

EXHIBIT 13

PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN LLP
MICHAEL S. McDONOUGH, State Bar No. 193684
E-mail: michael.mcdonough@pillsburylaw.com
725 South Figueroa Street, Suite 2800
Los Angeles, CA 90017-5406
Telephone: (213) 488-7100
Facsimile: (213) 629-1033

Attorneys for Petitioner
Torrance Refining Company LLC

BEFORE THE HEARING BOARD
OF THE
SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

In the Matter of

TORRANCE REFINING COMPANY, LLC
(Facility ID No. 181667)

Petitioner,

Case No. 6060-18

**DECLARATION OF VALERIE TSE IN
SUPPORT OF TORRANCE REFINING
COMPANY'S PETITION FOR
MODIFICATION OF SHORT
VARIANCE AND ALTERNATIVE
OPERATING CONDITIONS**

Hearing Date: November 9, 2023
Time: Consent Calendar

I, Valerie Tse, hereby declare:

1. I am the Environmental Manager for Torrance Refining Company, LLC's ("TORC") Torrance, California petroleum refinery, located at 3700 West 190th Street, Torrance, California 90504 (the "Refinery"). I have personal knowledge of the facts stated herein and, if called as a witness, could and would testify competently thereto under oath.
2. I am familiar with the contents of the Petitions for Modification of Existing Variance ("Variance") and Alternative Operating Condition ("AOC") ("collectively, "Modification Petitions") filed by TORC in Case No. 6060-18 on October 20, 2023.

3. This Declaration is submitted pursuant to District Hearing Board (“Board”) Rule 4 in support of TORC’s Petitions, and for its consideration on the Board’s Consent Calendar.

4. TORC owns and operates the Refinery, which is in the business of petroleum refining. Key processes at the Refinery include cracking of heavy petroleum hydrocarbons in the Refinery’s FCCU, processing and treatment of crude oil feed in the Crude Unit, on-site production of hydrogen utilized in refining, storage and loading of gasoline and other finished petroleum products, and operation of numerous air pollution control systems.

5. TORC previously has submitted Petitions for a Short Variance and AOC and supporting Exhibits 1 through 11 in this matter, all of which are incorporated herein by reference.

6. A copy of the Board’s September 22, 2023 minute order granting a Short Variance and AOC in this matter is attached to the Variance Petition as Exhibit 12.

7. TORC has filed the Modification Petitions to seek a short extension of the period provided in Condition 7 of the Variance and AOC (*see* Exhibit 9), as described below.

8. Since the issuance of the Variance and AOC in this matter, the Refinery has been conducting the maintenance work discussed and covered in the original Variance and AOC Petitions, including (1) shutting down and disconnecting Incinerator 29F-4 (Device ID No. C952), Sulfur Recovery Train A and Tail Gas Train A (Process 12, System 1 and 3) and Sulfur Pit 29R-1A (Device ID No. D668) to enable safe access for routine maintenance of various connected devices and systems, rerouting the vapors from Sulfur Recovery and Tail Gas Train B, Sulfur Pit 29R-1B (which has remained in operation) normally controlled by Incinerator 29F-4 to temporary alternative AQMD permitted control devices; (2) disconnecting Flare 65F-3 (Device ID No. C891) for inspection, routine maintenance and as-needed replacement, while vent gases normally handled by Flare 65F-3 have been rerouted to the 65F-4 flare system, which has remained in full operation; and (3) shutting down the FCCU for planned maintenance work (e.g., replace lines, repair or replace nozzles and valves, clean out catalyst, inspect and repair or replace electrical components, conduct other repairs/replacement as needed).

9. TORC continues to perform the work described in Variance and AOC Petitions to date. However, as discussed below, unexpected delays in the transportation of necessary replacement equipment now require TORC to request a short extension of the window provided to complete the flare maintenance in Condition 7, which provides that “[t]he shutdown of [Flare] 65F-3 shall last no more than a consecutive 24-day period between October 1, 2023, and November 5, 2023.”

