



NEWS

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August 13, 2003

Contact: Ralph Borrmann

415.749.4900

Public Comment Period Begins

Five Refineries get Preliminary OK for Title V Permits

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District has made a preliminary decision to grant Title V permits to each of the five Bay Area refineries including:

Chevron Products	841 Chevron Way, Richmond
Shell Martinez Refinery	3485 Pacheco Blvd., Martinez
Conoco Phillips	1380 San Pablo Avenue, Rodeo
Valero Refining Co.	3400 East Second Street, Benicia
Tesoro Refining	Avon Refinery, 150 Solano Way, Martinez, and Amorco Terminal, Waterfront Road, Martinez

These draft permits were subject to a public comment period in July 2002 and public hearings were held in the community for each of the permits. The Air District has modified the draft permits in response to the public comments received. A new public comment period on the modifications begins on August 12 and continues until September 15, 2003. During this time, any member of the public may comment on any portion of the permit that has been updated or corrected. A copy of the proposed permits can be found:

- 1) At a local Public Library:
 - Chevron Products: Richmond Public Library, 135 Washington Avenue, Richmond
 - Shell Martinez Refinery: Martinez Public Library, 740 Court St., Martinez
 - Conoco Phillips: Rodeo Public Library, 220 Pacific Ave., Rodeo and
at the Crockett Public Library, 991 Loring Ave., Crockett
 - Valero Refining: Benicia Public Library, 150 E. "L" Street, Benicia
 - Tesoro Refining: Martinez Public Library, 740 Court Street, Martinez.
- 2) On the Air District web site at www.baaqmd.gov (follow the Title V links),
- 3) At the Air District, 939 Ellis Street, San Francisco, for an appointment call May Leung at (415) 749-4729.
- 4) For a hard copy of the permit, call the Public Information Office at (415) 749-4900 or write to: BAAQMD, Attn: Title V Permit Request, 939 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA 94109.

What is Title V?

Title V is part of the 1990 amendments to the Clean Air Act, and requires all state and local governments to develop and implement operating permits for all major pollution emitting facilities. The EPA oversees these permit programs and the Air District is charged with implementing them in the Bay Area, in accordance with Federal guidelines.

Title V is intended to clarify the complex air quality permitting process by consolidating federal, state, and local air pollution control regulations into one summary operating permit that covers all aspects of a facility's year-to-year air pollution activities. The Title V operating permit program is implemented under Air District Regulation 2, Rule 6.

Public comment is important to the Title V process. A final decision will incorporate consideration of public comments on the proposal.

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