



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Air District settles case with Valero**

*Refinery to pay \$191,500 for air quality violations*

**SAN FRANCISCO** – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District announced today that it has settled 14 Notices of Violation with Valero Refining Co. for \$191,500 for violations at its Benicia Oil Refinery.

The Notices of Violation were issued to the company for non-compliance with air quality regulations at its Benicia facility in 2017.

“Any air quality violation at a Bay Area refinery is taken extremely seriously by the Air District,” said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. “This settlement helps to ensure that Valero takes responsibility for compliance with all local, state and federal air quality regulations, and does not put public health or local air quality at risk.”

The violations addressed in this settlement include:

- Two violations for excessive visible emissions
- Four violations for a tank leak, a valve leak, a leak on a heat exchanger and a gap on a tank
- One violation for oil on a tank roof
- One violation for valve checks with the incorrect analyzer
- One violation for a seal gap
- One violation for failure to conduct daily inspections
- Two violations for a total of 13 open ended lines
- One violation for exceedance of NOx limits
- One violation for exceedance of CO limits

All 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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