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9 Attorneys for Petitioner
10 Lunday-Thagard Company dba World Oil Refining

11
12 **BEFORE THE HEARING BOARD OF THE**
13 **SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**
14

15 In the Matter of

16 LUNDAY-THAGARD COMPANY DBA WORLD
17 OIL REFINING,

18 [Facility I.D. No. 800080]

19 Petitioner,

20 vs.

21 SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT
22 DISTRICT,

23 Respondent.

Case No. 2033-35

DECLARATION OF DAVID
CHETKOWSKI FOR WORLD OIL
REFINING TO THE HEARING BOARD

Date: November 19, 2025
Time: Consent Calendar

24 Petitioner World Oil Refining ("World Oil") hereby submits this Declaration of David
25 Chetkowski, Environmental Manager, to the Hearing Board:

26 1. World Oil, located at 9302 Garfield Avenue, South Gate, California, operates a
27 petroleum refinery that processes crude oil into asphalt. Non-asphalt byproducts (naphtha, light
distillate oil, and vacuum gas oils) are purchased by other companies (including motor fuel
refineries) for further processing.

1 2. World Oil will be in violation of District Rules 203(b), 1173(h), 2004(f)(1),
2 2011(c)(2)(A), 2012(c)(2)(A), and 3002(c)(1) because such District Rules require World Oil to
3 comply with all Facility Permit conditions and operate certain continuous monitoring devices,
4 and World Oil will not be able to do so while power is out at the facility to allow the new
5 uninterruptable power supply (“UPS”) to complete installation.

6 3. A copy of the relevant sections of the facility RECLAIM Permit No. 800080,
7 dated July 25, 2025, are attached to the Petition as Exhibit 1.

8 2. The subject equipment is currently in compliance. However, World Oil requires
9 a short variance to shut down all refinery operations for several hours to complete the
10 replacement of a UPS to provide backup power to the vapor incinerator (C97), the distributed
11 control system (“DCS”), control room, and critical safety equipment and instrumentation.
12 Prior to undertaking this work to complete installation of the new UPS, as well as during the
13 variance period, World Oil will cease all active refinery operations, including operation of
14 incinerator C97, the refinery crude unit, asphalt blowing operations, wastewater treatment
15 plant, storage tanks, asphalt loading operations, and all unloading operations. World Oil’s
16 permit requires that vent certain facility storage tanks (D35, D38, D39, D40, D47, D48, D49,
17 D50, D71, D251, D252, D269, D270, D284, and D286, which are used to store naphtha, crude
18 oil, vacuum gas oils, light distillate oil, waste water, and slop oil (the “Storage Tanks”)) and
19 wastewater system components D222 (an API separator) and D237 (a dissolved air flotation
20 unit) (together, the “Wastewater Components”) to C97 via the H2S scrubbers C239 and C240
21 (“Storage Tank Line H2S Scrubbers”), which are continuously monitored for H2S
22 concentration. (See the “Connected To” column on pages 1-17 of Section D of the facility
23 permit). Even though all active refinery operations, including operation of incinerator C97,
24 will be stopped to complete the installation of the new UPS, solar radiation during the variance
25 period could result in emissions (breathing losses) from the Storage Tanks, and any such
26 emissions cannot be vented to incinerator C97 (as C97 will be without power). Absent a
27 variance, World Oil will be in violation of District Rules 203(b), 2004(f)(1) and 3002(c)(1)
 because such District Rules require World Oil to comply with all Facility Permit conditions.

1 3. District Rules and permit conditions require continuous monitoring of gas flow
2 (Condition D90.3, C1.47), fuel flow (Conditions F.I(B), F.I(C), and C1.27) temperature
3 (Condition C8.4), storage tank levels (Conditions C1.19, C1.48 C1.20, C1.21, C1.31, C1.32,
4 C1.34, C1.35, C1.38, C1.39, C1.41, C1.42, C1.45, and C1.46), SOx emissions from
5 RECLAIM major sources (Rule 2011(c)(2)(A) and Condition F.D), and atmospheric pressure
6 release device status (District Rule 1173(h), Conditions D90.3, S4.1, and S4.2). All
7 equipment, including monitoring equipment and the continuous emissions monitoring systems
8 (SO2, O2, and flow in the I-301 main stack and bypass stack; H2S for the tank vent waste gas
9 line, refinery gas waste gas line, and asphalt loading waste gas line), will be without power
10 during the installation of the UPS backup power supply, such that World Oil will not be able to
11 comply with District Rules and permit conditions requiring such monitoring during this limited
12 time. In addition, because World Oil will be in violation of Conditions C8.4, D90.3, S4.1,
13 S4.2, F.D, C1.19, C1.48 C1.20, C1.21, C1.31, C1.32, C1.34, C1.35, C1.38, C1.39, C1.41,
14 C1.42, C1.45, C1.46, C1.47, F.I(B), F.I(C), and C1.27, World Oil will also be in violation of
15 District Rules 203(b), 2004(f)(1) and 3002(c)(1), which require compliance with permit
16 conditions. District Rules 2011(c)(2)(A) and 2012(c)(2)(A) also require that World Oil
17 continuously monitor SOx and NOx emissions at each major source. This monitoring
18 equipment will also be without power during the installation of the UPS backup power supply,
19 such that World Oil will be in violation of these Rules during this limited timeframe.

