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Dr. Philip Fine
Deputy Executive Officer
South Coast Air Quality Management District
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

This letter is to express my support for an MOU with our Valero and Torrance refineries. I am the Executive Director of the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce but take this opportunity to share my views as a resident for over 40 years in Wilmington.

One of the biggest concerns that has been expressed is safety, safety for our community and employees; our Valero Wilmington refinery is a Cal/VPP STAR Site https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/cal_vpp/vppsites.html, the only other refinery in California is the Valero refinery in Benicia. It is my understanding that this is a very intense process involving employees and contractors.

I also think that a measure of a company is being a good neighbor. I worked closely for many years with Steve Faichney, Manager of Public Relations and Government Affairs, Steve was one of the founding Board Members of our Wilmington YMCA and Valero is the reason they were able to double in size, He also served on the Board for the Los Angeles Harbor Boys and Girls Club. Valero introduced the Head Start Program to prepare Wilmington Children before they entered elementary school. Valero has invested millions in Wilmington over the years to various non-profits and schools but just not their money their time and talents!

While I may not be as familiar with the Torrance Refinery, I have attended most of the working group meetings, talked with some of their management team and they have made a commitment in writing and action to implement in a reasonable period of time Five Tier 11 recommendations along with one or more of the Tier 111 recommendations. I have been impressed with their commitment to the community and the financial and human resources they have made to continually improve the refining operations in Torrance. They have worked closely with the Cal OSHA, the EPA, Torrance and County Fire Departments to ensure a safe and secure operation.

I live in Wilmington and over 25% of our population live within the poverty level; this means that higher fuel prices impact them dramatically and good jobs can have significant impacts for their futures. Working out MOU's with our refineries will ensure our regions safe, clean and reliable fuel supplies.

Sincerely,



Dan Hoffman