

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 3, 2022 MEDIA CONTACT: Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431 Kim White, (909) 396-3456, Cell: (909) 323-9479 press@aqmd.gov

## South Coast AQMD Requests Second Order to Reduce Odors from Hyperion

**DIAMOND BAR** – The South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) filed a petition for a second order for abatement that would require the Los Angeles City Sanitation Bureau, Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant (Hyperion) in Playa del Rey to take actions to reduce odors from the sewage treatment plant that are continuing to impact the community.

As part of today's petition, South Coast AQMD is seeking an order that would require the facility to expedite the installation of permanent fenceline air monitoring stations to collect real-time data from the facility. In addition, the agency is requesting that Hyperion perform daily equipment inspections and hire an outside consultant to conduct a comprehensive facility assessment and propose operational changes to reduce odors. The creation of a 24-hour odor patrol and response program will also be requested in the order to address community concerns.

South Coast AQMD filed its petition seeking an Order for Abatement with the South Coast AQMD Hearing Board. The Hearing Board is an independent panel that hears all sides of a case, weighs the evidence, and reaches a decision. Actions requested by South Coast AQMD may be modified based on the Hearing Board's findings and final decision. The hearing is tentatively scheduled for September 6, 2022.

Since South Coast AQMD's investigation began in July 2021, inspectors have responded to over three thousand complaints from members of the community. Forty-seven NOVs have been issued to Hyperion for public nuisance under the agency's Rule 402 and California Health & Safety Code Section 41700, and one under Rule 401 (visible emissions) and for permit condition violations.

On February 16, 2022, South Coast AQMD requested an order to require Hyperion to comply with its permit conditions for its flare station used to control gas created by the wastewater treatment process. The Hearing Board issued an Order for Abatement on March 24, 2022 directing Hyperion to complete source tests, evaluations and improvements to its flare station.

More information on South Coast AQMD's ongoing activities related to the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant can be found at: <u>http://www.aqmd.gov/home/news-events/community-investigations/hyperion-water-reclamation-plant</u>.

South Coast AQMD is the regulatory agency responsible for improving air quality for large areas of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, including the Coachella Valley. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at <u>www.aqmd.gov</u>, download our award-winning app, or follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.

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