



NEWS

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Air District settles case with Chevron
Refinery to pay \$190,000 for air quality violations recorded 2010-2012

SAN FRANCISCO - The Bay Area Air Quality Management District announced a recent agreement with Chevron U.S.A. Inc. to pay a \$190,000 civil penalty to settle air quality violations at its refinery in Richmond.

The settlement covers violations that occurred at the Chevron Richmond facility from 2010–2012, but does not include those associated with the August 6th refinery fire. That matter remains under investigation.

“Refineries have thousands of components and they require strict oversight to ensure the facility maintains its emissions limits,” said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. “This penalty against Chevron is intended to remind them that they need to be vigilant in the maintenance and operation of the refinery.”

The settlement covers 19 Notices of Violation that the Air District issued against Chevron for record-keeping and routine maintenance infractions recorded over a two-year period. The settled violations also include flaring events and releases detected by Air District-required monitors positioned at the boundary of the refinery and “in-stack” monitors.

The Air District issues Notices of Violation to inform facilities that they have violated a specific air quality regulation or rule. Violators are generally required to respond to the notice within 10 days and submit a description of the actions they will take to correct the problem. These actions can include shutting down operations immediately, or changing operations or equipment to come into compliance.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (www.baaqmd.gov) is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area.

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