



MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

June 20, 2019

Mr. Wayne Nastri, Executive Officer
South Coast Air Quality Management District
21865 Copley Dr.
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

RE: Proposed Rule 1410, Hydrogen Fluoride Storage and Use at Petroleum Refineries in Los Angeles County

Mr. Nastri,

I join California Attorney General Xavier Becerra, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health in supporting SCAQMD's efforts to protect the health and safety of residents by implementing a phase-out of Modified Hydrogen Fluoride (MHF) in local refineries.

SCAQMD has taken steps to assess the health risks and other concerns regarding the use of MHF, it is critical that this phase out happens immediately. All but two refineries in California have found economically viable and safer alternatives to use in their production methods. The only refineries that continue to use MHF are located here in Los Angeles County and are in close proximity to residents of Long Beach, Los Angeles and many South Bay cities. The safety and welfare of our residents is of utmost importance and should be a prime consideration.

Other refineries show that it is technologically and economically feasible to use safer alternatives, therefore the continued transportation, storage and use of MHF cannot be justified given the significant safety risks posed to the surrounding communities.

I urge SCAQMD to take steps that ensures that proposed Rule 1410 addresses our concerns and begins the phase-out process of MHF immediately.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc Refinery Committee