

# Violators Are Rarely Fined — Why It's a Problem

“We tried [heavy fining] in the past and it made people frightened of working with environmental agencies. We want to ensure power plants will work with the states if violations do occur.”

— **Linda Oros, spokeswoman for the Ohio EPA.**

“Sometimes we don't fine because the monetary amount to clean up the violation is enough.”

— **Amy Kohlhepp, a specialist in the Water Bureau Program at the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.**

“For us to fine a facility we must escalate enforcement action. We must go and find violations and then send several notices.” —

— **Jennifer Krejcik, a water quality specialist at the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.**

“Severe fines need to be given to repeat offenders. Where there are fines, they are too small. They are not enough to deter behavior.”

— **Max Muller, program director of Environment Illinois.**