



Christian Horvath
Council Member, District 3

415 Diamond Street, P.O. Box 270
Redondo Beach, California 90277-0270
www.redondo.org

tel 310 372-1171
ext. 2767
fax 310 379-9268

October 28, 2017

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

Dear Chairman Burke and the Governing Board:

I am writing to express my personal support for Rule 1410 and banning any use of modified hydrofluoric acid (MHF) and hydrofluoric acid (HF) alkylation at refineries within the SCAQMD region. A potential and accidental MHF release puts millions of Southern California residents at risk, including my constituents and neighbors, via a dense, ground-hugging chemical "fog." Depending on the amount released, it can travel up to a radius of 16 miles in concentrations sufficient to cause death or irreparable injury to those in its path. This is both unnerving and unnecessary considering safe alternatives exist or are being developed.

Two local refineries use MHF, Valero in Wilmington and the Torrance refinery. While any refinery is vulnerable to potential fires, explosions, earthquakes and terrorist attacks, Torrance has actually experienced repeated safety issues, including explosions, chemical releases, and fires in just the last several years. Communities surrounding both refineries are extremely concerned that an accidental release of MHF could lead to catastrophic public health and safety issues in our residential neighborhoods and business areas operating in the Greater South Bay.

I urge the SCAQMD to adopt a ban on the use of MHF and HF alkylation. Such action would further the district's efforts to improve protections for refinery workers, surrounding neighborhoods, the environment and the economy of California.

With gratitude,

Christian Horvath
Councilmember, District 3

cc: Ben Benoit, Vice-Chair, SCAQMD Board
Joe Buscaino, SCAQMD Board Member
Sheila Kuehl, SCAQMD Board Member
Larry McCallon, SCAQMD Board Member
Shawn Nelson, SCAQMD Board Member
Dwight Robinson, SCAQMD Board Member

Marion Ashley, SCAQMD Board Member
Michael Cacciotti, SCAQMD Board Member
Dr. Joseph K. Lyou, SCAQMD Board Member
Judy Mitchell, SCAQMD Board Member
Dr. Clark E. Parker, Jr., SCAQMD Board Member
Janice Rutherford, SCAQMD Board Member