



NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 11, 2015

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Air District seeks public comment on refinery emissions rules

SAN FRANCISCO - The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is hosting public workshops to discuss the agency's two new draft petroleum refinery emissions rules.

"Bay Area refineries operate under some of the strictest regulations in the country and these proposed rules will continue to ensure that public health is protected despite any operational changes that might take place within the industry," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. "These workshops provide community members with an opportunity to participate in our rule-making process and make their voices heard as we fine-tune these important regulations."

The workshops will be held at the following times and locations:

Benicia

Monday, March 16, 2015
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM
Benicia Senior Center
187 East L Street

Richmond

Tuesday, March 17, 2015
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM
Madeline F Whittlesey Community Room
325 Civic Center Plaza

Martinez

Wednesday, March 18, 2015
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM
Contra Costa County Chambers
651 Pine Street

San Francisco*

Friday, March 20, 2015
10:30 AM - Noon
Air District Board Room, 7th Floor
939 Ellis Street

* This meeting will be webcast

The first of the two proposals, draft **Regulation 12, Rule 15: Petroleum Refining Emissions Tracking**, would gather emissions inventory and crude oil composition information from Bay Area refiners and increase air monitoring activities at the refinery fence lines and in nearby communities.

The second proposal, draft **Regulation 12, Rule 16: Petroleum Refining Emissions Analysis, Thresholds and Mitigation**, is a companion to and complements Rule 12-15. It would require refiners to mitigate emissions increases of certain toxic pollutants above established baseline emissions or risk levels.

The Air District welcomes comments and questions about the draft rules at any time before, during or after the draft workshop until the deadline for public comments closes on **March 27, 2015**. Comments may be submitted at the workshop, by phone, by U.S. mail or by email. For additional information or to submit comments on the draft rules, you can contact Eric Stevenson at (415) 749-4695 or via email at EStevenson@baaqmd.gov.

Continued...Refinery Rule Workshops

For copies of the draft rule proposals and supporting documents, please visit our website at <http://www.baaqmd.gov/Divisions/Planning-and-Research/Rule-Development/Rule-Workshops.aspx>.

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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