



BAY AREA
AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT

NEWS

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Air District issues Phillips 66 & oil tanker operator violations for Vallejo odor incident

Incident triggered more than one thousand complaints, hospital visits

SAN FRANCISCO – The Air District issued two public nuisance violations, one to Phillips 66 in Rodeo and one to the operator of the Yamuna Spirit oil tanker for a September 20, 2016, incident near the Phillips 66 Refinery in Rodeo that resulted in nearly 1,500 odor complaints from the Vallejo area.

The incident, stemming from an oil sheen on San Pablo Bay, prompted a shelter in place order, 1,430 odor complaints from the public and more than a hundred hospital visits. The Air District, as well as state and federal agencies, investigated and found the oil sheen matched crude oil that was being offloaded from the Yamuna Spirit oil tanker to Phillips 66 Refinery at their wharf at the time of the odor complaints.

"The Air District thoroughly investigated this incident and determined the Phillips 66 Refinery and the Yamuna Spirit oil tanker operator played a role in this event and both parties will be held accountable," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. "Protecting public health and requiring safeguards that will keep incidents like this from happening again is our top priority."

The California Office of Emergency Services reported that Sutter and Kaiser hospitals in Vallejo received 100 patients with an additional 20 at other area medical facilities for complaints like headaches, burning eyes, nose and throat, nausea, and dizziness.

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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