



NEWS

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Public Comment on Draft Permits Begins

Chevron Products
Shell Martinez Refinery
Conoco Phillips
Tesoro Refining
Valero Benicia Asphalt Products
Valero Refining Co.

Air District Proposes Revisions to Title V Refinery Permits

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District) has made a preliminary decision to revise the Title V permits for the five major Bay Area refineries and for Valero Benicia Asphalt Products. In 2003 the Air District issued Title V permits to these facilities. The permits have been reopened to revised and incorporate recently adopted amendments to Air District rules, most notably requirements for flare monitoring at refineries.

The public comment period for the draft permits will continue until March 31, 2004. During this time, any member of the public may comment on any changes that have been proposed. Copies of the proposed permits can be found:

- 1) On the Air District web site at www.baaqmd.gov (follow the Title V links),
- 2) At the Air District, 939 Ellis Street, San Francisco. For an appointment call May Leung at (415) 749-4729.
- 3) For a hard copy of the permits, call the Public Information Office at (415) 749-4900 or write to: BAAQMD, Attn: Title V Permit Request, 939 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA 94109.

What is Title V?

Title V is part of the federal Clean Air Act and requires all state and local governments to develop and implement operating permits for all major air pollution emitting facilities. The EPA oversees these permit programs and the Air District is charged with implementing them in the Bay Area, in accordance with Federal guidelines. For more information about the Air District, visit www.baaqmd.gov.

Title V is intended to make compliance with complex air quality requirements easier by consolidating the multitude of federal, state, and local air pollution control regulations into one summary operating permit that covers all aspects of a facility's year-to-year air pollution activities.

Public comments are important to the Title V process. A final decision will incorporate consideration of public comments on the proposed revisions.

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