



Compliance and Enforcement Division

INCIDENT REPORT

**Chevron Refinery (Site # A0010)
Richmond, CA**

March 29, 2018

On March 29, 2018 at approximately 11:10 p.m., Chevron had a steam release that lasted until about 11:25 pm. This resulted in a loud popping noise that was heard by the community when the steam was released. Steam is generated by the facility and used as a utility in the refining process.

Chevron experienced pressure variations in the steam systems which upset the Cogeneration plant and caused reduce speed of the Turbine. The 500-pound steam line relieved to atmosphere as designed through a steam safety valve. There were no other releases or process unit upsets.

Chevron reported a Level 1 (no offsite impacts) under the Contra Costa Community Warning System. The District received several complaints from the community about this event.

District Staff investigated and determined that the pipe relief valve that released to atmosphere was a 500-pound steam line that contained only steam. No air emissions were released and there was no fence-line ground level monitoring activity recorded.

The cause to the steam imbalance is under investigation. There were no air quality violations during the steam release.