



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Air District settles case with Chevron USA Inc.**

*Refinery to pay \$146,500 for air quality violations*

**SAN FRANCISCO** – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District announced today that Chevron USA Inc. has agreed to pay \$146,500 to settle air quality violations at its refinery in Richmond.

The settlement covers 33 Notices of Violation issued for air quality violations at the Richmond Oil Refinery during 2016-2018.

“The Air District must hold companies accountable for failure to comply with strict operating permits that protect public health and air quality,” said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. “Residents of surrounding communities have a right to be protected from hazardous air pollutants and the Air District continues to ensure those protections.”

The violations addressed in this settlement include:

- Public nuisance violations related to odors emanating from the refinery bio-reactor pond
- Failure to keep an accurate inventory of valves and connectors
- Failure to properly sample flare gas during a flare event
- Combustion of refinery fuel gas with excess concentration of hydrogen sulfide
- Failure to repair a leak at a refinery cooling tower in a timely manner

All the violations that led to this settlement have been corrected.

The Air District issues Notices of Violation when facilities violate a specific air quality regulation or rule. Violators are generally required to respond to the notice within ten days and submit a description of the actions they will take to correct the problem. These actions can include shutting down certain operations immediately, or changing operations or equipment to come into compliance.

All settlement funds will be used to fund Air District activities such as the inspection and enforcement activities that led to this settlement.

The [Bay Area Air Quality Management District](#) is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area. Connect with the Air District via [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [YouTube](#).

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