



SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
PRESS RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACT:

Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431

press@aqmd.gov

South Coast AQMD sues over Port of LA's failure to reduce emissions from operations at the China Shipping Container Terminal

DIAMOND BAR - The South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) today filed a lawsuit challenging the City of Los Angeles' approval of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the China Shipping Container Terminal at the Port of Los Angeles. The lawsuit alleges that the City violated the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) by removing actions to reduce air pollution that were previously approved in a 2008 EIR, that China Shipping has since refused to implement.

The lawsuit states that the new EIR includes more weakened and unenforceable measures and will lead to significantly more emissions including half a ton more nitrogen oxides per day than in the previous EIR. The new EIR also removed a requirement for the Terminal to use clean-fuel drayage trucks and relaxed pollution-reducing measures for cargo handling equipment and ship visits. China Shipping has stated it will not implement even the new weakened measures.

"We are extremely disappointed that the Port did not at least require clean-fuel or electric trucks, even though its own Clean Air Action Plan calls for 100 percent zero-emission trucks operating at the Port by 2035," said Wayne Nastri, South Coast AQMD Executive Officer. "China Shipping has made it clear that they have no interest in implementing actions to reduce air pollution and protect surrounding communities and should not be allowed to continue operation until they do so."

According to the EIR, by the year 2023, which is the deadline for the Los Angeles region to attain the federal ozone standard, China Shipping will emit more than four tons per day of nitrogen oxides. This is more than is emitted by a large refinery today, and equal to about a third of the emissions allowed in 2023 by the 250 largest industrial sources in the South Coast AQMD jurisdiction. Nitrogen oxides are the key cause of ozone in the Los Angeles area and must be reduced dramatically to meet federal clean air standards.

The South Coast AQMD's lawsuit asks for the court to override the EIR and the Port's lease with China Shipping, based on CEQA violations, as well as the fact that mitigation measures have not yet been incorporated into China Shipping's lease and are therefore unenforceable.

China Shipping is located in the Port of Los Angeles and handled 17 percent of the Port's 9.7 million 20-foot equivalent cargo container volume in 2019. Their current lease from the Port expires in 2045.

South Coast AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside 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](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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