



## Compliance and Enforcement Division

### INCIDENT REPORT

**Sim's Metal Management**

**600 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Richmond, CA 94804**

**January 30, 2018**

---

On 1/30/18 at approximately 5:10 pm a fire started at the Sim's Metal Management facility located at the intersection of Cutting Avenue and Fourth Street in Richmond, California. Air District Staff arrived on scene at about 5:35 pm. Contra Costa County Hazardous Materials in conjunction with the Richmond Fire Department issued a Shelter-in-Place order for the nearby Richmond neighborhoods at approximately 6:00 pm. There were some nearby street closures and at 10:00 pm Cal-Trans Toll takers were evacuated from the Richmond/San Rafael Bridge Toll Plaza.

Winds after 6:00 pm were from the South-Southeast at 2 to 3 mph and carried a heavy smoke plume towards central Richmond with poor dispersion. The Richmond Fire Department responded with several engines and Chevron, Shell, and Dow Chemical assisted in the firefighting efforts by providing foam trucks. A large pile approximately 30 feet in height of scrap appliances was involved in the fire. Initially, a ladder truck was positioned on site to attempt to control the fire; however, the fire continued to spread into an adjacent scrap metal pile. The Chevron Refinery Fire Department positioned a foam truck inside the recycling facility's yard's about 7:30 pm and began to contain the fire. District Inspection staff conducted particulate monitoring in the downwind neighborhood and collected some ambient air samples. The District received three air quality complaints from the Richmond area during this incident. The Contra Costa County Health Department lifted the Shelter in Place order at approximately 4:00 am.

The cause of the scrap metal fire is under investigation.