



NEWS RELEASE

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Air District settles case with Tesoro Refining & Marketing Company

Refinery to pay \$2,227,000 for air quality violations

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District announced today that Tesoro Refining & Marketing Company has agreed to pay \$2,227,000 to settle violations at its refinery in Martinez.

This settlement covers 58 Notices of Violation issued for air quality violations at its Golden Eagle Refinery between 2014 and 2018.

“Bay Area residents expect and deserve to breathe clean air,” said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. “This settlement illustrates the Air District’s commitment to enforcing air quality regulations and ensuring that refineries continue to follow all state, local and federal permit conditions to protect the health of our communities.”

The violations addressed in this settlement include:

- The 2014 turnaround flaring event, where there was continuous flaring during Tesoro's 55-day turnaround, in violation of multiple Air District and federal regulations, causing significant volatile organic compounds, hydrogen sulfide, sulfur dioxide and methane emissions
- Various permitting violations
- Various excess emissions violations including crude unit vapor leaks causing excess volatile organic compound emissions, gas turbine and furnace nitrogen oxide emission control issues, failed source tests, tank seal gaps and other leaks, sulfur dioxide control violations, and visible emissions
- Recordkeeping, monitoring and reporting violations

All the violations that led to this settlement have been corrected.

The Air District issues Notices of Violation when facilities violate 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 certain operations immediately or changing operations or equipment to come into compliance.

All settlement funds will be used to fund Air District activities such as the inspection and enforcement activities that led to this settlement.

The [Bay Area Air Quality Management District](#) is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area. Connect with the Air District via [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

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