

**Compliance and Enforcement Division**  
**INCIDENT REPORT**  
**November 30, 2023**  
**MRC Refinery, Site # A0011**  
**3485 Pacheco Boulevard**  
**Martinez, California**

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**November 29, 2023**

At 4:33 pm the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District) received a Contra Costa County Community Warning System (CWS) Level 1 alert filed by MRC regarding an unplanned flaring event. At 4:35 pm, Air District staff contacted MRC officials and began responding to air quality complaints regarding the flaring event. Air District staff observed flaring from 3 flares. No smoke was observed with the flare activity. The wind during the event was Northwest at 0-5 miles per hour.



While onsite, Air District staff contacted the MRC refinery representatives and were informed the refinery experienced a problem in at a unit which resulted in a process upset that cascaded into multiple other refinery processes. These process unit upsets resulted in flaring at three refinery flares. In addition, Air District staff was in communication with Contra Costa County Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) during the event. Contra Costa County informed Air District staff they requested a 72-hour report from MRC for this event. Air District staff remained onsite into the evening to monitor the event and respond to additional air quality complaints. The complainants were alleging flaring related to the event. By 9:00 PM, most of the flaring had diminished. At this time, the Air District has received 9 air quality complaints.

**November 30, 2023**

The Air District issued a notice of violation (NOV) to MRC for Public Nuisance. For more information on the NOVs, click the link to the [NOV web tool](#).

The investigation is ongoing, and more violations may be issued.