



# Agenda

## INDUSTRIAL SAFETY ORDINANCE/ COMMUNITY WARNING SYSTEM AD HOC COMMITTEE HAZARDOUS MATERIALS COMMISSION

April 20, 2023  
9:00 AM

### Meeting Locations:

1. Contra Costa County Administration Building: 1025 Escobar Street, Conference Room 110A, Martinez, CA 94553
2. Contra Costa County – District 1 Supervisorial Office: 11780 San Pablo Avenue, Suite D, El Cerrito, CA 94530
3. Contra Costa County – District 5 Supervisorial Office: 190 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Pittsburg, CA 94565

### Virtual:

Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:

Please click this URL to join. <https://zoom.us/j/97110406275>

Or One tap mobile:

+16699006833,,97110406275# US (San Jose)

+16694449171,,97110406275# US

Or join by phone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 669 444 9171 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 719 359 4580 or +1 253 205 0468 or +1 646 931 3860 or +1 689 278 1000 or +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 305 224 1968 or +1 309 205 3325 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 360 209 5623 or +1 386 347 5053 or +1 507 473 4847 or +1 564 217 2000

Webinar ID: 971 1040 6275

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/u/aYqXuzWi>

Supervisor John Gioia  
Supervisor Federal Glover

### Agenda Items:

Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee

1. Call to Order and Introductions
2. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to three minutes).

### **DISCUSSION**

3. APPROVE minutes from February 21, 2023 ISO/CWS Ad Hoc Committee Meeting.
4. RECEIVE a status report regarding the independent incident investigation into the February 9, 2021 Wharf Oil Spill at the Chevron Richmond Refinery and PROVIDE direction as necessary.
5. RECEIVE an update and PROVIDE direction as necessary on the spent catalyst release that occurred on November 24-25, 2022 at the Martinez Refining Company.
  - a. Presentation from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District regarding the plume model for deposition of the spent-catalyst.
  - b. Update from the Oversight Committee for the independent incident investigation and community exposure/risk assessment.
6. RECEIVE a report regarding proposed changes to the Contra Costa County Hazardous Materials Incident Notification Policy and PROVIDE direction as necessary.
7. DISCUSS future items for the next ISO/CWS Ad Hoc Committee meeting tentatively scheduled for June 15, 2023 at 10:00 AM.

☺ *The ISO/CWS Ad Hoc Committee will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend Committee meetings. Contact the staff person listed below at least 72 hours before the meeting.*

📁 *Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to a majority of members of the ISO/CWS Ad Hoc Committee less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at 651 Pine Street, 10th floor, during normal business hours.*

✉️ *Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.*

**For Additional Information Contact:**

Matthew Kaufmann, Committee Staff  
Phone (925) 957-2668  
Matt.Kaufmann@cchealth.org

## Glossary of Acronyms, Abbreviations, and other Terms (in alphabetical order):

Contra Costa County has a policy of making limited use of acronyms, abbreviations, and industry-specific language in its Board of Supervisors meetings and written materials. Following is a list of commonly used language that may appear in oral presentations and written materials associated with Board meetings:

