

Refinery Air Monitoring Regulation 1180 Workshop Needs Your Input Thursday Night 5:30, 9/21/2017 -- Wilmington Senior Center, 1371 Eubank Ave!

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (Air District) started before April developing a new regulation with two parts – 1) **Refinery Fenceline Monitoring**, & 2) **Community Monitoring** near refineries.

The Air District needs to know that measuring air pollution near refineries is important to you!

Staff originally planned the meeting at their Diamond Bar office, far from refinery neighbors, but made the effort to move it to Wilmington so you can more easily attend, after our request.

- ▶ **Please come, and don't hesitate to ask questions – this is an opportunity to learn more about monitoring.** The Air District will present information about different monitors and chemicals.
- ▶ **Let the Air District know why & where you want air monitoring**, and what kinds of refinery air pollution problems you have had, ongoing or during accidents.
- ▶ **Let the Air District know the community needs independent, reliable “real-time” monitoring around oil refineries, covering as much of the community as possible**, and also monitoring air pollution from the ground all the way up above the stacks. This is possible using special light beams.
- ▶ **These monitoring systems need to be chosen so they can detect spikes in air pollution that may come and go**, not just relying on long averaging periods.
- ▶ **Communities need access to the results and meaning of the monitoring** in non-technical formats, need to know how often the Air District will review readings, what pollutants are included, the end goals of monitoring, what type of cooperation is needed from refineries to conduct the monitoring, whether schools and other sensitive locations will be prioritized, and available backup systems.

The Air District is developing its regulation at the same time that overlapping and redundant oil refinery monitoring requirements have been set at the federal and state level.

- **In December 2015, U.S. EPA under the Obama Administration set refinery regulations for air monitoring**, requiring continuous (but not necessarily real-time) fenceline monitoring for benzene (as a surrogate for many pollutants present at the same time). While important, it allows refineries to continuously measure, but average results over 2-weeks, which can hide harmful spikes. The Air District needs to set requirements beyond this, and plans to cover more chemicals. *Petroleum Refinery Sector Risk and Technology Review and New Source Performance Standardss*
- **This year, California also adopted new laws requiring refinery monitoring:**
 - **AB 617** (Garcia)¹ requires the state board to prepare a monitoring plan by October 1, 2018 for community air monitoring in the high priority locations by July 1, 2019. Air districts can put in place real-time fenceline monitoring for stationary pollution sources (such as oil refineries). The plan can add locations later, and must publish data online and update every 5 years to reduce emissions in communities with high cumulative exposure (such as Wilmington and other refinery neighborhoods). Many monitoring provisions are redundant with other requirements already in place or about to be adopted, including the Muratsuchi bill, below.
 - **AB 1647** (Muratsuchi), Introduced in February, before AB617 was conceived, but adopted Sept. 11th. It requires refinery fenceline and community monitors before January 1, 2020.

It is important that the LOCAL regulation, where you have the most input, is as strong as possible! [For more info contact Alicia@cbecal.org, or Ashley@cbecal.org or Julia@cbecal.org]

¹ AB 617 (Garcia) was signed July 2017 in a fast track package deal with AB398 (the Cap & Trade extension). CBE opposed both 617 & 398, because 617 was offered as political cover for adopting the harmful AB398 Pollution Trading law. AB617 cannot make up for harms of allowing pollution trading, nor for preemptions in 398. We need fundamental change to renewable energy.