



# South Coast Air Quality Management District

21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182  
(909) 396-2000 • www.aqmd.gov

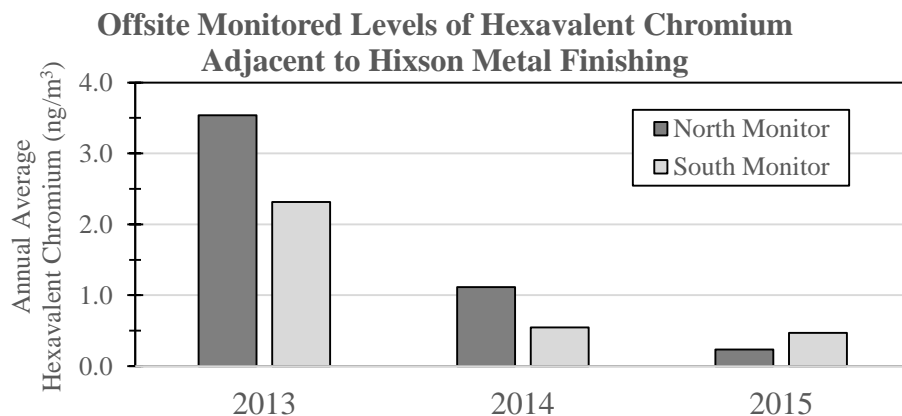
## NOTICE OF A FOLLOW-UP PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS AIR TOXIC RISKS FROM HIXSON METAL FINISHING

In June 2015, South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) staff held a public meeting to discuss the results of a Health Risk Assessment (HRA) that evaluated toxic air pollutants emitted from Hixson Metal Finishing (Hixson).<sup>1</sup> This notice is being provided to update the community on activities that have occurred since that meeting, and to notify you of a follow-up public meeting to discuss these activities.

<b>PUBLIC MEETING</b>	<i>Date and Time:</i> <b>February 11, 2016 @ 6:00 pm</b>
	<i>Location:</i> Hoag Conference Center ( <i>not the main Hoag Hospital</i> ) 3900 West Coast Highway, Newport Beach, CA 92663

### Background

In May 2015, SCAQMD approved the HRA prepared by Hixson that evaluated the potential increased cancer risks for people who live and work in the surrounding area due to its emissions of toxic air pollutants (mainly hexavalent chromium). The HRA showed that people who live closest to the facility could have a maximum increase of 1,502 chances in one million of getting cancer, assuming the facility’s emissions in 2013 persisted for 30 years. Those who work closest to the facility could have a maximum increase of 88 chances in one million of getting cancer over a 25-year exposure to the facility’s 2013 emissions. The potential health risks are lower for those living and working farther away from the facility. These risks have been reduced about 80% since 2014 (see graph below), however Hixson must implement additional measures to reduce the risk below SCAQMD thresholds. In comparison, the average cancer risk from all sources of air pollution (including factories, trucks, cars, etc.) in the region is about 900 chances per million. Because of the elevated health risks from this single facility, Hixson was required to conduct public notification activities in 2015 and was also required to prepare a Risk Reduction Plan.



<sup>1</sup> Information presented at this meeting and additional details regarding Hixson Metal Finishing can be found here: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/compliance/toxic-hot-spots-ab-2588/hixson-metal-finishing>

### **Recent Activity**

The following key activities have occurred since the public meeting held June 18, 2015:

- Hixson has continued to implement improved housekeeping measures to reduce the possibility of fugitive emissions of hexavalent chromium.
- Hixson's Risk Reduction Plan was approved by SCAQMD staff in July 2015.
  - Once the Risk Reduction Plan is implemented, the potential cancer risks from Hixson will be reduced below the SCAQMD threshold of 25 per million.
  - The Risk Reduction Plan requires full implementation by March 31, 2016.
- SCAQMD issued permits for the air pollution control equipment required to implement the Risk Reduction Plan on December 11, 2015.
- Hixson has submitted building permit applications to the City of Newport Beach. These permits are currently undergoing review.
- Monitoring data is continuing to be collected and analyzed. Assuming the levels of hexavalent chromium found at a monitor adjacent to Hixson in 2015 persisted for 30 years, the maximum cancer risk is approximately 260 per million at the adjacent residences. This risk will be reduced to less than 25 per million once the Risk Reduction Plan is fully implemented.

You are welcome to attend the public meeting on February 11<sup>th</sup> to hear more about these activities and to ask questions. For more information about SCAQMD programs to control toxic air pollution or the public meeting, contact Ian MacMillan of SCAQMD at (909) 396-3244 or e-mail him at [imacmillan@aqmd.gov](mailto:imacmillan@aqmd.gov). For more information about the facility, please contact Mr. Douglas Greene of Hixson Metal Finishing at (800) 900-9798.