



Attorney General DeWine announces rock salt settlement funds sent to 850 Ohio entities

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine this week announced that his office is sending checks to 850 Ohio public entities as part of the Attorney General's \$11.5 million settlement to resolve an antitrust lawsuit against Cargill Inc. and Morton Salt Inc. over past rock salt prices.

Entities in 87 Ohio counties are receiving settlement funds.

Attorney General DeWine's settlement with Cargill and Morton Salt resolved a 2012 lawsuit accusing the companies of dividing up the Ohio rock salt market and agreeing not to compete with each other for public bids during a period ending in 2010.

Although Morton and Cargill admitted no wrongdoing, they agreed to pay \$11.5 million to resolve the state's case, just before a jury trial was set to begin.



**Attorney General
Mike DeWine**

Of the total settlement, about \$6.8 million was available to local governments.

Over the summer, the Attorney General's Office encouraged Ohio public entities to submit a claim for a share of the settlement based on the total amount of rock salt they purchased from Cargill and/or Morton between 2008 and 2010, the timeframe for which the state could seek recovery in the case.

The office received eligible claims from 848 Ohio public entities, each of which is receiving a check. Distribution amounts were calculated at a percentage of an entity's total eligible rock salt purchase. To ensure that no entity received a check for just a few dollars, entities were guaranteed at least a minimum distribution of \$500, except for one entity whose total purchase was just \$319.

A list of entities receiving claim checks from the rock salt settlement is available [here](#) (listed by county) and [here](#) (listed by amount).

All public entities in Ohio can receive free help from the Ohio Attorney General's Antitrust Section to detect possible anti-competitive activity. For more information, entities can contact the Ohio Attorney General's Office at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov or 800-282-0515.