

James Chavez

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, August 5, 2026 12:58 PM
To: Clerk of Board
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SCAQMD Hearing on Lineage Logistics Order of Abatement

To the SCAQMD Hearing Board,

I am submitting these comments in writing in the event that I may be unable to speak at today's public hearing.

Please consider the following comments regarding the Order of Abatement against Lineage Logistics.

1. Lineage was aware of the dangers of anhydrous ammonia at least a month before the release in Boyle Heights. According to news reports last May, the Lineage cold storage facility in Kansas switched from anhydrous ammonia to a safer alternative of CO2 Transcritical CO2 refrigeration system. This was done due to public safety concerns about a potential leak of ammonia gas.

After neighborhood backlash, Olathe cold storage developer promises less toxic refrigerant
The change addresses one of nearby residents' biggest safety concern for Lineage Logistics' facility to be built at 175th and Lone Elm.

Johnson County Post, May 11, 2026

<https://johnsoncountypost.com/2026/05/11/cold-storage-refrigeration-olathe-286136/>

2. News reports on the Lineage facility fire in Boyle Heights revealed the existence of radio communications amongst fire officials that there was in fact a release of ammonia gas at this facility.

Anger grows in Boyle Heights as warehouse fire leaves stench, flies and vermin in its wake
LA Times, July 14, 2026

<https://www.latimes.com/environment/story/2026-07-14/anger-grows-in-boyle-heights-as-warehouse-fire-leaves-stench-flies-vermin-in-its-wake>

3. Under California Law, facilities are required to report significant or threatened chemical releases to the Office of Emergency Services (OES)

Did Lineage file a report to OES? As of today I have not been able to locate such a report.

Please take these facts under consideration when voting on the Order of Abatement against Lineage Logistics.

Last comment:

SCAQMD has a set a prior precedent to meet with affected members of the public in their own communities. During the Aliso Canyon methane well blowout the AQMD Hearing Board held the Order of Abatement Hearing against Southern California Gas Company in a high school gymnasium located in Granada Hills next door to Porter Ranch. The hearing took place on January 9, 2016. I testified at this hearing.

<https://ghsnc.org/2015/12/5742/>

Environmental justice communities such as Boyle Heights deserve the same respect.

Thank you for the opportunity to send in these written comments.

Yvonne

Yvonne Martínez Watson, She/Her

Chair, Environmental and Social Justice Committee - Sierra Club California

Southern Vice Chair, Sierra Club California Conservation Committee

National Sierra Club Core Values Team Member

"Nihil de nobis, sine nobis" - Nothing about us, without us (Disability Rights)