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March 9, 2017

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

Dear Chairman Burke:

We are writing to express Los Angeles County's support of the proposed rule banning the use of modified hydrofluoric acid (Rule 1410) and to encourage the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) to expedite the rulemaking process.

Modified hydrofluoric acid is known to pose a severe hazard to the environment if a release occurs, and can cause damage to the respiratory system, skin, and bones of those who are exposed to its vapor or residue. The chemical is used by the Torrance Refinery, which has experienced several fires, explosions, leaks, and releases of chemicals in the last two years, including a fire as recently as February 18, 2017.

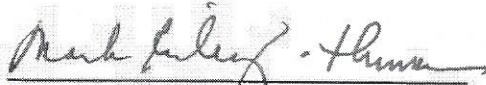
The residents of Torrance and the surrounding communities should not have to live in constant fear for their health and safety due to the refinery's use of modified hydrofluoric acid in its operations, or potential future incidents that may occur at the refinery.

We urge the SCAQMD to expedite the rulemaking process to propose a ban of the use of modified hydrofluoric acid. This would ensure that refineries move toward inherently safer systems, and continue to improve and enhance protection for workers, surrounding communities, and the environment.

Dr. William A. Burke
March 9, 2017
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Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

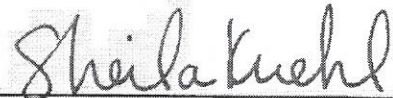
Sincerely,



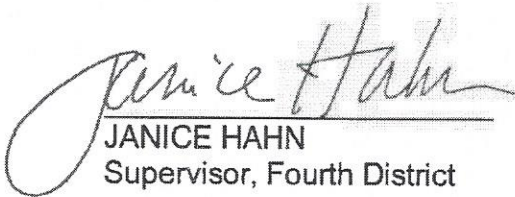
MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Chairman of the Board
Supervisor, Second District



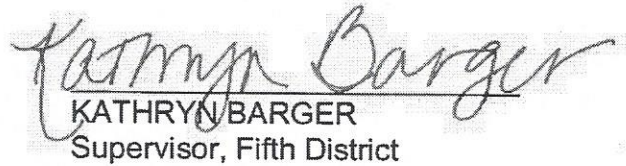
HILDA L. SOLIS
Supervisor, First District



SHEILA KUEHL
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JANICE HAHN
Supervisor, Fourth District



KATHRYN BARGER
Supervisor, Fifth District