20 4. During the period that the variance is in effect, World Oil is agreeing to operate
21 an alternative control device, and accordingly there will be no excess emissions. Specifically,
22 to mitigate excess emissions, World Oil will vent the breathing loss emissions to an alternative
23 control device with a District various locations permit and a VOC destruction control
24 efficiency of 99% or greater, equivalent to that of Incinerator I-301 (C97). World Oil
25 specifically proposes using a GEM Mobile Treatment Services, Inc. ("GEM") 1.5 MMBtu/hr
26 mobile thermal oxidizer as the alternative control device, which has a VOC destruction
27 efficiency equivalent to that of the permitted incinerator, use of this alternative control device
should result in no excess emissions during the shutdown. Further, the Storage Tank Line H2S

1 Scrubbers will continue to control H₂S during the power outage because the Scrubbers are
2 large vessels filled with granulated SulfaTreat material (small iron oxide rocks). H₂S naturally
3 reacts with the iron oxide to form iron sulfide. Vapors from the storage tanks and wastewater
4 system will be drawn through the SulfaTreat vessels by the GEM thermal oxidizer, thus H₂S
5 control will continue during the variance period.

6 5. In addition, the DCS will record parameters as the Storage Tanks, C97, heaters
7 and boilers, and vessels requiring continuous monitoring are shut down, providing
8 confirmation that operations have ceased. While data will not be recorded during the power
9 outage, the DCS will begin recording again within a few hours when power is restored and
10 instrumentation and the DCS have resumed operation.

11 6. World Oil is currently in compliance with applicable District Rules and permit
12 conditions. However, the UPS providing backup power for the facility is beyond the end of its
13 useful life and must be replaced. There are no available spare parts to fully repair the UPS
14 because the manufacturer no longer supports the existing UPS system. World Oil has
15 purchased and installed a new UPS; however the UPS cannot be put into service until it is
16 connected to the facility's main power supply. This requires a power disconnect and complete
17 shutdown of the facility and incinerator for a short period to complete, so it is beyond World
18 Oil's reasonable control to comply with all permit requirements while the facility is without
19 power. The refinery and incinerator cannot be operated while the UPS replacement is
20 occurring because of the electrical work required to complete the installation. The UPS cannot
21 be installed to serve as backup power to the facility unless the facility is powered off to
22 complete installation.

23 7. World Oil expects that the UPS installation can be completed in approximately
24 4 hours, but is requesting variance coverage for 24 hours. World Oil has already purchased
25 and installed a new UPS, but requires a power disconnect and complete shutdown of the
26 facility and incinerator to complete.

27 8. World Oil will also not be able to vent to C97 any emissions which may occur
from the Storage Tanks and Wastewater Components, in violation of permit conditions

1 requiring that it vent the Storage Tanks and Wastewater Components to C97 via the Storage
2 Tank Line H2S Scrubbers. As discussed above, C97 will not be in operation while the new
3 UPS is connected to the facility power systems, and therefore Petitioner will not be able to
4 comply with Rules 203(b), 2004(f)(1), and 3002(c)(1) requiring compliance with permit
5 conditions. The Storage Tanks need to “breathe” during the C97 shutdown period, so unless
6 the tanks are completely removed from service, the potential breathing losses will need to be
7 vented. To completely remove the tanks from service, the tanks would have to be drained,
8 degassed and cleaned pursuant to SCAQMD Rule 1149 and other regulatory requirements.
9 This process would take several weeks to accomplish, cost in excess of \$250,000 (project costs
10 only), and would generate far greater emissions than leaving the tanks in operation during the
11 C97 shutdown period.

12 9. In addition, extensive economic and operational hardships would be realized by
13 World Oil, employees, contractors, and crude oil suppliers as a result of these tanks being
14 taken out of service for an extended period of time. For these reasons, completely removing
15 the Storage Tanks from service would be beyond World Oil’s reasonable control. World Oil
16 will install an alternative vapor control system for the shutdown period and will ensure that the
17 supplier of the alternative vapor control system has a various locations permit for the system.

