



# SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

[www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov)

@SouthCoastAQMD    

---

## Phillips 66 Refinery Fire, May 2, 2019 Incident Report

On May 2, 2019 at approximately 5:00 p.m., South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) was notified of a fire at the Phillips 66 facility in Carson, Calif. South Coast AQMD inspectors joined Los Angeles County Fire, Los Angeles County Hazmat, and Los Angeles County Department of Public Health to monitor the situation onsite. Heavy black smoke was observed by South Coast AQMD inspectors. The fire was extinguished at approximately 7:40 p.m.

Inspectors collected air samples upwind and downwind from the fire, which were sent to the South Coast AQMD laboratory and analyzed for gaseous air toxics such as benzene, tetrachloroethylene (perc), toluene and styrene. Lab results showed slightly elevated levels of perc from the samples taken upwind. However, those results were significantly below short-term health based levels established by the State Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment. Breathing these pollutants in amounts below health based levels for short periods of time would not be expected to cause immediate health concerns.

Additionally, a mobile monitor was deployed to survey measurements of particulate matter (PM) in areas around the refinery, which showed that PM levels were within range of typical ambient air in the area.

South Coast AQMD received 11 complaints from the neighboring community. All complainants have been contacted. The cause of the fire is still being determined. South Coast AQMD will continue to investigate this incident to evaluate whether any regulatory violations occurred.

South Coast AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and urban portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties. For news, air quality alerts, events and more, visit [www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov) or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

###