



News Release
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March Global Port Addresses Reporting and Permitting Issues

The new management team of the March Global Port is working with federal regulators and the March Joint Powers Authority to quickly resolve the notification of debarment by the Environmental Protection Agency that resulted from a one-gallon fuel spill that occurred in 2006.

Although the spilled fuel was fully contained, cleaned up and disposed of properly in accordance with environmental regulations, March Global Port failed to report the spill within the required reporting period. Global Port Fueling Services paid more than more than \$100,000 in fines for the infractions. However, the U.S. EPA attempted to notify March Global Port in early December 2008 that the Global Port still needed to resolve an administrative process – even though it had settled its legal issues.

Late last year, prior to the time of the notice, March Global Port had moved its administrative offices. As a result much of March Global Port's mail was not forwarded to the new address. Therefore, it did not receive the Dec. 4, 2008 Notice of Proposed Debarment and Action Referral Memorandum until April 20, 2009, when March Global Port attorneys finally obtained the original notification directly from the EPA.

"We truly thought the matter had been resolved back in early 2008. We were not made aware that there was another set of federal administrative actions needed until we received the final notice of debarment in late January," said Aaron Knox, new co-manager of the Global Port.

Following receipt of the letter of debarment in late January, the new Global Port management has been working with its attorneys and the EPA to resolve the debarment.

"The EPA did exactly what it was supposed to do. However, we missed a crucial deadline because the notice was simply sent to the old address and not forwarded," said Mr. Knox. "We truly wish we received the original notice of debarment when it was issued so we could have resolved this issue on a timely basis and could have avoided the additional steps that we must now take."

In hindsight, March Global Port should have notified the March Joint Powers Authority when it first learned of the debarment.

"We have always found the JPA staff to be very knowledgeable. Their expertise would have proven useful in quickly navigating a resolution," Knox said.

The original notice of proposed debarment clearly outlines the administrative process that the March Global Port needs to take to resolve the debarment.

"We take this matter very seriously and continue to work with our attorneys and the EPA to put this matter behind us so we may focus on creating a successful commercial airport that will bring high-quality jobs to the communities surrounding March," Knox said.

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*March Global Port is a 320-acre industrial development at March Inland Port Airport on the south end of the March Air Reserve Base, east of I-215 between the cities of Moreno Valley and Perris, Calif.
Visit www.marchglobalport.com for more information.*