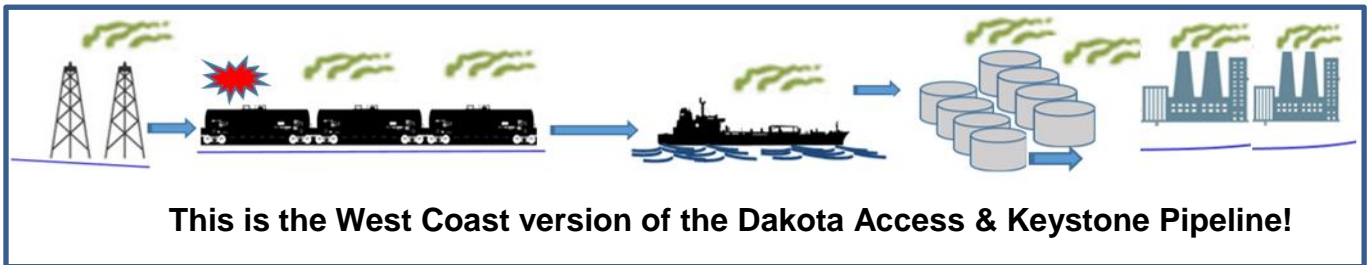


Tesoro to become largest refinery on W. Coast, plans to switch to explosive crude oil!

➤ *You should ask the AQMD to send the EIR back to draft form – instead of finalizing it!*



- **The expansion will combine the Tesoro Wilmington refinery with the former BP Carson refinery next door, expand crude processing, and build unprecedented new crude storage at the combined Tesoro/BP Wilmington / Carson refinery (3.4 million barrels - almost doubling)**
- **Expands Tesoro refinery, increasing air pollution and hazards** (22 expanded heaters, 12 new flare connections, closing Wilmington cracker but expanded Carson Cracker, more production)
- **The AQMD Draft EIR (environmental report) is grossly substandard, & fails to disclose a switch to dangerous, fundamentally different crude oils at the refinery.** Tesoro’s CEO admitted this change publicly to investors. These new crude oils require refinery modifications that increase dangers— higher VOCs, benzene (carcinogenic), corrosion, risks of fire, explosion, hazardous material release, others.
- **This major fossil fuel expansion undermines LA’s sustainability plans for climate, health, safety & Environmental Justice.** It will cause major impacts from Canada to Los Angeles.
- **These crude oils would come by rail from N. Dakota [volatile “bomb trains”]** This is fracked crude that releases toxics to air and water, is highly volatile, and releases high Greenhouse Gases during extraction. Multiple crude trains have exploded and spilled across the country, and dozens were killed. The US Department of Transportation found Dakota crude particularly dangerous.
- **It can also include tar sands crude oil from Canada.** This is strip mined, creates toxic lakes and rivers, is so heavy it is like asphalt, and explosive diluents are added during transport.
- **Next crudes would be transported from a proposed Tesoro ship terminal near Portland OR, by ship to LA.** The terminal is in Vancouver, WA. A “bomb” train blew up next to an elementary school in the region, and spilled into the Columbia river. Northwestern mayors and the public oppose this! (See black cloud at right—June)
- **Tesoro’s August LA refinery explosion of a sulfur tank could not be explained by the AQMD.** This explosion required shutdown of streets, and a shelter-in-place for a quarter mile around. **Why would the AQMD allow an expansion of sulfur processing at the refinery, without full environmental review?**



Write to the AQMD and tell them to SEND THE TESORO PROJECT BACK AS A DRAFT!

For convenience, you can copy the following into a letter, or put it into your own words:

Date: _____

Wayne Nastri, Executive Officer, South Coast Air Quality Management District
Jillian Wong, Planning and Rules Manager
Danny Luong, Senior Enforcement Manager
21865 Copley Drive Diamond Bar CA 91765
[wnastri@aqmd.gov](mailto:wnastr1@aqmd.gov), jwong1@aqmd.gov, dluong@aqmd.gov

cc. AQMD Governing Boardmember Joe Buscaino, c/o Jacob Haik, Deputy Chief of Staff, jacob.haik@lacity.org

Re: **Tesoro LARIC Project must be recirculated in Draft Form**

Dear Mr. Nastri and AQMD Staff,

I write to urge you to recirculate the Tesoro LARIC (Los Angeles Refinery Integration and Compliance) project Environmental Impact Report (EIR) as a new draft, and not to publish it as a final EIR.

We have been told the AQMD intends to finalize the EIR. Instead, you need to correct fatal errors, such as the draft's failure to evaluate Tesoro's admitted crude oil switch, with its public health, environmental, and explosion hazards. The California Environmental Quality Act requires an accurate project description and evaluation of potentially significant impacts in the draft environmental report. These cannot happen in a last-minute explanation in the final EIR.

A large body of evidence submitted to the AQMD by Dr. Phyllis Fox, Communities for a Better Environment, Earthjustice, Eastyard, CFASE, and many others, showed overwhelmingly that the Draft EIR failed as an informational document. It needs to be re-written in draft form to address these comments.

Delay of Tesoro's business plans is no justification to rush the EIR! Tesoro could have entirely prevented any "delay" if it had disclosed the crude oil switch plan two years ago, when it acknowledged the plans to its investors. It is necessary to provide public disclosure in order to respect the public's right-to-know about increased hazards and pollution, and to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act. Please let me know what you intend to do.

Sincerely,

Many of you wrote strong letters and testified at the public hearing last May, despite Tesoro's organizing hundreds of refinery workers to crowd the room early, forcing most opposition testimony to wait hours until late evening to speak.

Your testimony won further environmental review, and convinced the AQMD that they should provide a longer comment period on the Draft EIR last summer.

Your work made a difference, but we are not finished! **Please send your letter to the AQMD as soon as possible, and send a copy to CBE.** You can send by mail or email.

For more info or to get involved: Alicia Rivera (alicia@cbecal.org 310-634-7839) or Julia May (julia@cbecal.org)