

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jacob Finkle](#)
Subject: Air quality permitting
Date: Friday, May 28, 2021 3:43:45 PM

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To the BAAQMD Board:

I am an older but still employed resident of Richmond who experiences the effects of soot and other emissions from the Chevron facility less than two miles from my house. Those refinery emissions add to the effects of air pollution from the other facilities nearby on astro Street.

I feel those effects daily in the form of asthma, which has become worse since I moved to the area and requires costly medication. The resulting decline in my health has caused me reduce my working hours to 1/2-time.

As a professor who teaches International Environmental Policy at San Francisco State University, I know that the effects of PM 2.5 emissions are cumulative and are have significant public-health costs. I also know that refineries in other jurisdictions have been required to use better technology, including wet scrubber equipment.

My students, colleagues, and I have often discussed the disappointing record so far of BAAQMD's weak effort to regulate refinery emissions. I hope to have better news to report when classes start again in August.

I urge the Board to adopt the most stringent possible permitting rules to reduce the burden on my own health and that of my neighbors.

Sincerely,

Kathleen McAfee
Professor, International Relations
San Francisco State University
[REDACTED]