

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 31, 2018 CONTACT: Tom Flannigan, 415.749.4900

Air District investigates fire at Sims scrap metal facility in Richmond

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District responded to a fire last night at the Sims Metal Management facility in Richmond. Four Air District inspectors were sent to the scene to provide support to first responders.

Air District staff remain on the scene and have opened an investigation into the incident. Inspectors measured high levels of particulate matter from the burning metals and plastics. They provided meteorology information, public complaint records and air quality observations to first responders on the scene.

Heavy smoke from the fire was localized and impacted neighborhoods near the incident. Low winds during the incident allowed smoke from the fire to settle into the surrounding neighborhoods.

Inspectors will continue to conduct air quality tests and investigate potential air quality violations.

The <u>Bay Area Air Quality Management District</u> is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area. Connect with the Air District via <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, and <u>YouTube</u>.

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