The U.S Attorney’s Office is proud to work with EPA to protect the quality of the air in the Central Valley.”

“This settlement was achieved in partnership with the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District,” said EPA Pacific Southwest Regional Administrator Mike Stoker. “The settlement will benefit communities near the Bakersfield refinery by ensuring that ***Kern*** ***Oil*** meets its flare monitoring and leak reporting obligations and supporting projects that provide for enhanced monitoring and new emergency response equipment for use by first responders.”

Petroleum refineries process crude ***oil*** into products such as gasoline and diesel fuel and emit pollutants from many different sources. This settlement addresses sulfur dioxide emissions from the refinery’s flare, as well as volatile organic compounds leaking from equipment such as valves, pumps, compressors, and wastewater drains. ***Kern*** ***Oil*** has already installed a required flare monitor and has begun submitting required monitoring and inspection reports.

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