

State of New Mexico

Environment Department

Occupational Health and Safety Bureau

525 Camino de los Marquez, Suite 3

Santa Fe NM 87505

Phone: (505) 476-8700 Fax: (505) 476-8734



Citation and Notification of Penalty

To:
The Espanola Mercantile Company
AND ITS SUCCESSORS
1302 N Riverside Drive
Espanola, NM 87532

Inspection Number: 1682851
Inspection Date(s): 07/12/2023-07/12/2023
Issuance Date: 01/05/2024

Inspection Site:
3810 Oliver Dr
Santa Fe, NM 87507

The violation(s) described in this Citation and Notification of Penalty is (are) alleged to have occurred on or about the day(s) the inspection was made unless otherwise indicated within the description given below.

This Citation and Notification of Penalty (this Citation) describes violations of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970. The penalty(ies) listed herein is (are) based on these violations. You must abate the violations referred to in this Citation by the dates listed and pay the penalties proposed, unless within 15 working days (excluding weekends and Federal holidays) from your receipt of this Citation and Notification of Penalty you mail a notice of contest to the Environment Department, Occupational Health and Safety Bureau at the address shown above. Issuance of this Citation does not constitute a finding that a violation of the Act has occurred unless there is a failure to contest as provided for in the Act or, if contested, unless this Citation is affirmed by the Review Commission or a court.

Posting-The law requires that a copy of this Citation and Notification of Penalty be posted immediately in a prominent place at or near the location of the violation(s) cited herein, or, if it is not practicable because of the nature of the employer's operations, where it will be readily observable by all affected employees. This Citation must remain posted until the violation(s) cited herein has (have) been abated, or for 3 working days (excluding weekends and Federal holidays), whichever is longer. The penalty dollar amounts need not be posted and may be marked out or covered up prior to posting.

Informal Conference- An informal conference is not required. However, at the request of an employer, affected employee, or representative of employees, the Bureau Chief or the Bureau Chiefs designee may hold an informal conference. At this conference any issues raised by an inspection, citation, proposed penalty, proposed petition for modification of abatement date or proposed petition for variance may be discussed. If you intend to request an informal conference, take care to schedule it early enough to allow time to contest after the informal conference discussion, should you decide to do so.

When the conference is requested by an employer, an affected employee or representative shall be afforded an opportunity to participate, at the discretion of the Bureau Chief or Bureau Chiefs designee. When the conference is requested by an employee or representative of employees, the employer shall be afforded an opportunity to participate, at the discretion of the Bureau Chief or Bureau Chiefs designee.

The request for an informal conference and the informal conference meeting shall not extend or modify in any manner:

- 1) an abatement date established in the citation;
- 2) the deadline for an employer to file a notice of contest;
- 3) any other filing deadline related to the citation; or
- 4) any matter pending before the bureau.

Once an employer files a notice of contest, a petition for modification of the abatement date, a request for a commission hearing, a petition for variance, or other filing with the Occupational Health and Safety Review Commission or the Environment Department, the opportunity for an informal conference is no longer available.

Right to Contest- You have the right to contest this Citation and Notification of Penalty. You may contest all citation items or only individual items. You may also contest proposed penalties and/or abatement dates without contesting the underlying violations. Unless you inform the Bureau Chief in writing that you intend to contest the citation(s) and/or proposed penalty(ies) within 15 working days after receipt, the citation(s) and the proposed penalty(ies) will become a final order of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission and may not be reviewed by any court or agency. It is recommended that the Notice of Contest be filed via "Certified Mail".

Penalty Payment- Penalties are due within 15 working days of receipt of this notification unless contested. Make your check or money order payable to the Environment Department, Occupational Health and Safety Bureau. Please indicate the Inspection Number on the remittance.

OSHA does not agree to any restrictions or conditions or endorsements put on any check or money order for less than the full amount due, and will cash the check or money order as if these restrictions, conditions, or endorsements do not exist.

Notification of Corrective Action - For violations which you do not contest, you should notify the Occupational Health and Safety Bureau (OHSB) that each cited violation has been abated. To certify abatement, you should complete the "Description of Corrective Action Taken" box which follows each citation and sign the statement on the last citation page. You are not required to certify abatement if the compliance officer observed that abatement has occurred during the on-site inspection. The citation may indicate that you should submit additional documentation such as photographs, purchase orders, copies of written programs, etc. Failure to return all completed forms and documents to the Program Manager no later than 10 days after the abatement date may result in additional penalties.

You are also required to inform your employees about abatement activities by posting a copy of each document submitted to OHSB or a summary of the document near the place where the violation occurred. Documents must remain posted for 3 working days after submission to OHSB.

Employer Discrimination Unlawful- The law prohibits discrimination by an employer against an employee for filing a complaint or for exercising any rights under this Act. An employee who believes that he/she has been discriminated against may file a complaint no later than 30 days after the discrimination occurred with the Environment Department, Occupational Health and Safety Bureau at the address shown above.

