



BAY AREA
AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT

Compliance and Enforcement Division

INCIDENT REPORT

February 24, 2024

Valero Benicia Refinery, Site # B2626
3400 East 2nd Street
Benicia, California

On February 23, 2024 at approximately 7:38pm, a Level 1 Notification of Flaring at Valero Benicia Refinery was reported Benicia Fire Department. The flaring was due to an “unanticipated mechanical issue” and subsequent unit shutdown. Air District staff confirmed there was intermittent flaring at both the north and south flares on February 24th and February 25th due to this unit upset.

On February 24, 2024 at 6:07am, Air District staff began receiving odor complaints alleging odors from Valero Refinery in Benicia. In total, Air District received 18 complainants between the hours of 6:07am and 12:28pm.

At 6:52 am, Air District staff made contact with Valero Refinery staff. Air District staff was told the odors were attributed to a spill of “refined hydrocarbon” on the roof of a storage tank. The cause of the spill was unknown by Valero staff at time of call.

Air District staff arrived at 12:16 pm at Valero Refinery and observed odors at the main gate down to Rose Drive. At the time when odor complaints were reported, winds were out of the S-E at ~ 7 mph. No additional complaints were received after 15:18 PM.

Valero Fenceline GLMs showed the following activity:

Hydrogen Sulfide, 46-52 ppb from 6:00 am to 6:50 AM.

Sulfur Dioxide, 20-30 ppb at 6:10 AM

The flaring incident is currently ongoing, and the units remain down. The Incident Report will be updated as new information becomes available. For more information on any Notices of Violation (NOV) that may be issued, please click the link to the [NOV web tool](#).