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<b>AB</b>	Assembly Bill	HCD	(State Dept of) Housing & Community Development
ABAG	Association of Bay Area Governments	HHS	Department of Health and Human Services
ACA	Assembly Constitutional Amendment	HIPAA	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990	HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Syndrome
AFSCME	American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees	HOV	High Occupancy Vehicle
AICP	American Institute of Certified Planners	HR	Human Resources
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome	HUD	United States Department of Housing and Urban Development
ALUC	Airport Land Use Commission	Inc.	Incorporated
AOD	Alcohol and Other Drugs	IOC	Internal Operations Committee
BAAQMD	Bay Area Air Quality Management District	ISO	Industrial Safety Ordinance
BART	Bay Area Rapid Transit District	JPA	Joint (exercise of) Powers Authority or Agreement
BCDC	Bay Conservation & Development Commission	Lamorinda	Lafayette-Moraga-Orinda Area
BGO	Better Government Ordinance	LAFCo	Local Agency Formation Commission
BOS	Board of Supervisors	LLC	Limited Liability Company
CALTRANS	California Department of Transportation	LLP	Limited Liability Partnership
CalWIN	California Works Information Network	Local 1	Public Employees Union Local 1
CalWORKS	California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids	LVN	Licensed Vocational Nurse
CAER	Community Awareness Emergency Response	MAC	Municipal Advisory Council
CAO	County Administrative Officer or Office	MBE	Minority Business Enterprise
CCHP	Contra Costa Health Plan	M.D.	Medical Doctor
CCTA	Contra Costa Transportation Authority	M.F.T.	Marriage and Family Therapist
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant	MIS	Management Information System
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act	MOE	Maintenance of Effort
CIO	Chief Information Officer	MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
COLA	Cost of living adjustment	MTC	Metropolitan Transportation Commission
ConFire	Contra Costa Consolidated Fire District	NACo	National Association of Counties
CPA	Certified Public Accountant	OB-GYN	Obstetrics and Gynecology
CPI	Consumer Price Index	O.D.	Doctor of Optometry
CSA	County Service Area	OES-EOC	Office of Emergency Services-Emergency Operations Center
CSAC	California State Association of Counties	OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
CTC	California Transportation Commission	Psy.D.	Doctor of Psychology
dba	doing business as	RDA	Redevelopment Agency
EBMUD	East Bay Municipal Utility District	RFI	Request For Information
EIR	Environmental Impact Report	RFP	Request For Proposal
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement	RFQ	Request For Qualifications
EMCC	Emergency Medical Care Committee	RN	Registered Nurse
EMS	Emergency Medical Services	SB	Senate Bill
EPSDT	State Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment Program (Mental Health)	SBE	Small Business Enterprise
et al.	et al (and others)	SWAT	Southwest Area Transportation Committee
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration	TRANSPAC	Transportation Partnership & Cooperation (Central)
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency	TRANSPLAN	Transportation Planning Committee (East County)
F&HS	Family and Human Services Committee	TRE or TTE	Trustee
First 5	First Five Children and Families Commission (Proposition 10)	TWIC	Transportation, Water and Infrastructure Committee
FTE	Full Time Equivalent	VA	Department of Veterans Affairs
FY	Fiscal Year	vs.	versus (against)
GHAD	Geologic Hazard Abatement District	WAN	Wide Area Network
GIS	Geographic Information System	WBE	Women Business Enterprise
		WCCTAC	West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee

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# Minutes

## INDUSTRIAL SAFETY ORDINANCE/ COMMUNITY WARNING SYSTEM AD HOC COMMITTEE

February 21, 2023  
9:00 AM

### Meeting Minutes:

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Meeting called to order at 9:01 AM by Supervisor Gioia

2. Public Comment

Members of the public were given an opportunity to make comments on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee that was not on the agenda. Speakers were limited to three minutes each. The committee received two (2) comments from the public regarding Martinez Refining Company Catalyst Release, 1 comment regarding trains traveling through the community in response to the incident in East Palestine, Ohio, and 1 comment regarding potential chemical releases in Crockett, CA.

3. APPROVE minutes from January 12, 2023 ISO/CWS Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

Minutes from previous meeting (January 12, 2023) were approved by Supervisors Gioia and Glover.

4. RECEIVE a Safety Culture Assessment Report from Contra Costa Health and Phillips 66 for the Phillips 66 Rodeo Refinery

In accordance with the Industrial Safety Ordinance, whenever a new safety culture assessment (SCA) is completed, the findings will be presented to the ISO/CWS Ad Hoc Committee.

Phillips 66 Refinery in Rodeo, CA reported on their most recent SCA. A presentation was provided by CCHMP on SCAs and their history in the county's covered facilities.

A presentation given by Phillips 66 representatives on the 2022 SCA at the facility.

Public Comments: The committee received five (5) comments from the public on this item.

5. RECEIVE an update from the Industrial Safety Ordinance Revisions Working Group for bulk storage facilities and PROVIDE direction as necessary

CCHMP provided a presentation to the committee on the ISO revisions for bulk storage facilities (i.e., facilities with field erected tank greater than 50,000 gallons in capacity and liquid with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 704 flammability rating of 3 or higher).

Public Comments: The committee received two (2) comments on this item.

Supervisors Gioia and Glover approved motion to move forward with the revisions. CCHMP was directed to move forward with working with the County Counsel's Office to proceed forward with revisions.

6. RECEIVE an update from and PROVIDE direction as necessary to the Oversight Committee for the independent incident investigation and community exposure/risk assessment as a result of the spent catalyst release that occurred on November 24-25, 2022 at the Martinez Refining Company

CCHMP gave presentation detailing the process for the incident investigation and risk assessment, as well as providing a list of members assigned to the Oversight Committee.