Notice to Employees - The law gives an employee or his/her representative the opportunity to object to any abatement date set for a violation if he/she believes the date to be unreasonable. The contest must be mailed to the Environment Department, Occupational Health and Safety Bureau at the address shown above and postmarked within 15 working days (excluding weekends and Federal holidays) of the receipt by the employer of this Citation and Notification of Penalty.

Please note that your facility will appear on the Department's Enforcement Watch as a result of this Citation and Notification of Penalty (see: <https://www.env.nm.gov/enforcement-watch/>). Further, the Department will issue a press release to local media highlighting your facility as appearing on this webpage. Your facility will remain on the Enforcement Watch website as an active matter until this matter is fully resolved, including the payment of the assessed civil penalty.

State of New Mexico
Environment Department
Occupational Health and Safety Bureau



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Inspection #: 1682851
Inspection Date(s): 07/12/2023-07/12/2023
Issuance Date: 01/05/2024

Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: The Espanola Mercantile Company
Inspection Site: 3810 Oliver Dr Santa Fe, NM 87507

Citation 1 Item 1 Type of Violation: **Serious**

11.5.2.9 NMAC

29 CFR 1910.23(b)(10): Any ladder with structural or other defects is immediately tagged "Dangerous: Do Not Use" or with similar language in accordance with §1910.145 and removed from service until repaired in accordance with §1910.22(d) or replaced.

On and before July 12, 2023, employees were exposed to fall hazards due to a damaged fixed ladder located at the main mixing chamber, not being removed from service. Employees utilize the ladder to access the catwalk at the asphalt plant.

PROOF OF ABATEMENT:

Date Corrected:
Describe Corrective Action:

Date By Which Violation Must be Abated:
Proposed Penalty:

February 01, 2024
\$5,600.00

State of New Mexico
Environment Department
Occupational Health and Safety Bureau



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Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: The Espanola Mercantile Company
Inspection Site: 3810 Oliver Dr Santa Fe, NM 87507

Citation 1 Item 2 a Type of Violation: **Serious**

11.5.2.9 NMAC

29 CFR 1910.29(b)(1): The top edge height of top rails, or equivalent guardrail system members, are 42 inches (107 cm), plus or minus 3 inches (8 cm), above the walking-working surface. The top edge height may exceed 45 inches (114 cm), provided the guardrail system meets all other criteria of paragraph (b) of this section (see Figure D-11).

On and before July 12, 2023, employees were exposed to fall hazards due to missing and damaged top rails of guardrails, located on the catwalks of the furnace and main mixing chamber. Employees utilize the catwalks for maintenance operations.

PROOF OF ABATEMENT:

Date Corrected:

Describe Corrective Action:

Date By Which Violation Must be Abated:
Proposed Penalty:

February 01, 2024
\$10,000.00

State of New Mexico
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Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: The Espanola Mercantile Company
Inspection Site: 3810 Oliver Dr Santa Fe, NM 87507

Citation 1 Item 2 b Type of Violation: **Serious**

11.5.2.9 NMAC

29 CFR 1910.29(b)(5): (5) Midrails, screens, mesh, intermediate vertical members, solid panels, and other equivalent intermediate members are capable of withstanding, without failure, a force of at least 150 pounds (667 N) applied in any downward or outward direction at any point along the intermediate member.

On and before July 12, 2023, employees were exposed to fall hazards due to damaged or modified guardrails atop the main mixing chamber structure. Employees utilize the catwalks for maintenance operations.

PROOF OF ABATEMENT:

Date Corrected:

Describe Corrective Action:

Date By Which Violation Must be Abated:

February 01, 2024

Proposed Penalty:

\$0.00

State of New Mexico
Environment Department
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Inspection #: 1682851
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Issuance Date: 01/05/2024

Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: The Espanola Mercantile Company
Inspection Site: 3810 Oliver Dr Santa Fe, NM 87507

Citation 1 Item 3 Type of Violation: **Serious**

11.5.2.9 NMAC

29 CFR 1910.30(a)(1): Before any employee is exposed to a fall hazard, the employer must provide training for each employee who uses personal fall protection systems or who is required to be trained as specified elsewhere in this subpart. Employers must ensure employees are trained in the requirements of this paragraph on or before May 17, 2017.

On and before July 12, 2023, employees were exposed to fall hazards when performing maintenance operations on the asphalt tower without being trained on recognizing fall hazards and using fall protection systems.

