

Compliance and Enforcement Division

INCIDENT REPORT

October 22, 2026

Richmond/Chevron Refinery, Site #A0010
845 Chevron Way, Richmond, California

On Thursday, October 22, 2026, at 6:09pm the Air District began receiving multiple complaints alleging rotten egg or sulfur odors in the Richmond area. Air District staff immediately began contacting complainants and deployed in the Richmond area to investigate the source of the odor.

At around 8:30pm Air District staff traced the odors to the Castro Street Richmond Parkway area. Odors were strongest at Vernon Ave and 7th Street,

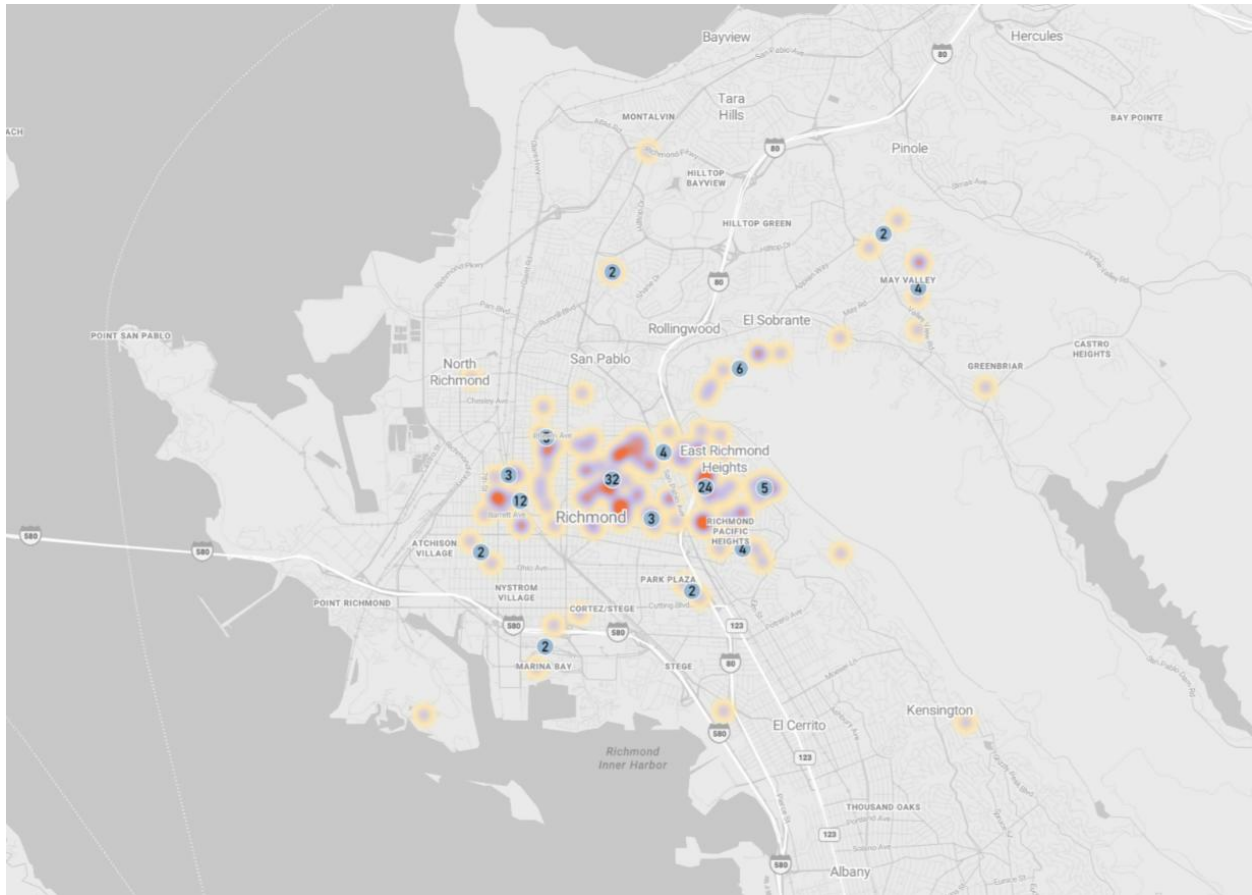
The Air District's nearby Richmond 7th Street monitoring site measured peak 1-hour average hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) concentrations above 200 parts per billion (ppb) at 7 pm. For context, the acute (one-hour) reference exposure level (REL) for H₂S established by OEHHA is 30 ppb. At the Richmond – 7th Street station, one-hour average concentrations exceeded this 30 ppb acute REL for six of the nine hours between 5:00 pm October 22 and 1:00 am October 23. During this time, several of Chevron's fenceline, Ground Level and Community monitors also measured elevated H₂S levels above this REL from North Richmond to Atchison Village. After midnight, H₂S concentrations rose in Point Richmond as well and reached hourly average concentrations of about 10 ppb. During the evening of October 22, winds were generally light to moderate (3 to 10 miles per hour) from the west and northwest. After 12:30 am, conditions became stagnant with windspeeds below 1 mile per hour, letting the plume disperse more broadly. H₂S levels returned to typical background levels at all air monitors by 4:00 am, this morning. Real time H₂S data can be found on the [Air District's website](#) and [Chevron's fenceline air monitoring website](#).

At 10:45pm, Air District staff arrived on site at the Chevron Refinery and met with Chevron staff to further investigate the source of the odor. Chevron and Air District staff were able to trace the H₂S odors to an area of the refinery just downwind of the refinery flares.

At 12:19 am on October 23, Chevron generated a Level 1 Community Warning System (CWS) alert. The alert noted an ongoing H₂S release that migrated offsite. The alert acknowledged inquiries from the public about an offsite impact. While the alert lists the date and time of release at 12:10 am on October 23, community complaints and Air District staff observations suggest the release occurred hours earlier, during the evening of October 22.

The Air District received over 130 community complaints about this incident as of the date of this report. See heat map of complainant locations in Figure 1 below:

Figure 1: Complainant Heat Map:



The source of the H₂S odors within the Chevron Refinery has not yet been identified. The Air District's investigation of this incident is ongoing. The Air District will provide updates to this incident report as the investigation progresses.