

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Richmond, CA-- **Today, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) approved Rule 6-5, the “cat cracker rule,” to rein in refinery pollution. Andres Soto, Richmond Organizer for Communities for a Better Environment, issued the following statement:**

“This is a huge win for environmental justice communities who have been fighting for this rule for years as a matter of racial, environmental, and climate justice. Despite a widespread misinformation campaign by the refineries and their allies of exaggerated costs that threatened our communities with doomsday scenarios, the Board of Directors made an historic vote today on behalf of disproportionately impacted communities.”

“We look forward to Chevron and PBF doing the right thing and installing wet gas scrubbers that will dramatically clean up their pollution and create numerous jobs in the process, without further delays,” Soto continued.

**About Rule 6-5**

The rule will likely require the Chevron Richmond and PBF refineries to install “wet gas scrubbing” technology on their worst polluting units. This technology is already in widespread use at a majority of refineries across the country — [including the majority of PBF's own facilities](#). For a more comprehensive list of sources explaining this and other facts, visit CBE’s information hub at:

<https://www.cbecal.org/organizing/northern-california/richmond/cat-cracker-rule-6-5/>

Rule 6-5 represents a win-win policy for workers and public health. According to [an analysis by the UCLA Luskin Center for Innovation and Inclusive Economics](#), this policy would result in significant economic benefits, including creating thousands of community supporting jobs, through the installation of the new technology to cut the pollution that has been blatantly harming communities of color.

**About CBE**

Communities for a Better Environment (CBE) is one of the preeminent environmental justice organizations in the nation. The mission of CBE is to build people’s power in California’s low-income communities of color to achieve environmental health and justice by preventing and reducing pollution by building green, healthy, and sustainable communities and environments. [www.cbecal.org](http://www.cbecal.org)

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