PROOF OF ABATEMENT:

Date Corrected:
Describe Corrective Action:

Date By Which Violation Must be Abated:
Proposed Penalty:

February 01, 2024
\$10,000.00

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Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: The Espanola Mercantile Company
Inspection Site: 3810 Oliver Dr Santa Fe, NM 87507

Citation 1 Item 4 a Type of Violation: **Serious**

11.5.2.9 NMAC

29 CFR 1910.101(a): Each employer shall determine that compressed gas cylinders under his control are in a safe condition to the extent that this can be determined by visual inspection. Visual and other inspections shall be conducted as prescribed in the Hazardous Materials Regulations of the Department of Transportation (49 CFR parts 171-179 and 14 CFR part 103). Where those regulations are not applicable, visual and other inspections shall be conducted in accordance with Compressed Gas Association Pamphlets C-6-1968 and C-8-1962, which is incorporated by reference as specified in Sec. 1910.6.

On and before July 12, 2023, employees were exposed to hazardous conditions associated with compressed gas cylinders being improperly stored in the center of the facility and near the tool sheds; compressed gas cylinders and their storage conditions were not regularly inspected. Cylinders stored in the open were not protected from the ground beneath to prevent rusting, and cylinders were left stored in standing water.

PROOF OF ABATEMENT:

Date Corrected:

Describe Corrective Action:

Date By Which Violation Must be Abated:
Proposed Penalty:

February 01, 2024
\$8,000.00

State of New Mexico
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Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: The Espanola Mercantile Company
Inspection Site: 3810 Oliver Dr Santa Fe, NM 87507

Citation 1 Item 4 b Type of Violation: **Serious**

11.5.2.9 NMAC

29 CFR 1910.101(b): The in-plant handling, storage, and utilization of all compressed gases in cylinders, portable tanks, rail tankcars, or motor vehicle cargo tanks shall be in accordance with Compressed Gas Association Pamphlet P-1-1965, which is incorporated by reference as specified in Sec. 1910.6.

On and before July 12, 2023, employees were exposed to hazardous conditions associated with compressed gas cylinders being improperly stored in the center of the facility and near the tool sheds. Cylinders stored in the open were not protected from the ground beneath to prevent rusting.

PROOF OF ABATEMENT:

Date Corrected:

Describe Corrective Action:

Date By Which Violation Must be Abated:
Proposed Penalty:

February 01, 2024
\$0.00

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Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: The Espanola Mercantile Company
Inspection Site: 3810 Oliver Dr Santa Fe, NM 87507

Citation 1 Item 5 Type of Violation: **Serious**

11.5.2.9 NMAC

29 CFR 1910.212(a)(1): Types of guarding. One or more methods of machine guarding shall be provided to protect the operator and other employees in the machine area from hazards such as those created by point of operation, ingoing nip points, rotating parts, flying chips and sparks. Examples of guarding methods are-barrier guards, two-hand tripping devices, electronic safety devices, etc.

On and before July 12, 2023, employees were exposed to caught-by hazards due to ingoing nip points and rotating parts on powered conveyor rollers beneath the sand and gravel hoppers, and motorized v-belt pulleys on the main mixing chamber structure, not being guarded. Employees have access to these areas during maintenance operations.

PROOF OF ABATEMENT:

Date Corrected:
Describe Corrective Action:

Date By Which Violation Must be Abated:
Proposed Penalty:

February 01, 2024
\$8,000.00

I attest that all corrective actions contained in this document are accurate and affected employees have been informed of the abatement.

Signature

Date

State of New Mexico
Environment Department
Occupational Health and Safety Bureau



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Pursuant to the New Mexico Environment Department Delegation Order dated March 24, 2023, the Cabinet Secretary has delegated the authority to issue this Citation and Notification of Penalty to the Occupational Health and Safety Bureau Chief.

DocuSigned by:

Gregory Marquez

309D20B21A80461

Gregory J. Marquez, Program Manager

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Environment Department
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INVOICE

Company Name: The Espanola Mercantile Company

Inspection Site: 3810 Oliver Dr Santa Fe, NM 87507

Issuance Date: 01/05/2024

Summary of Penalties for Inspection Number: 1682851

Citation 1 Item 1, Serious	\$5,600.00
Citation 1 Item 2a, Serious	\$10,000.00
Citation 1 Item 2b, Serious	\$0.00
Citation 1 Item 3, Serious	\$10,000.00
Citation 1 Item 4a, Serious	\$8,000.00
Citation 1 Item 4b, Serious	\$0.00
Citation 1 Item 5, Serious	\$8,000.00

TOTAL PROPOSED PENALTIES: **\$41,600.00**

Please remit payment promptly to this office for the total amount of the uncontested penalties summarized above. Make your check or money order payable to: Environment Department, Occupational Health and Safety Bureau. Please indicate OHSB's Inspection Number (indicated above) on the remittance.

OHSB does not agree to any restrictions or conditions or endorsements put on any check or money order for less than full amount due, and will cash the check or money order as if these restrictions, conditions, or endorsements do not exist.

<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Gregory Marquez</i> <small>309D20B21A80461...</small></p> <hr/> <p>Gregory J. Marquez, Program Manager</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">1/5/2024</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Date</p>
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