10. As part of the Flare 65F-3 inspection and maintenance activities, TORC had planned for a replacement water seal drum to arrive from out of state on or around the week of September 18, 2023. TORC contracted with a transportation company to deliver the water seal drum to the Refinery from the manufacturer’s facility.

11. Because the equipment requires an oversized truck load, the transportation company was responsible for applying for and obtaining permits from California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to escort and transport the equipment on the California highways. However, due to roadway construction occurring along the planned transportation route for the water seal drum, the permits were delayed while Caltrans determined an alternative route and were not issued to the transportation company until October 9, 2023.

12. Once the permits were approved, an escort from the California Highway Patrol could not be secured until October 30, 2023, with two days to travel to the Refinery. The water seal drum arrived at the Refinery on November 2, 2023, and since then, Petitioner has completed vessel preparations and the installation phase is currently underway, and has set a target of the week of November 6, 2023 to complete the work.

13. Condition 7 of the Variance and AOC currently requires Flare 65F-3 to be shut down no longer than 24 consecutive days in a window between October 1 and November 5, 2023. Because the existing Flare 65F-3 inspection and maintenance schedule still requires the shutdown and start of maintenance to begin no later than the week of October 16, 2023, in order to coordinate with other Refinery turnaround maintenance work, TORC now anticipates that (a) it will need more than 34 consecutive days of Flare downtime (i.e., now, up to 34 total days of

required downtime) to complete the Flare maintenance work and to accommodate the water seal drum delivery timetable, and (b) it will need to seek a modification of the end date of the Flare downtime window to Nov. 20, 2023 allowing a sufficient amount of time to complete the water seal drum installation and other Flare inspection and maintenance activities, and a return to full compliance.

14. No excess emissions are expected as a result of these changes. During the maintenance work, TORC will continue its usual monitoring of emissions using its remaining operational permitted CEMS and other monitoring devices. All monitoring and reporting conditions required under the various location permits (Debusk) for the incinerator will be followed.

15. TORC intends to achieve compliance with the requested amended timeframes in Condition 7 by continuing its expedited preparation and installation of the vessel, assigning sufficient personnel and resources to ensure that the vessel can be started up as quickly as possible, and ensuring that all other maintenance work occurring during the existing Variance and AOC period is completed as quickly as possible. TORC has additionally modified the schedule to install the drum during both day and night shifts (versus day shift only) to expedite the installation.

16. At this time, TORC has completed vessel preparations, and the installation phase is currently underway. TORC expects to finish the installation sometime early during the week of November 6th and anticipates start-up of Flare 65F-3 later in the week. The final date of compliance remains December 1, 2023, as provided in the original Variance and AOC granted by the Board.

17. Denial of the Modification Petitions would cause irreparable harm to TORC and to California's citizens, with no corresponding benefit in emissions reduction. Denial of the requested extension of time would prevent TORC from completing the necessary Flare maintenance required by applicable Federal and state laws and regulation, District Rules and the facility Permit. Given that Flare 65F-3 is a critical part of the Refinery's safety and air pollution

control system, delaying or cancelling its planned maintenance would require the Refinery to keep that Flare offline, increasing the risk of excess emissions and/or an unsafe situation should a refinery upset condition occur. The Refinery also would be unable to meet its regulatory and statutory requirements to conduct the necessary Flare maintenance work.

18. Operation under the requested relief in the Modification Petitions is not expected to result in a violation of Health and Safety Code 41700 or any other applicable emissions limits.

19. TORC and the District have agreed to a revised proposed Variance Condition 7, which should now read as follows:

65F-3 Emergency Flare Shutdown

7. *The shutdown of 65F-3 shall last no more than a consecutive 34-day period between October 16, 2023 and November 20, 2023.*

20. All other existing conditions of the Variance and AOC are proposed to remain in place.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 3 day of November 2023, in the County of Los Angeles, State of California.



Valerie Tse