Public Comment: The committee received six (6) comments from the public on this item.

7. Future Agenda Items

The Committee discussed future items to be scheduled for presentation to the ISO/CWS Ad Hoc Committee for the next meeting, tentatively scheduled for March 30, 2023, at 9:00 AM. The following items were discussed for the next meeting Chevron Wharf Oil update, ISO revisions update, and MRC Oversight Committee update.

Public Comment: The committee received six (6) comments from the public on this item.

The meeting was adjourned by Supervisor Gioia at 11:16 AM.





# ISO/CWS Ad Hoc Meeting

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April 20, 2023



# Chevron Oversight Committee Update

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BAY AREA  
AIR QUALITY  
MANAGEMENT  
DISTRICT

# Mapping Dust Fallout from the November 2022 Martinez Refining Company Incident Using Observations and Modeling

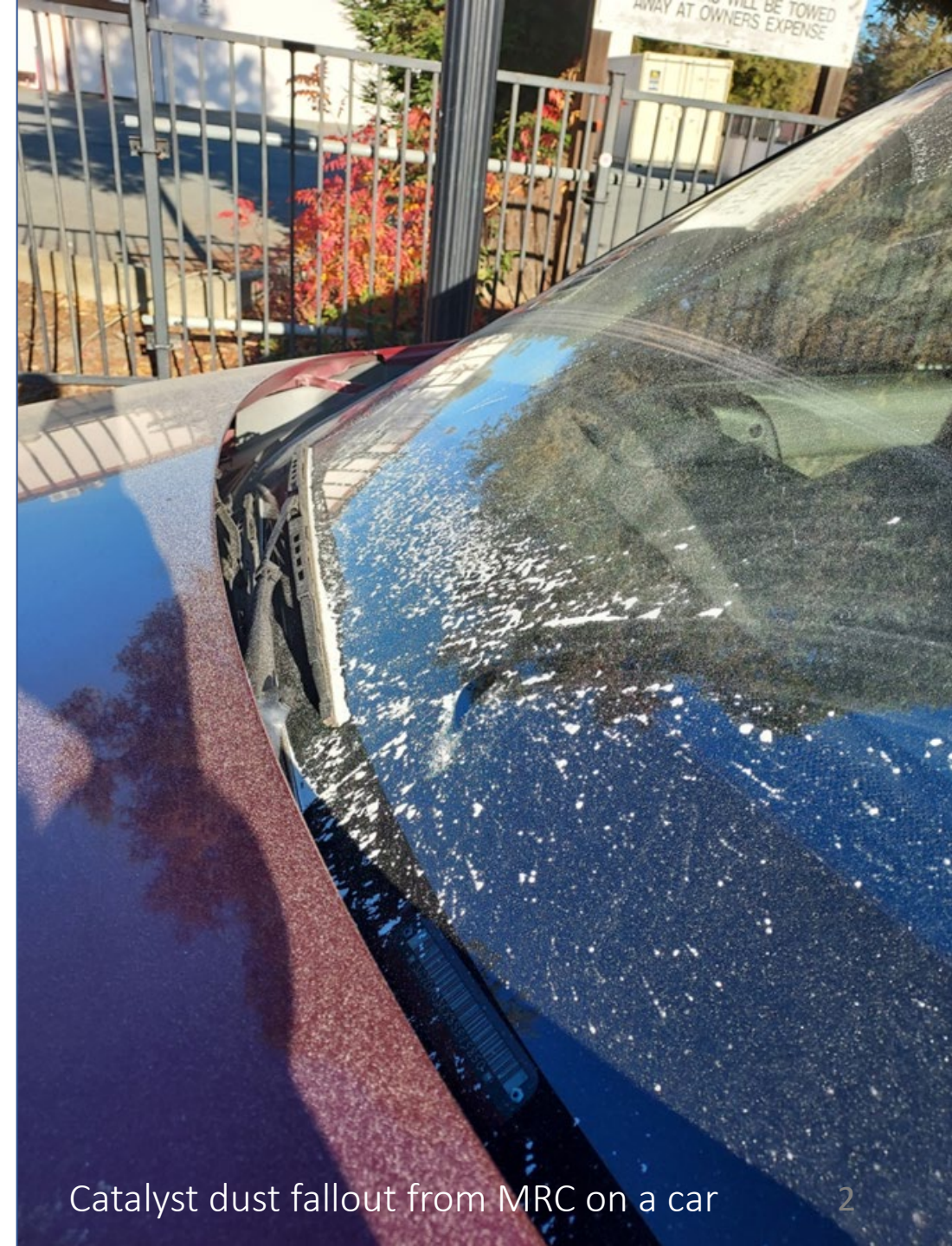
ISO/CWS Ad Hoc Committee Meeting  
April 20, 2023

