



Compliance and Enforcement Division

INCIDENT REPORT

Tesoro Refinery (Site #B2758)

Martinez, CA

October 14, 2004

On October 14, 2004 at about 2:45am, the Tesoro Refinery located in Avon, east of Martinez, experienced a fire in the LHP section of the refinery. The fire occurred in the seal of a pump that was feeding gasoline from a nearby tank during the incident. Refinery incident command notified the petrochemical mutual-aid fire response network (PMAO) and fire crews from nearby refineries, chemical plants, and Contra Costa County were on alert to render assistance. The Tesoro fire department extinguished the fire after approximately 2 hours 40 minutes, at 5:25 am.

The refinery issued a Level-2 emergency notification shortly after the start of the incident due to the potential for off-site/off-property impact resulting from the significant amount of smoke generated. However, winds during the incident were from the south-southeast at 2-5 mph, causing smoke to travel primarily upwards and away from area residents. Contra Costa Health Services responded to fire and captured downwind ambient air samples in nearby communities for analysis.

The District did not receive any complaints during the incident.

Refinery and District staff continue to investigate the cause of the incident and will determine if the facility violated any District regulations.

The cause of the fire is still unknown at this time. The District is continuing to investigate the incident.

UPDATE:

Following the investigation, no violation was issued as the incident was determined to be caused by an accidental fire.