



April 26, 2018

William A. Burke, Governing Board Chairman
South Coast Air Quality Management District
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Re: **SUPPORT for the elimination of MHF and HF alkylation within four years of PR 1410 adoption**

Dear Chairman Burke:

The San Pedro Democratic Club wishes to express our strong support for Proposed Rule 1410 that replaces hydrofluoric acid (HF) and modified HF (MHF) alkylation with a safe alternative within four years of rule adoption.

The South Bay and Harbor areas have been trying to eliminate HF alkylation dangers for three decades; that's long enough.

Millions of Southern California residents are unnecessarily at risk, because three safe commercially available alternatives exist. With a little planning, California drivers and our economy will not suffer during the temporary disruption a MHF replacement will entail.

A MHF release is no farther away than the next powerful earthquake or one small, but inevitable human error, as recently demonstrated at the Torrance refinery in February of 2015 where an MHF tank was nearly struck.

HF risk is unacceptable in our densely populated area. Time is of the essence. We urge the SCAQMD to expedite the rulemaking process and adopt a timely replacement or cessation of MHF and HF alkylation to protect refinery workers, residents, and the California economy.

Our club has over one hundred members who reside from Long Beach through Torrance, Wilmington, Carson, Gardena, Harbor Gateway and San Pedro. The refineries are in proximity to our educational facilities where children and young adults study and play. These communities are the most at risk of an HF release used by the refineries in Torrance and Wilmington. We urge you, once again, to implement Rule 1410 and replace HF use for a safer alternative.

Thank you for putting the safety of refinery workers, and our communities first.

Sincerely,

Carrie Scoville
President

cc: SCAQMD Governing Board Members

The Hon. Maxine Waters CD43, The Hon. Nanette Barragán CD44, The Hon. Alan Lowenthal CD47

The Hon. Steven Bradford SD35, The Hon. Ben Allen SD26

The Hon. Al Muratsuchi AD66, The Hon. Mike Gipson AD64, The Hon. Patrick O'Donnell AD 70

The Hon. Joe Busciano CD15

Steve Goldsmith, President TRAA Torrance Refinery Action Alliance

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