CCASE: SOL V. MERAMEC AGGREGATES DDATE: 19880603 TTEXT: FMSHRC-WDC June 3, 1988

| SECRETARY OF LABOR, | CIVIL PENALTY PROCEEDING |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH | |
| ADMINISTRATION (MSHA), | Docket No. CENT 88-40-M |
| Petitioner | A. C. No. 23-00708-05502 |
| v. | |
| | Meramec Aggregates, Inc. |
| MERAMEC AGGREGATES, INC., | |
| Respondent | |

ORDER OF DISMISSAL

Before: Judge Merlin

On December 11, 1987, the operator's request for a hearing was received by this Commission. Commission rules require a proposal for a penalty to be filed within 45 days of the date the Secretary receives a timely notice of contest. 29 C.F.R. \$ 2700.27. The Solicitor failed to file a penalty petition. Therefore, on March 17, 1988, an order was issued directing the Solicitor to show cause why this case should not be dismissed. The order was mailed to the Solicitor by certified mail, return receipt requested, and the file contains the receipt card from the Solicitor.

The file indicates that on April 27 my law clerk spoke to the Solicitor, Mr. Charles Mangum, who stated he would file the penalty petition or a response to the Show Cause Order on April 28. But he did not do so. The Commission does not have the resources to keep reminding Solicitors to do what the Act and regulations require.

Due to the Solicitor's failure to file a penalty petition and to comply with the show cause order, this case must be and is hereby DISMISSED.

> Paul Merlin Chief Administrative Law Judge

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