



CITY OF TORRANCE

TIM GOODRICH
COUNCILMAN

August 17, 2017

Dr. William A. Burke
Chairman
South Coast Air Quality Management
District Governing Board
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Dear Chairman Burke and the Governing Board:

I am writing to convey my support of SCAQMD Proposed Rule 1410 banning the use of hydrofluoric (HF) and modified hydrofluoric acid (MHF) alkylation in refineries.

It is my belief that the continued use of HF/MHF in our community presents too great a danger to the health and safety of the residents of Torrance and the South Bay.

The February 18, 2015 explosion at the refinery was categorized as a "near miss" by the US Chemical Safety Board due to heavy falling debris nearly landing where the MHF is stored. Furthermore, the damage from that explosion caused safety systems meant to contain a release of MHF to fail. This incident was just one example of the many potential risks that could prove catastrophic and lead to a release.

I urge the SCAQMD to complete the rulemaking process and to ban the use of HF and MHF alkylation within its jurisdiction. Such action would further the District's progress toward improving protections for refinery workers, surrounding neighborhoods, the environment, and protect the economy of Southern California from a catastrophic incident.

Thank you for undertaking this important rulemaking process.

Sincerely,

Tim Goodrich
Councilmember, City of Torrance