



SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
PRESS RELEASE

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South Coast AQMD Issues Violations to Three Companies Following East Los Angeles Oil Spill

DIAMOND BAR – The South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) has issued three Notices of Violation (NOVs) to Arcadian Infracom, HP Communications, and Camarillo Drilling for odors impacting nearby communities following the East Los Angeles oil spill.

On May 22, an underground 16-inch crude oil transfer pipeline at the intersection of E. Cesar Chavez Avenue and Eastern Avenue in East Los Angeles was damaged during drilling operations for a fiber optic line installation. This resulted in a release of about 25,000 gallons of crude oil, which entered storm drains leading to the Los Angeles River.

South Coast AQMD received and responded to three public complaints that day reporting strong petroleum odors, including one from Esteban E. Torres High School. South Coast AQMD inspectors confirmed the presence of odors at the school and traced them back to the oil spill site. In total, the agency received seven complaints during the week as repair and cleanup efforts were being conducted.

As a result of the investigation, South Coast AQMD issued one NOV to each of the following companies for public nuisance violations:

- **Camarillo Drilling**, 31174 Water Ave., Nuevo, CA 92567
Engineering and construction contractor that performed drilling operations.
- **Arcadian Infracom**, 101 S Hanley Rd., Suite 550, Clayton, MO 63105
Project management company overseeing the fiber optic installation work.
- **HP Communications**, 13341 Temescal Canyon Rd., Corona, CA 92883
Communication construction contractor responsible for installing the fiber optic lines.

South Coast AQMD Rule 402 and California Health and Safety Code Section 41700 prohibit emissions that cause injury, nuisance, or annoyance to a considerable number of persons or to the public.

NOVs can result in civil penalties. In some cases, facilities may take voluntary actions to reduce emissions or, otherwise, prevent future violations. If no settlement is reached, a civil lawsuit may be filed in superior court.

This remains an ongoing investigation.

South Coast AQMD responds to all air quality complaints. Members of the public can report odors, dust, smoke, or other air quality concerns by:

- Calling 1-800-CUT-SMOG (288-7664)
- Filing a report via the [online complaint portal](#) at www.aqmd.gov
- Using the [South Coast AQMD mobile app](#)

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 www.aqmd.gov, download our award-winning app, or follow us on [Facebook](#), [X](#) (formerly known as Twitter) and [Instagram](#).

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