



ERIC GARCETTI  
MAYOR

December 15, 2016

William Arthur Burke, Governing Board Chair  
Wayne Nastri, Executive Officer  
South Coast Air Quality Management District  
21865 Copley Drive Diamond Bar CA 91765

**Re: Draft EIR Certification Postponement and Recirculation Request**

Dear Dr. Burke and Mr. Nastri,

I am writing to request the postponement of the certification of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Los Angeles Refinery Integration and Compliance Project (LARIC) proposed by the Tesoro Refining and Marketing Company LLC. The City of Los Angeles is a responsible agency with discretionary approval authority over a significant portion of the project. According to my staff, our Planning Department and the Port of Los Angeles have not participated in DEIR process.

The project seeks to link Tesoro's existing Wilmington refinery with the acquired Carson refinery, but it appears that the project will have broader environmental impacts across state and international boundaries that need to be fully addressed in the DEIR. The potential increase in air and water pollution, upstream greenhouse gases, and international safety hazards related to the use of Bakken Crude require a broader environmental analysis through your recirculation process. The City of Los Angeles has designated Wilmington as a "disadvantaged community" under our Clean Up Green Up policy and is a key environmental justice benchmark in the City's Sustainability Plan. While there was a public hearing held in the City of Carson this past May, the residents of Wilmington deserve to have a public hearing as well. We need to take seriously the community's concerns around petroleum related infrastructure as we learned the real risks that exists from accidents like that of the Aliso Canyon Storage Facility gas leak.

Additionally, I have concerns over the impact this project has on our region. The Regional Clean Air Incentives Market (RECLAIM) program has not been able to achieve the promised emissions reductions from local oil refineries. The U.S. EPA has also

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designated the Los Angeles County portion of the regional basin as non-attainment for the National Ambient Air Quality Standards under the Clean Air Act. These considerations and along with new appointment of Boardmember Sheila Kuehl to the South Coast Air Quality Management District require that we give this project additional time to be evaluated.

As we come to the close of the year, it is incredibly difficult for both local agencies and the public to participate in this important process with the holiday season this month. Postponing the DEIR certification until next year will allow full participation and will honor the spirit of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Garcetti", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

ERIC GARCETTI  
Mayor

CC: AQMD Governing Boardmember Joe Buscaino  
AQMD Governing Boardmember Shiela Kuehl  
Planning and Rules Manager Jillian Wong  
Senior Enforcement Manager Danny Luong