Burning “fuel gas” created in refining emits ≈ 330 tons of sulfur dioxide from the Phillips 66 Rodeo refinery annually—twice as much as burning fuel gas emits from the Chevron Richmond, Tesoro Martinez, and Valero Benicia refineries combined.¹

Sulfur dioxide (SO₂) air pollution is harmful itself, and also forms deadly PM₂.₅ —particulate matter 2.5 microns in diameter or less—in our air when SO₂ is emitted. Low-income communities and communities of color in Rodeo, Crockett, and South Vallejo face disparately severe health risks from the Rodeo refinery’s air pollution.

Problem

Phillips 66 is burning dirtier fuel gas because it is using coking to boost gasoline, diesel and jet fuel production from heavier, dirtier crude and it is not treating contaminants this sends into its fuel gas.

Delayed coking creates exceptionally polluting byproducts: petroleum coke, and coker off-gas. The fuel gas treatment Phillips 66 uses at Rodeo is not designed to remove the non-acidic sulfur compounds in the coker off-gas it burns as fuel.¹,²

Coker off-gas accounts for most of the SO₂ the Rodeo refinery emits from burning fuel gas.²

Solution

Phillips 66 can treat coker off-gas. Others do.

Hydrotreating its fuel gas could cut Rodeo refinery SO₂ emissions by ≈ 291 tons/year, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) estimates.¹ All other Bay Area refineries already use fuel gas hydrotreating, BAAQMD reports.¹

Continued, next page
Hydrotreat Phillips 66 Coker Off-Gas: Protect Health

**Toxic Injustice**

In 2015 BAAQMD proposed to revise its Rule 9-1 to force the emissions cuts fuel gas hydrotreating can achieve. But it never did. Instead, from then until now, BAAQMD has failed to adopt this needed health protection.

Meanwhile, the same fuel gas cleanup standard it proposed in 2015 has applied to Los Angeles Area refineries since 1994. And, Phillips 66 told BAAQMD, the refiner already had the key equipment that it could re-purpose to hydrotreat its fuel gas on site at its Rodeo refinery—since August 2012.

Phillips 66 had equipment to do the same retrofit other Bay Area refineries have already done. Emissions control this could provide was already required in Southern California. And yet that equipment sat unused in Rodeo. Since August 2012, by the BAAQMD’s own 291 tons/year estimate, this neglect sent $\approx 1,940$ tons of $SO_2$ into nearby low-income, black, and brown communities’ air.

**Take Action:** Join CBE to demand that the Bay Area Air Quality Management District strengthen its Rule 9-1 to require refinery emission cuts that can be achieved by fuel gas hydrotreating **NOW**.

Email BAAQMD: Executive Officer [Jack Broadbent](mailto:); Board member [Mark Ross](mailto:) (City of Martinez), and Board members [Karen Mitchoff](mailto:) and [John Gioia](mailto:) (Contra Costa County). *Send your emails to them through the BAAQMD Board’s Clerk, Marcy Hiratzka: mhiratzka@baaqmd.gov *

Send us a copy of your correspondence with BAAQMD, and get more involved: [Andrés Soto](mailto:andres@cbecal.org) and [Zolboo Namkhaidorj](mailto:zolboo@cbecal.org)

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