

Understanding REFINERY FLARES

Why do they occur?



Flaring occurs during start-up and shut down of units or during upsets or accidents.

How am I protected?



Air District Rule 12, Regulation 12 limits the frequency and magnitude of flaring events. Rule 12, Regulation 11 requires monitoring to minimize flare events.



THESE RULES REQUIRE REFINERIES TO:

- Immediately notify the Air District
- Monitor the volume and composition of gases burned
- Calculate the emissions based on collected data
- Determine cause and prevent from recurring
- Continuously monitor and record the flares
- Submit data monthly to the Air District



FLARE EMISSIONS HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY

75
PERCENT



What are flares?



Refinery flares are safety devices that burn pollutants to prevent them from being released into the atmosphere.



BAY AREA
AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT

TYPICAL FLARE SYSTEM

START
Refinery
Process
Gases/
Liquids

KEY



Normal process for excess gases



Route of gas when flaring occurs

