A judge granted preliminary approval to a settlement on Friday between capacitor manufacturer Hitachi Chemical and a group of institutional investors who claimed the company failed to disclose information about its business in China.

The Securities and Exchange Commission has accused Hitachi Chemical, a subsidiary of Japan’s Hitachi Ltd., of withholding material information from investors in violation of federal securities laws.

The settlement, which was filed in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, calls for Hitachi Chemical to pay $66 million to the investors.

The settlement agreement, which was approved by a U.S. District Court judge, also requires Hitachi Chemical to adopt new internal controls to prevent similar misconduct in the future.

The case is one of several related to Hitachi Chemical's operations in China, where the company is a major player in the electronics industry.

Hitachi Chemical, which has operations in the United States, has been facing increasing scrutiny in recent years over its dealings with Chinese companies.

The company recently announced plans to sell off its stake in a joint venture with Chinese firm TCL, a move that was seen as an effort to distance itself from potential regulatory issues.

Hitachi Chemical's settlement with the SEC is the latest in a series of legal setbacks for the company, which has faced numerous investigations and criminal charges in recent years.

The settlement comes as the company continues to struggle with declining revenue and profits, and as it seeks to navigate changing regulatory landscapes in China and the United States.

The settlement agreement includes a provision that bars Hitachi Chemical from admitting or denying any allegations made by the SEC in its complaint.

The settlement also requires Hitachi Chemical to report to the SEC any future violations of securities laws, and to cooperate with any SEC investigations.

The company said in a statement that it had cooperated fully with the SEC throughout the investigation and was pleased to have resolved the matter.

The settlement is the latest in a series of high-profile cases brought by the SEC against foreign companies in recent years.

In recent months, the SEC has announced settlements with a number of foreign companies, including Deutsche Bank, Volkswagen, and Samsung, over allegations of securities law violations.

The SEC has been ramping up its enforcement efforts in recent years, targeting foreign companies that it believes have engaged in misconduct.

The agency has particularly focused on companies in China, where it has launched a series of investigations into alleged fraud and other misconduct.

The SEC's enforcement efforts have been met with criticism from some in the business community, who argue that the agency's actions may harm legitimate foreign companies and that it has overstepped its bounds.

However, the SEC has maintained that its actions are necessary to protect investors and to ensure the integrity of the securities markets.