



Media Advisory

For Immediate Release

October 22, 2004

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American Synthetic Rubber Co. Issued Permit to Install New Pollution Control Equipment

Louisville, KY (October 22, 2004) – A new construction permit issued today clears the way for American Synthetic Rubber Company to install new technology at its Rubbertown plant in West Louisville.

According to APCD Director, Art Williams, “I am pleased to issue this construction permit to American Synthetic Rubber Company as envisioned by the Board earlier this year. Once completed, the new technology will better protect public health by significantly reducing the dangerous levels 1,3 butadiene in Louisville’s air.” The chemical, 1,3 –butadiene is used in the production of rubber products and is known to cause cancer in humans.

ASRC applied to the Air Pollution Control District’s Board earlier this year for a construction permit to install the new thermal oxidizer earlier this year. The company estimates that by constructing a thermal oxidizer unit it will cut its annual emissions of 1,3 butadiene by 50 percent (estimated at 51,000 pounds annually). The company plans to have the new technology operation by January 2006.

In May 2004, American Synthetic Rubber voluntarily agreed to an enforceable Board order to reduce its emissions of 1,3 butadiene. A study released earlier this year by APCD, showed that ambient concentrations of 1,3-butadiene had increased over the past four years of monitoring at 35% an average annual rate.

**The full text of the ASRC Board agreement and Construction Permit are
available online at: www.apcd.org**

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