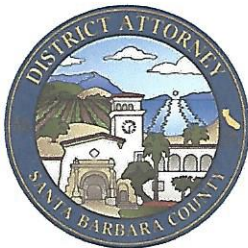


OFFICE OF THE  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**  
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

**JOYCE E. DUDLEY**  
District Attorney



DA 02-397

RELEASE NUMBER

February 27, 2017

RELEASE DATE

APPROVED BY JOYCE E. DUDLEY, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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\*\*\*\*\* PRESS RELEASE \*\*\*\*\*

February 27, 2017

***District Attorney Announces Settlement with BP for Underground Storage Tank Violations  
Tanks Not Maintained Properly, Leak Detection Devices Disabled***

Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley announced today the resolution of an environmental lawsuit against BP West Coast Products LLC, BP Products North America, Inc., and Atlantic Richfield Company over allegations that the companies violated state laws regarding operating and maintaining motor vehicle fuel underground storage tank laws. The complaint alleged that BP failed to properly inspect and maintain underground tanks used to store gasoline for retail sale at approximately 780 gas stations in California over a period of ten years and violated other hazardous material and hazardous waste laws. The case settled in November 2016 and was the result of collaboration among the California Attorney General's Office and several district attorney's offices across the state.

A total of six of the gas stations connected to the settlement are located in Santa Barbara County. As a result, Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office will receive \$27,000.00 in civil penalties. Today, the District Attorney's Office received the first settlement payment of \$17,550.00.

District Attorney Dudley stated, "This settlement holds BP accountable for putting our environment and our communities at risk in Santa Barbara County. The DA's Environmental Protection Unit prosecutes similar cases locally. The BP case was a result of collaboration with our partners across the state."

The complaint alleges that, since 2006, BP has improperly monitored, inspected, and maintained underground storage tanks used to store gasoline for retail sale; tampered with or disabled leak detection devices; and improperly handled and disposed of hazardous waste and materials associated with the underground storage tanks at retail gas stations throughout California. In addition, the complaint alleges that BP failed to test secondary containment systems, conduct monthly inspections, train employees in proper protocol, and maintain operational alarm systems.

Under the terms of the judgment, which was entered without admission of liability, BP will be subject to an injunction requiring full compliance with California's laws governing underground storage tanks and hazardous materials.

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