Phil Martien, Ph.D.  
Bay Area Air Quality Management District  
Assessment, Inventory, & Modeling Division Director  
[pmartien@baaqmd.gov](mailto:pmartien@baaqmd.gov)



# Martinez Refining Company (MRC) Catalyst Dust Release

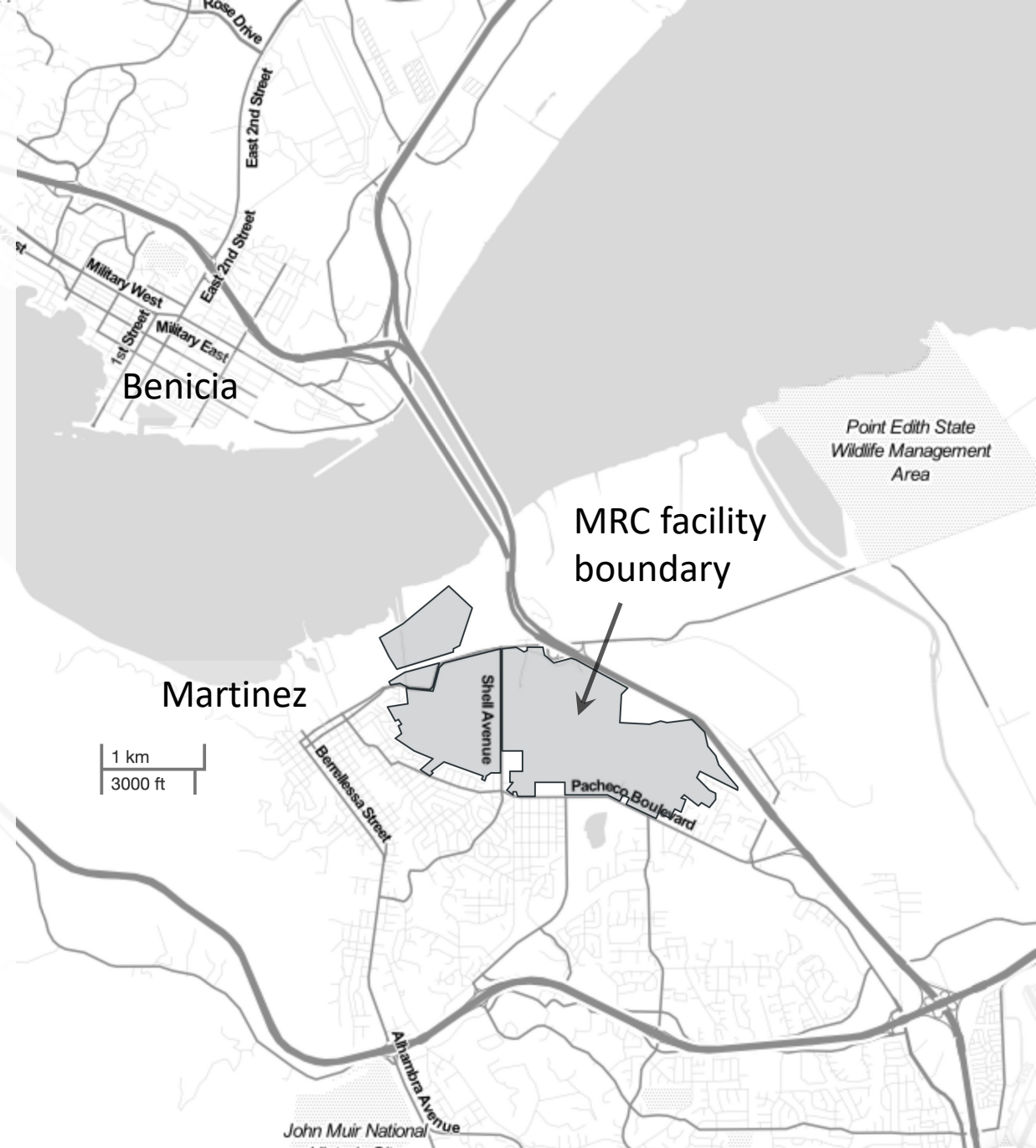
- Late Sun. Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022: Upset at MRC's Fluid Catalytic Cracking Unit (FCCU)
- Until Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>: Electrostatic precipitators (ESPs) remained off
- On Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> after repairs: MRC operators had trouble restarting the FCCU
- Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>: MRC released 20 to 24 tons of catalyst from two CO boilers (COBs)
- Catalyst dust fallout was visible on surfaces in parts of Martinez



