

# West Virginia Plant To Pay About \$1M To Settle Violations

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said Tuesday that Bayer CropScience agreed to spend more than \$1 million in penalties and improvements to resolve environmental violations at its plant in Institute, WV.

The EPA said the action was not related to an explosion in August at the plant that killed two workers.

EPA said the violations stem from a series of inspections in 2001 when the plant was owned by Aventis CropScience USA. Bayer CropScience is part of Bayer AG.

Violations ranged from not properly labeling storage containers to exceeding permit discharge limits.

One violation involved plant operators' failure to inform authorities in February 2001 of a release of a chemical used to produce insecticides.

Bayer agreed to pay a \$112,000 penalty and make \$900,000 worth of improvements.

A spokesman for Bayer was not immediately available for comment.

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