

STOP PARTICULATE MATTER POLLUTION

There is a matter of environmental justice before the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD). The Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club Coordinating Committee **asks that you take a few minutes to make your voice heard** by contacting the six East Bay BAAQMD Directors.

The BAAQMD Advisory Council stated there is **no safe level of Particulate Matter (PM) released by oil refineries.** PM is the **most vital health risk driver in the Bay Area.** That makes controlling emissions in already overburdened communities like Richmond, Rodeo, Vallejo, Martinez, and San Pablo an immediate issue to correct over a century of environmental injustice for these communities.

The BAAQMD Board is considering Rule 6.5 that would require implementing the Best Available Retrofit Control Technology as quickly as possible to remain in compliance with Assembly Bill 617, and the oil industry is pulling out all the stops to kill it.

The Board held a public hearing on June 2 that would take final action on this shortly. So we ask that you reach out to at least one of the BAAQMD Board listed below. The talking points are below the list of Directors.

How to make your voice heard:

- **Send emails.**
- **Make a phone call.** Tell them you support the Advisory Council's recommendation to take all feasible action within the District's authority to protect the health of these communities of color that have been suffering from Particulate Matter pollution for over 100 years. **See talking points below.**
- Ask to meet with the directors via Zoom to discuss and commit to the most stringent standard.

These are the six East Bay BAAQMD Directors:

- **Contra Costa County Supervisor Karen Mitchoff:** A climate denier and best friend of oil refiners - a lost cause. Email supervisormitchoff@bos.cccounty.us or call 925-521-7100.
- **Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia:** We think he will support the most stringent .01 standard to control PM. Email john_gioia@bos.cccounty.us or call 510-942-2220.
- **San Leandro Mayor Pauline Russo Cutter:** Has not divulged how she will vote. Important to contact and encourage her. Email pcutter@sanleandro.org or call 510-577-3355.
- **Alameda County Supervisor David Haubert:** He is new and has so far not impressed us. Needs some pressure from constituents. Contact him [here](#).

- **Alameda County Supervisor Nate Miley:** Often fails to show up for Air District meetings. Needs to hear how important controlling PM is for the black and brown people near refineries. Contact Chief of Staff Tona Henninger [here](#) or call 510-670-5965.
- **Martinez Vice Mayor Mark Ross:** The Shell-PBF Energy Refinery is in his city. Probably vulnerable to PBF's threat to shut down with job loss if Rule 6-5 requires the .01 standard and wet scrubbing. Important to stress health impacts in his community. Email mross@cityofmartinez.org or call 925-372-3544.

Talking points:

- There is no safe level for Particulate Matter (PM) exposure.
- PM is the most dangerous pollutant in the Bay Area that kills up to 3,000 people every year and damages the health of many thousands more.
- Your modeling shows people of color near refineries are adversely affected by PM exposure and suffer from asthma and cancer at twice the state average.
- A majority of refineries across the country have wet scrubbers to reduce PM. So why is that not a requirement here?
- Under current regulations, refineries have been able to pass the health care costs on to their neighboring communities while increasing profits.
- By your studies, the cost of adding wet scrubbers amounts to only a few cents per gallon.
- AB 612 requires a response to the environmental injustice of pollutants emitted from refineries harming their neighbors.
- The oil industry has argued before you against protecting their workers and neighbors from cancer, pulmonary and heart disease, asthma, dementia caused by PM exposure.

In solidarity,

The Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club Coordinating Committee