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Honeywell Lawsuit Fact Sheet

State of Arizona v. Honeywell International, Inc.

Honeywell has demonstrated a pattern of concealing information from or misrepresenting information to the State of Arizona since the late 1980s. Since at least 1989, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality has requested site condition and compliance information from Honeywell. In response to these requests, Honeywell's repeatedly either hid the data from ADEQ or misrepresented the findings or conclusions that should have been drawn from the data.

In the case filed by the State, it's the pattern of deception, rather than isolated nondisclosures or false statements that are troubling. Examples of the company's **repeated** deception include:

- withholding information about holes found in the underground storage tanks in the mid 1970s;
- collecting data revealing contamination in sumps in 1988, but not releasing it;
- representing to ADEQ in 1991 that the sumps "never received chemical waste;"
- Failing to provide specific information regarding hazardous wastes held in concrete sumps underneath buildings at the facility. ADEQ asked for this twice in 1998 in official information requests;
- Honeywell collected data that showed hazardous wastes beneath its facility in the spring of 1999 and submitted a report to ADEQ not only withholding this data, but making no mention that the data existed and had been withheld; and
- Although Honeywell agreed to provide all historical information about past solvent usage in a 1999 consensual Order, it withheld this data, too, for almost a year.

This lawsuit was supports the integrity of Arizona's regulatory program. Honeywell openly defied the reporting requirements found in Arizona's statutes. By filing this lawsuit, the Attorney General's Office intends to send a message not only to Honeywell, but also to the community that no matter who you are – a big company, or a "mom-and-pop" business – you must be truthful in reporting about contamination. The penalties for not reporting truthfully will be severe.

This case is important to Arizonans because our state relies on self reporting. This is similar to most states in the United States and the Federal government. If companies like Honeywell conceal information or deceive state regulators, what incentive is there to stop others from performing in the same manner?

In dramatic contrast to Honeywell's deception and non-responsiveness, Motorola admitted it was responsible for the contaminants released from its 52nd Street site, and has been working with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on a clean up protocol.

Basic Facts

Lawsuit filed in Maricopa Superior Court on July 9, 2004.

The Honeywell facility is located at 111 S. 34th Street in Phoenix, near Sky Harbor International Airport.

Honeywell (or its predecessors), owns and operates a facility that manufacturers, tests, overhauls and repairs jet engines. Honeywell used various jet fuels and solvents in the test cells at this facility and stored these materials in underground tanks and sumps. This facility has been in operation since 1952.

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