

US fines Hyundai \$47 mn over dirty diesel engines

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The US Justice Department says Hyundai Heavy Industries imported nearly 2,300 diesel-powered heavy construction vehicles with engines that did not meet American emissions standards

South Korean shipbuilding and industrial firm Hyundai Heavy Industries

will pay a \$47 million fine for illegally importing and selling dirty diesel engines in violation of American environmental rules, US authorities announced Thursday.

Between 2012 and 2015, the company imported nearly 2,300 diesel-powered heavy construction vehicles with engines that did not meet US emissions standards, the US Justice Department said in a statement.

"Hyundai put profits above the public's health and the requirements of the law," Jeffrey Bossert Clark, head of the department's environment and natural resources division, said in a statement.

"We will not tolerate such schemes that skirt the Clean Air Act, designed by Congress to improve air quality."

The case began with a whistleblower tip submitted in 2015 to the US Environmental Protection Agency, which launched criminal and civil proceedings.

A US court earlier imposed a \$2 million fine on the company for the clean air violations.

US officials say the [diesel engines](#) were not certified to meet emissions standards for [particulate matter](#) and nitrogen oxide, both of which contribute to disease and premature death.

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