FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 13, 2019

MEDIA CONTACT:
Bradley Whitaker, press@aqmd.gov, 909-396-3456

South Coast AQMD Launches New Refinery Flare Notification System

Interactive map allows public access to real-time and historical flare information

DIAMOND BAR—The South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) has introduced a new, enhanced version of its Flare Event Notification System (FENS), designed to better provide real-time information and improve public access to information.

The public can now use an interactive map to monitor flaring operations at petroleum refineries, sulfur recovery plants, and hydrogen production plants in the Greater Los Angeles area. The map will display the 12 petroleum refineries and related industries, their location, and whether there is active flaring. The system is web-based and can be easily accessed from mobile devices.

“For the first time, the public can use the easy-to-read map to monitor flaring operations,” said Wayne Nastri, Executive Officer of South Coast AQMD. “The new system helps the public understand when they can expect a planned flaring event and know instantly whenever an unplanned flaring event occurs.”

FENS will list flaring event notifications in real-time as they are received. When a large incident, such as a fire or other emergency occurs at one of the refineries, South Coast AQMD will provide additional information by triggering an “incident” marker on the flare map that will lead the public to a webpage where further information will be provided.

In the future, historical flare event data will be available, including the reason for each flaring event. Refineries within the South Coast Air Basin are required to report planned and unplanned flaring events when they exceed a certain threshold, as required by Rule 1118.

To access the South Coast AQMD’s new Flare Event Notification System, visit www.aqmd.gov/FENS.

South Coast AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties, including the Coachella Valley. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at www.aqmd.gov, download our award-winning app, or follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

# # #