MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 15, 2020

TO: Community Advisory Council (CAC) Members

FROM: Timothy Mitro, (805) 961-8883

SUBJECT: January 22 CAC Meeting to Discuss Proposed Rule 364, Refinery Fenceline and Community Air Monitoring

Petroleum refineries are among the largest stationary sources of air pollution in California. In recent years, community concerns over emissions from refineries and the potential for community exposure to air contaminants has increased, both from routine facility operations and potential releases due to upset conditions or emergency situations. Assembly Bill (AB) 1647, passed in 2017, contains requirements for fenceline air monitoring and community air monitoring for refineries operating in California. Proposed Rule 364 was developed to address these requirements for petroleum refineries in Santa Barbara County. Currently, the Santa Maria Asphalt Refinery is the only petroleum refinery located within Santa Barbara County.

The fenceline system required by Proposed Rule 364 would provide air quality information to the public about levels of various criteria air pollutants and toxic air contaminants at the property boundaries of the refinery. In accordance with AB 1647, Proposed Rule 364 also addresses the need for the District to install and maintain a refinery-related community air monitoring system, which would provide additional pollutant information for the residents of Santa Maria. The community monitoring system may be co-located with the District’s existing ambient air monitoring network, but a new monitoring site would need to be identified so that the monitoring station can satisfy monitoring objectives for the Santa Maria region as well as the community that is downwind of the refinery. The proposed rule establishes a cost-recovery fee schedule, as the refinery is responsible for the costs to implement the AB 1647 mandate.

At the January 22, 2020 CAC meeting, the District will present the proposed rule and request that the CAC consider recommending that the District Board adopt Rule 364. Copies of the proposed rule and relevant supporting documents are available for review from the District’s website, www.ourair.org/rules-under-development. If there are questions or concerns that you would like to discuss beforehand, please contact me at (805) 961-8883 / e-mail: MitroT@sbcapcd.org.

Attachments:
1) Proposed Rule 364
2) Rule 364 Staff Report
3) Rule 364 Refinery Fenceline Monitoring Guidelines