Catalyst dust fallout from MRC on a car

# Mapping to Inform a Soil Sampling Program

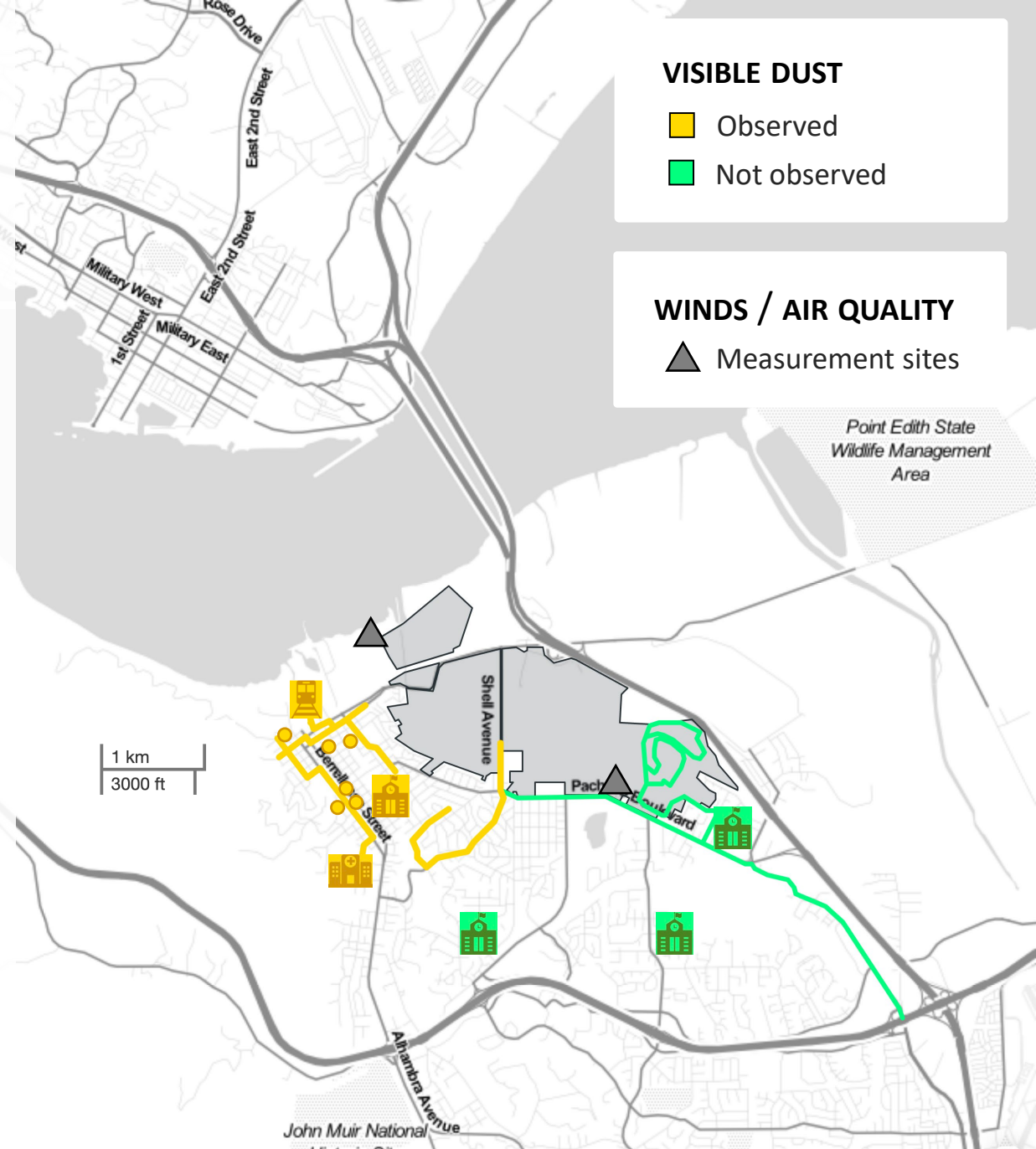
- Bay Area Air District and Contra Costa Health have acted on multiple fronts
- Contra Costa Health is preparing to conduct soil sampling
- To help develop a soil-sampling plan, Air District created a map using observations and air quality modeling
- **The map does not definitively establish levels or locations of impacts,** but can help guide soil sampling





