

# News Release Communiqué



Ministry of the  
Environment

Ministère de  
l'Environnement

For Immediate Release  
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## INGERSOLL BUILDING OWNER FINED \$15,000

WOODSTOCK—Building owner Robert Webster Hesse has been fined a total of \$15,000, plus a victim fine surcharge, after pleading guilty to three waste-related violations of the *Environmental Protection Act (EPA)*.

Court was told Hesse bought a small building located at 109 Wonham Street in Ingersoll, Ontario in April 2004, knowing that approximately 500 45-gallon drums containing various waste materials, including used engine oil, were being stored inside.

Hesse arranged for the drums to be removed by a merchandise broker who thought the drums contained new oil. The broker sold the drums as furnace fuel to the owner of a small casting operation who received 88 drums before discovering they contained waste materials. He refused more drums and paid a waste disposal company to remove the 88 drums from his property. The broker transported the rest of the drums from Hesse's building to another site.

Hesse pleaded guilty to three violations of section 186(1) of the *EPA*:

- Failing to submit a waste generator registration report to the Ministry of the Environment prior to transferring waste from his property;
- Transferring waste to a carrier who did not have a certificate of approval for a waste management system; and
- Transferring waste without first completing a manifest.

Hesse was fined \$5,000, plus a victim fine surcharge, for each count and was ordered to pay \$10,644.36 in restitution to the owner of the casting operation for his clean-up expenses. In addition, Hesse contributed \$5,000 to help repay 70 Amish families who raised more than \$18,000 to help a community member pay the costs of removing drums of oil and waste from his property. The broker who provided the drums to the casting operation eventually paid the other \$13,400 to repay the community. The broker pleaded guilty earlier and was fined \$3,000.

Justice of the Peace Donna Phillips heard the case in the Ontario Court of Justice in Woodstock, Ontario, on February 23, 2006.

- 30 -

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