



January 7, 2008

## **News Release**

### **Sacramento Air Quality District Collects \$79,200 Penalty Settlement with eBay Inc.**

The Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District announced today that eBay Inc. has paid \$79,200 in penalties to settle an air quality permit violation that occurred in 2007.

“Our agency is deemed with the task of enforcing air quality laws to protect public health and the environment”, said AQMD’s Executive Officer Larry Greene. “Bad air is bad for business and discharging harmful pollutants over several days carries a big fine when compromising the air quality and the health of our residents”.

The penalty is part of a settlement between AQMD and eBay to resolve a Notice of Violation (NOV) issued by the District on August 21, 2007 for Rule 201, *General Permit Requirements*.

Ebay’s data center facility in Rancho Cordova operated three standby generators for several days for purposes other than maintenance or emergency use, resulting in a discharge of emissions such as NOx and Diesel PM in excess of the limits allowed by their permits to operate.

Ebay provides an array of Web sites that focus on commerce, payments and communications.

The penalty was reached through AQMD’s Mutual Settlement Program, a voluntary program designed to resolve violations without the time and expense of litigation. Settlement funds will be used to help support the District’s mission of improving air quality in the Sacramento region.