The South Coast Air District is updating its refinery tanks Rule 1178 – strengthening is needed (over).
SCAQMD’s proposed Rule 1178 & related Rule 463:
Applies to >1,000 petroleum tanks at 29 facilities (oil refineries, tank farms, oil production). Majority of each has >1 million gallons capacity & can emit cancer causing & smog-forming gases.

What we LIKE & DON’T LIKE about the proposed regulation:

✓ It requires adding VAPOR RECOVERY (for some Fixed Roof Tanks), SECONDARY SEALS around floating roofs.

• It might require adding DOMES (on External Floating Roof Tanks storing crude oil), which could cut a lot of pollution (but there are exemptions)!

✗ “Alternative Plans” allow refineries to skip adding domes, instead setting limits on vapor pressure. This is harder to enforce than adding a roof.

✓ It requires Optical Sensing of Gases using infrared cameras, allowing inspectors to see leaking gases normally invisible, so they can be fixed.

✗ DEADLINES ARE TOO LONG! – 1/3 get retrofitted by 2031, ½ by 2033, and all by 2038 - far too long! Refineries are even complaining about these - they want even longer delays!

✗ Refineries are allowed cheap “COST EFFECTIVENESS” limits - reasonable controls are considered too expensive.

• Other issues: See the March letter of Earthjustice, CBE, CBD, and CCA.

• After the new Draft Regulation is published, we will have more comments.

What you can do: Join us in testifying at public hearings

- Fri. Jun 16th, 10:30am Stationary Source Committee of AQMD Board
- Final AQMD Board adoption hearing is now expected Sept. 1st.
- We can provide top Talking Points after the new draft regulation is published.

Bigger picture: We also need to gradually phase out Oil Refineries, while electric vehicles are ramped up, to meet smog & climate goals (with a Moratorium on new petroleum tanks & fossil fuel infrastructure.)

More info: julia@cbecal.org, or alicia@cbecal.org -- www.cbecal.org - 6/8/23