



South Coast Air Quality Management District

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Office of the Executive Officer
Wayne Nastri
909.396.2100, fax 909.396.3340

June 21, 2022

Jennifer E. Vasquez
City Manager
City of Maywood
4319 East Slauson Avenue
Maywood, CA 900270

Dear Ms. Vasquez:

Thank you for your recent inquiry regarding the rendering plants located in and near the City of Vernon and their compliance status with South Coast AQMD Rule 415 – Odors from Rendering Facilities. The rendering plants are a top priority for this agency and our enforcement team has responded to hundreds of odor complaints associated with these facilities, and our ongoing investigation has resulted in a number of enforcement actions.

While our inspectors routinely visit all rendering plants, Baker Commodities Inc. (Baker) is the only one of these facilities to have received violations in 2022. Since August 2019, we have issued eight Notices of Violation (NOVs) to Baker for failing to process or enclose raw animal materials within four hours of delivery, as required under Rule 415(e)(5). This included one such violation that was issued after an odor event in January 2022. South Coast AQMD inspectors also issued NOVs to Baker for failing to completely enclose certain portions of its rendering operations by the March and April 2022 deadlines in Rule 415. As a result of compliance issues, on June 15, 2022 we initiated an action before the South Coast AQMD Hearing Board seeking an Order for Abatement to force Baker to comply with all air quality rules and permit conditions. A hearing date has been set for July 6, 2022.

Additionally, the only other facility that was issued Rule 415 violations was D&D Disposal Inc./West Coast Rendering Co. (D&D), which has since been purchased by Legacy By-Products LLC (Legacy). Legacy took ownership of D&D while the facility was under an Order for Abatement for ongoing violations of Rule 415, some of which mirror the violations at Baker. Legacy voluntarily agreed to remain subject to the Order for Abatement and is in the process of completing construction of an

enclosure to comply with Rule 415. Our enforcement staff is closely following this matter and is ready to take the appropriate action if any deadlines or requirements are not met.

South Coast AQMD appreciates the offer to partner with the City of Maywood to help further educate residents on how to file complaints and other ways that residents can share their air quality concerns with our agency. Maywood residents can continue to submit air quality complaints to our agency by calling 1-800-CUT-SMOG (1-800-288-7664), through our online complaint system at www.aqmd.gov, or via our mobile app. In addition, our outreach team will provide your office with educational materials in both English and Spanish. We also encourage you to share our dedicated webpage for the rendering facilities, which can be found at: [Rendering Plants in Vernon](#).

Please feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions or if I can provide any further information on this important topic. You may also contact Derrick Alatorre, Deputy Executive Officer for Legislative, Public Affairs and Media, at 909-396-3122 or by email at dalatorre@aqmd.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wayne Natri", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Wayne Natri
Executive Officer

WN/drw