

Mayor's Script
SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT REFINERY COMMITTEE
INVESTIGATIVE HEARING CONCERNING THE TORRANCE REFINERY
Saturday April 1, 2017 | 9:25 a.m.

On Tuesday, March 28th, the Torrance City Council adopted a resolution concerning the safe operation of the Torrance refinery.

As civic leaders, we are keenly aware of the concerns of our community and we share many of those concerns. On Tuesday night, we welcomed a standing room only crowd. Over 65 speakers shared their views concerning the refinery. Many speakers were Torrance and South Bay residents, along with many Torrance Refining Company employees including PBF President Jeffery Dill.

There were two resolutions under consideration by the City Council. One resolution proposed the phasing out of modified hydrofluoric acid; which failed in a 5 to 2 vote; the second resolution supported the efforts of stakeholders in ensuring and enhancing the safety of the Torrance Refinery and monitoring of efforts to seek a safer catalyst which ultimately received unanimous support.

At this time, I'll read into the record Torrance Resolution No. 2017-23.

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RESOLUTION NO. 2017-23

**A RESOLUTION BY THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL
REGARDING THE SAFETY OF THE TORRANCE
REFINERY.**

WHEREAS, the safety and security of Torrance residents and persons who work in the city is the highest priority for the Torrance City Council; and

WHEREAS, the Torrance Refinery was established in 1929 and it and its workers make numerous contributions to the local and regional economy; and

WHEREAS, the Torrance Refinery has experienced several operational challenges since the explosion on February 18, 2015, including excessive flaring, fires, and power interruptions; and

WHEREAS, the City of Torrance has taken an active role in coordinating efforts by various local, state and federal regulatory agencies tasked with refinery safety, regulations, and oversight; and

WHEREAS, the City of Torrance has held several public workshops to educate the community regarding refinery operations and safety; and

WHEREAS, the City of Torrance submitted a project for the \$2.7 Million South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Supplemental Environment Project (SEP) Fund Air Quality Improvement Projects for an offsite real-time air quality monitoring system with sirens available to the public, an enhanced integrated

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community alarm/notification system, and broad shelter-in-place air quality emergency preparedness community training; and

WHEREAS, the City of Torrance holds monthly meetings with representatives of the Torrance Refining Company and Southern California Edison to address electrical reliability concerns; and

WHEREAS, as part of California Governor Brown's directive to create Refinery Emergency Preparedness and Safety Regulations, the Torrance Deputy Fire Chief is serving as the Chair of the Interagency Refinery Task Force Training Workgroup while participating on all rule making efforts by the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal EPA) in developing the California Accidental Release Prevention (CalARP) and the California Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) - Occupational Safety & Health Standards Board (OSHSB) for Process Safety Management for Petroleum Refineries; and

WHEREAS, City staff are members of the SCAQMD Working Group for proposed amended Rule 1118 (Control of Emissions from Refinery Flares) and will participate in the upcoming Rule 1410 (Hydrogen Fluoride Storage and Use) amendment process.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE HEREBY supports the efforts of the following stakeholders in ensuring and enhancing the safety of the Torrance Refinery and encourages all interested parties to continue to work together in addressing community concerns regarding the safety of the Torrance Refinery:

- California Interagency Refinery Task Force

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- California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal EPA) in developing the California Accidental Release Prevention (CalARP)
- California Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) - Occupational Safety & Health Standards Board (OSHSB) for Process Safety Management for Petroleum Refineries
- South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule 1118 and Rule 1410 specifically related to flaring events and continued use of modified hydrofluoric acid (MHF)
- Monitoring of the efforts to seek a safer catalyst
- Torrance Refining Company and Southern California Edison electrical reliability project
- U.S. Chemical Safety Board
- Congress member Maxine Waters and Congress member Ted Lieu
- Assembly member Al Muratsuchi's legislative efforts
- County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors
- Concerned Citizens

INTRODUCED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this twenty eight day of March, 2017.

On behalf of the Torrance City Council, a special thank you to the Torrance and surrounding communities for being respectfully engaged in this important issue. I'd also like to extend our thanks to the various

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agencies and stakeholders I just mentioned in the Resolution. And finally, thank you to the South Coast Air Quality Management District Refinery Committee for conducting this hearing and we look forward to your findings in support of a safer Torrance community.

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