



South Coast
AQMD

SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
PRESS RELEASE

www.aqmd.gov

@SouthCoastAQMD    

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 28, 2023

MEDIA CONTACT:

Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431

Connie Mejia, (909) 323-9706, Cell: (909) 215-5601

press@aqmd.gov

Sterigenics Ontario Facility in Violation of Permit Requirements

DIAMOND BAR – Today, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) issued a Notice of Violation (NOV) to Sterigenics US, LLC, a medical sterilization facility in Ontario, California, for modifying an air pollution control system without first obtaining a required permit to operate.

South Coast AQMD's investigation found that the facility made several modifications to its Ethylene Oxide (EtO) sterilization air pollution control devices on March 14, 2023, without the proper permits. South Coast AQMD rules require facilities to obtain proper permits before constructing, altering, or replacing any equipment that may release air contaminants. In addition, the facility was also found to have violated the agency's rule for operating equipment that did not match what was in their permit. The facility has since applied for the correct permits.

South Coast AQMD has an ongoing investigation into emissions of EtO from facilities within its jurisdiction. On September 29, 2022, the Sterigenics Ontario facility was designated as a Potentially High-Risk Level Facility, requiring a plan to reduce emissions and health risks from operations. Sterigenics uses EtO to conduct sterilization services for medical device manufacturers. The company's Ontario facility is located at 687 Wanamaker Avenue, and its operations run 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

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.

More information on South Coast AQMD's activities related to Sterigenics in Ontario can be found at: www.aqmd.gov/sterigenicsontario.

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](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

###