

## Compliance and Enforcement Division INCIDENT REPORT

December 06, 2023

City of Richmond Wastewater Treatment Plant/ Veolia,  
Site # A2482  
601 Canal Boulevard  
Richmond, California

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### December 5, 2023

Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District) staff responded to a number of air quality odor complaints received by the Air District detecting sewage-like odors in the Point Richmond area. Wind direction varied between north and south variants, with generally calm wind speeds, ranging from 0-7 miles per hour (mph). Air District inspection staff traced ongoing odors to the City of Richmond Wastewater Treatment Plant/Veolia (facility), located on Canal Boulevard in Point Richmond. Air District inspection staff observed that the facility's hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S) fence line monitors registered elevated readings during the noted air quality complaint occurrence times, with a peak reading of 345.8 parts per billion (ppb)/5-minute average recorded at the facility's South Side monitor at 9:05 am.



By 11:00 am, Air District inspection staff had proceeded with an on-site investigation of the facility where the sewage-like odors were observed and confirmed. On-site staff stated that the facility was undergoing planned construction activities on equipment associated with the wastewater treatment process and those activities were projected to continue throughout the week. In addition, Air District inspection staff notified Contra Costa County Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) and City of Richmond Fire Department of the H<sub>2</sub>S odor issues. Air District incident response on-call staff were made aware of the H<sub>2</sub>S odor issues in anticipation of any after-hours air quality complaints received.

### December 6, 2023

The Air District's mobile source test van was mobilized to the Point Richmond area to continue monitoring for elevated H<sub>2</sub>S concentrations. Air District staff are currently evaluating the incident for any violations of Air District regulations.

To date, the Air District has received 9 air quality odor complaints. The investigation is ongoing, and the incident report will be updated as new information becomes available.