



# South Coast Air Quality Management District

21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178  
(909) 396-2000 • www.aqmd.gov

January 10, 2019

Mr. Richard Brody  
Ballona Land Manager  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
P.O. Box 1653  
Topanga, CA 90290

Re.: Health Risk Notification to the Public for  
**So Cal Gas Co., Playa del Rey Storage Facility** (SCAQMD Facility I.D. 8582)  
located at 8141 Gulana Ave., Playa del Rey, CA 90293-7930

Dear Mr. Brody:

This letter is to inform you that a health risk assessment (HRA) for the facility referenced above was conducted pursuant to the Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Information and Assessment Act (AB 2588) and South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rule 1402.

SCAQMD’s R1402 requires So Cal Gas Co., Playa del Rey (SoCalGas) to notify the exposed public located within the facility risk map (see Attachment) when the health risk exceeds the Rule 1402 notification risk levels. SoCal Gas’s HRA estimates that the facility poses a maximum non-cancer acute hazard index of **7.28**, which is mainly contributed by emissions of benzene and formaldehyde.

Traditionally, we require a facility subject to the notification requirements to conduct a public meeting in which all affected parties are invited to discuss the health impacts from the facility. However, since in this specific case the affected area determined in the facility risk map is a restricted area requiring access permits issued by your facility, we are formally contacting you and informing you of the situation as described in the detailed notice and information sheet attached. Please post the notice and the facility risk map (see Attachments) where it is most likely to be read by all individuals who access the affected area. The notice and facility risk map should also be included with the access permit. These measures should remain in place until such time that SoCalGas company has permanently reduced its risk levels below Rule 1402 action risk levels.

January 10, 2019

Please review the enclosed public notice of toxic risk, information sheet, and risk map. Please note that the map shows the areas where the maximum hazard risk may be located as well as where other risks which may be above the state health guidelines are located. We'll be glad to answer your questions and provide you with more information regarding this notice. Also, we will arrange a meeting to discuss this matter upon your request. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Matthew Lee at (909) 396-2053.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tracy A. Goss". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a light gray rectangular background.

Tracy A. Goss, P.E.  
Planning & Rules Manager

Cc: John Thompson, So Cal Gas Co., Playa del Rey Storage Facility

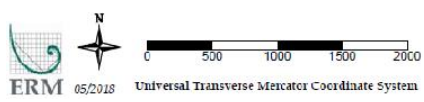
Attachments: Facility Risk Map  
Public Notice of Toxic Risk Information Sheet

TG:VM: HY:ML

# ATTACHMENT

## Facility Risk Map

Boundary of So Cal Gas Co., Playa del Rey Storage Facility and Acute Hazard Isoleth



- Legend**
- Property Boundary
  - PMI Location
  - Acute Hazard Index - 1.0
  - Acute Hazard Index - 3.0
  - Acute Hazard Index - 5.0

Acute Hazard Isoleths  
SoCalGas Playa Del Rey  
8141 Juliana Avenue  
Playa Del Rey, CA



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## **PUBLIC NOTICE OF TOXIC RISK FROM A FACILITY IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD**

State law ensures your right to know about possible health risks from toxic air pollutants emitted by facilities in your neighborhood. The law requires the following facility to notify you:

Facility Name: **So Cal Gas Co., Playa del Rey Storage Facility**  
Address: 8141 Gulana Ave., Playa del Rey, CA 90293-7930  
Type of Business: Natural Gas Storage

Even though this facility may be complying with all current air pollution control regulations, some toxic chemicals escape to the air during its normal operations. State law requires the facility to notify all of the people in the area where there is a possible health risk.

### **Summary of Health Risks**

Toxic air pollutants (Benzene and Formaldehyde) from So Cal Gas Co., Playa del Rey Storage Facility may be increasing the non-cancer acute (1-hour) health risks to people who work in the area shown on the attached "Facility Risk Map." For the people who work in the area of impact, the maximum short-term non-cancer acute (1-hour) health risk predicted by the model are the values shown by the isopleths in the attached "Facility Risk Map." The value at the Point of Maximum Impact (PMI) can be **7.28** times higher than the state health guidelines.

As the air pollution control agency for this area, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) has prepared the enclosed "Information Sheet". For more information about the facility, please contact Mr. John Thompson of So Cal Gas Co., Playa del Rey at (310) 578-2689. For more information about the toxic risk or the government programs to control toxic air pollution, call the SCAQMD AB 2588 Section at (909) 396-3616.

**This notice should be posted where it is most  
likely to be read by all affected public.**

## **INFORMATION SHEET**

### **What are toxic air pollutants?**

Chemicals that cause cancer, birth defects or other health effects are known as toxic substances. When these toxic substances are released in the air, they are called toxic air pollutants.

### **Where do toxic air pollutants come from?**

Toxic air pollutants come from a variety of sources. These sources include chemical plants and large manufacturers as well as cars and trucks and smaller businesses. Many products used at home, such as cleaners and paint thinners, also contain toxic air pollutants.

### **What toxic air pollutants does this facility emit?**

Under normal operation, this facility emits the toxic air pollutants benzene and formaldehyde. The possible health effects of exposure to those pollutants are listed below:

<b>Pollutants</b>	<b>Possible Health Effects</b>
Benzene	Hematologic System
Formaldehyde	Respiratory System

### **What are the non-cancer health risks from this facility?**

Exposure to high concentrations of benzene and formaldehyde can have harmful effects on the human hematologic and respiratory system. "Reference exposure levels" for the pollutant have been established by the California Environmental Protection Agency. A reference exposure level is a health guideline that includes several safety factors.

Based on the risk assessment, the maximum short-term non-cancer health risk is 7.28 times higher than the state health guidelines at the wetlands area bordering northwest of So Cal Gas Co., Playa del Rey Storage Facility. The calculated risk assessment is based on emissions from the facility in 2015. The Facility Risk Map shows the area where non-cancer benzene and formaldehyde concentrations attributed to So Cal Gas Co., Playa del Rey Storage Facility could exceed the reference exposure levels on some occasions. Because of the safety factors built in the reference exposure levels, the designated areas are not necessarily unsafe. However, there could be a small health risk.

## **What is being done to reduce the health risks from this facility?**

The state law requiring issuance of this public notice is one step in getting facilities throughout the state to reduce toxic emissions resulting from their operations. The SCAQMD and other agencies have also developed other programs designed to prevent pollution and reduce exposure to toxic air pollution.

## **How can I get more information?**

A copy of So Cal Gas Co., Playa del Rey Storage Facility's health risk assessment report is available for your review at the following libraries. The health risk assessment and other information about SCAQMD activities can be found on our website at:

<http://www.aqmd.gov/home/rules-compliance/compliance/toxic-hot-spots-ab-2588>

### **LA County Library**

#### **Lloyd Taber-Marina Del Rey Library**

4533 Admiralty Way  
Marina del Rey, CA 90292  
(310) 821-3415

Mon: 11AM - 7PM  
Tue: 10AM - 8PM  
Wed: 10AM - 8PM  
Thu: 10AM - 8PM  
Fri: 10AM - 6PM

### **SCAQMD Library**

21865 Copley Drive  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765  
(909) 396-2600

Tue-Thu: 10AM - 5PM  
Fri: 8AM - 3PM  
Sat, Sun, Mon: Closed

If you would like to know more about So Cal Gas Co., Playa del Rey Storage Facility's activities, call or write:

Mr. John Thompson  
8141 Gulana Ave.  
Playa del Rey, CA 90293-7930  
(310) 578-2689