
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board

Industrial Metal Fabrication Facility Fined \$154,603 for Failing to Obtain Stormwater Permit Coverage

ORANGE COUNTY – Wicked Creations Inc., an industrial facility engaged in manufacturing hardware in the city of Garden Grove, was ordered to pay \$154,603 by the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (Santa Ana Water Board) for their failure to obtain appropriate regulatory coverage for their industrial operations under the state’s stormwater Industrial General Permit. The industrial facility has been operating without permit coverage since December 2023.

The Santa Ana Water Board initially notified Wicked Creations Inc. of the violation in December 2023. Staff repeatedly attempted to engage with Wicked Creations Inc. and resolve the issue. Between December 2023 and September 2025, Santa Ana Water Board staff issued multiple formal notices, made several phone calls, and attempted to inspect the property on multiple occasions. Wicked Creations Inc. twice denied access for Santa Ana Water Board’s staff to inspect the facility and instead disregarded the Santa Ana Water Board’s outreach attempts and refused to obtain permit coverage under the Industrial General Permit.

On October 25, 2024, as part of the Santa Ana Water Board’s progressive enforcement, a Mandatory Minimum Penalty Complaint was brought before the Santa Ana Water Board for Wicked Creations Inc.’s violation. Representatives from the facility did not appear at the enforcement hearing, and the Board ordered Wicked Creations Inc. to obtain permit coverage and pay \$7,376 in mandatory penalties. Wicked Creations Inc. has neither obtained permit coverage nor paid the penalty to date. Due to their continued non-compliance, an Administrative Civil Liability Complaint (R8-2025-0066) evidentiary hearing was held on March 13, 2026. The Board decided to raise the Administrative Civil Liability Complaint penalty to include staff costs equaling \$4,603 and the Complaint ultimately adopted on April 24, 2026.

The Board’s decision today directed Wicked Creations Inc. to obtain permit coverage and pay the \$154,603 penalty within 30 days. If Wicked Creations Inc. fails to do so, the Board could seek a judgment for the unpaid liability from the Superior Court of Orange County.

The Santa Ana region, which extends from the San Bernardino and San Gabriel mountains to the north and east, to Newport Bay along the coast, is one of the fastest growing areas of the state. Though geographically the smallest of the State Water Boards’ nine regions, the Santa Ana Water Board staff strives to protect, enhance, and restore water quality for almost 5 million Californians.