



Air Pollution Control District
San Luis Obispo County

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Public Discussion on Refinery Safety

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA, – At its September 23, 2015 Board meeting, the San Luis Obispo (SLO) County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) will receive a presentation from representatives of the California Interagency Refinery Task Force on recent efforts to better protect communities and the environment in and around oil refineries. Please note, the APCD Board presentation will focus on refinery safety and not crude by rail issues.

Representatives from CalEPA and California Air Resources Board will discuss proposed changes to California Accidental Release Prevention Program (CalARP) to improve safety and prevention of incidents at refineries. In addition, results from the statewide Refinery Air Monitoring Project Inventory Report will be presented to identify what air monitoring equipment is available to detect emissions from refineries throughout the state. This Board agenda item is an opportunity for local residents to learn more about statewide efforts to improve public and worker safety at oil refineries.

Background

In August 2012, a fire occurred at the Chevron refinery in Richmond which raised public concern about refinery safety and emergency response in California. Following a directive from the Governor's February 2014 report on "Improving Public and Worker Safety at Oil Refineries," CalEPA formed the Interagency Refinery Task Force. In addition to CalEPA and ARB, the Task Force membership includes the California Department of Industrial Relations and its Division of Occupational Health and Safety, six other state agencies, U.S. EPA, and local agencies from areas of the state that contain refineries. The agencies work collaboratively to achieve the highest possible level of safety for refinery workers and local communities, and to prepare for and effectively respond to emergencies if they occur.

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