18 10. Denial of the variance would cause significant harm to World Oil in that if the
19 variance is not granted and World Oil is unable to complete installation of the UPS for backup
20 power, the facility risks future breakdowns and/or unsafe shutdowns of the facility whenever
21 there is a power supply issue (outage, momentary dip or loss in power, etc.) or change in power
22 quality. World Oil is unable to repair the existing UPS due to the lack of available spare parts,
23 resulting in economic losses of well in excess of \$15 million per month while the refinery is
24 nonoperational.

25 11. In addition, if the variance is not granted, World Oil would have to eliminate the
26 VOC breathing loss emissions from the Storage Tanks by removing them from active service.
27 As discussed above, in order to remove the tanks from active service, the tanks would have to
be drained, degassed and cleaned pursuant to SCAQMD Rule 1149 and other regulatory

1 requirements. This process would take several weeks to accomplish, cost in excess of
2 \$250,000 (project costs only), and would generate far greater emissions than leaving the tanks
3 in operation (idle) during the temporary shutdown period (anticipated to last only 4 hours,
4 although variance coverage is requested for 24 hours in the event of unanticipated
5 circumstances).

6 12. World Oil would have no feasible option to install the UPS while performing
7 the monitoring required under its permit, as there would be no power source for the monitors.

8 13. The closing or taking would be without a corresponding benefit in reducing air
9 contaminants because without the variance, World Oil would be required to remove the Storage
10 Tanks from active service to eliminate the VOC breathing loss emissions. This process would
11 take several weeks to accomplish and would generate far greater emissions than leaving the tanks
12 idle during the temporary shutdown period. Alternatively, if the variance is granted, World Oil
13 does not anticipate any excess emissions, because World Oil will, as an alternative to removing
14 the tanks from service, vent the breathing loss emissions to an alternative control device with a
15 District various locations permit and a VOC destruction control efficiency of 99% or greater,
equivalent to that of Incinerator I-301 (C97).

16 14. During the approximately four to 24 hour period that World Oil completes
17 installation of the UPS, World Oil will cease all operations during the variance period, but doing
18 so will not eliminate the need for a variance. Petition must cease all of its operations because the
19 refinery will be shut down and without power to allow for the installation of the UPS.
20 Specifically, World Oil will have already ceased all refining operations, including its asphalt
21 blowing operations, wastewater treatment operations, asphalt loading operations, and truck
22 unloading operations. There will be no emissions from these activities. As discussed above,
23 VOC breathing loss emissions may be generated from the Storage Tanks due to vapor expansion
24 caused by the heat of the day (breathing losses) and the only way to completely eliminate the
25 VOC losses from these tanks is to remove them from active service, which would result in
26 additional VOC emissions, excessive costs, and hardships to World Oil, its employees,
27 contractors, and suppliers.

1 15. With respect to curtailing operations, World Oil will cease all operations during
2 the variance period, but doing so will not eliminate the need for a variance. World Oil must
3 cease all of its operations because the refinery will be shut down and without power to allow for
4 the installation of the UPS. Specifically, World Oil will have already ceased all refining
5 operations, including its asphalt blowing operations, wastewater treatment operations, asphalt
6 loading operations, and truck unloading operations. There will be no emissions from these
7 activities. As discussed above, VOC breathing loss emissions may be generated from the Storage
8 Tanks due to vapor expansion caused by the heat of the day (breathing losses) and the only way
9 to completely eliminate the VOC losses from these tanks is to remove them from active service,
10 which would result in additional VOC emissions, excessive costs, and hardships to Petitioner, its
11 employees, contractors, and suppliers..

12 16. As mentioned above, during the period that the variance is in effect, there will be
13 no excess emissions. Nonetheless, World Oil agrees to reduce excess emissions to the maximum
14 extent feasible by complying with the conditions of the Order.

15 17. World Oil will vent the breathing loss emissions to an alternative control device
16 with a District various locations permit and a VOC destruction control efficiency of 99% or
17 greater, equivalent to that of Incinerator I-301 (C97). In addition, the DCS will record
18 parameters as the Storage Tanks, C97, heaters and boilers, and vessels requiring continuous
19 monitoring are shut down, providing confirmation that operations have ceased. While data will
20 not be recorded during the power outage, the DCS will begin recording again within a few hours
21 when power is restored and instrumentation and the DCS have resumed operation.

22 **FOR WORLD OIL REFINING:**

23 Dated: November 11, 2025

24 By: 
25 David Chetkowski
26 Environmental Manager
27 World Oil Refining