



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 6, 2018

CONTACT: Ralph Borrmann - 415.749.4900

Air District settles case with Chevron U.S.A. Inc.

Refinery to pay \$225,500 for air quality violations

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District announced that Chevron U.S.A. Inc. has agreed to pay \$225,500 to settle air quality violations at its refinery in Richmond.

The settlement covers 51 notices of violation issued to the company for non-compliance with air quality regulations during its operations that occurred largely in 2015 and 2016. The violations that led to this settlement were corrected soon after they were discovered.

“The Air District treats every violation of air quality rules very seriously,” said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. “Dedicated refinery inspectors and regular inspections helps to ensure that violations are corrected quickly, and air quality and the public is protected.”

The notices of violation included:

- Several violations of the federal standard limit the amount of hydrogen sulfide that can be burned at combustion sources
- A public nuisance violation following flaring associated with an unplanned shutdown
- Violation of the opacity standard for smoke associated with flaring
- Three violations of the requirement to monitor fuel flow to furnaces to control nitrogen oxide emissions
- Failure to include certain components in the leak detection and repair program
- Nitrogen oxides exceeded limits established by District permit for furnace emissions
- Failure to monitor during process vessel depressurization

The Air District issues notices of violation when facilities violate a specific air quality regulation or rule. Violators are 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](#).

###

Air District Communications Office
375 Beale Street, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94105
[Air District Homepage](#) | [News Releases](#)