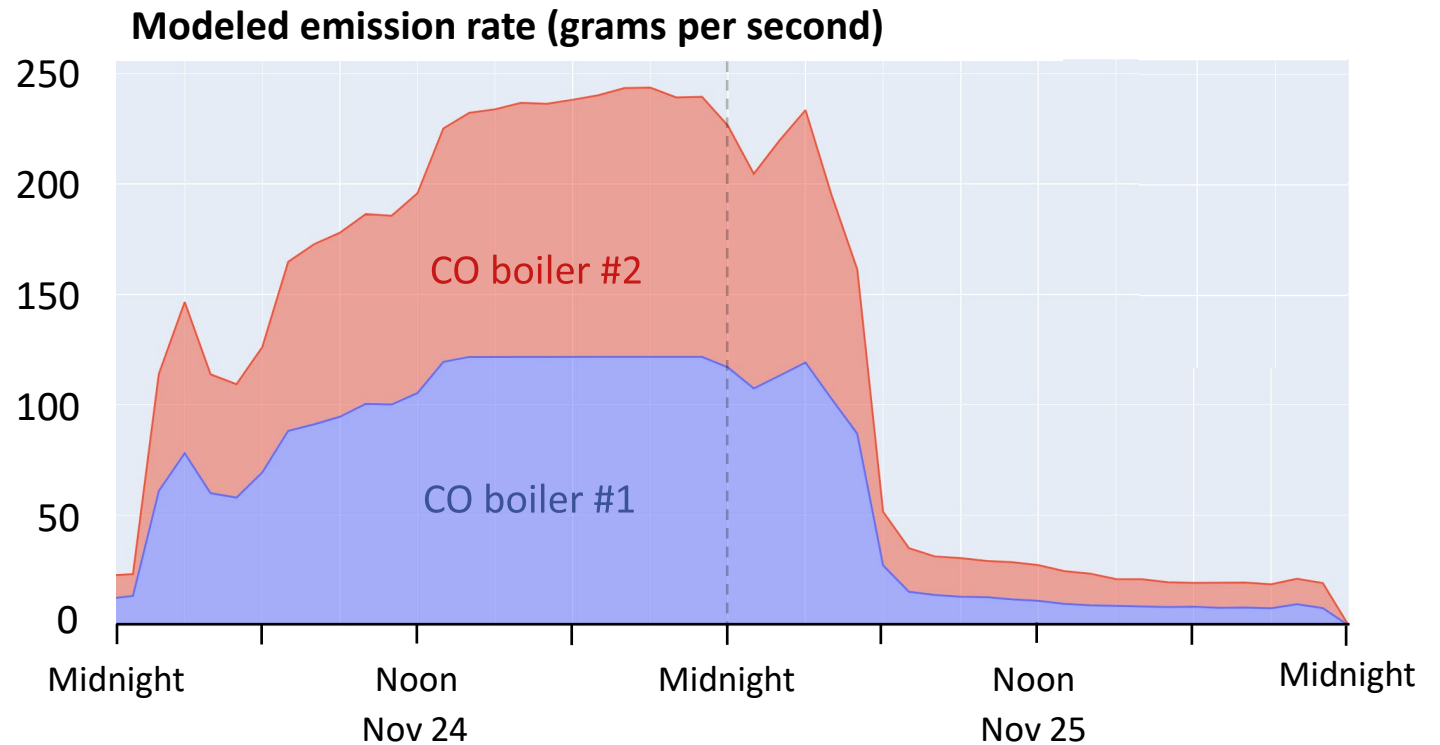
# Using Available Observations

- Visual observations of dust were recorded at schools, Amtrak station, health center, and other locations
- Dust was mostly observed west of MRC
- Winds were light and toward the west, southwest, or northwest, as observed at the eastern measurement site
- Observed dust was consistent with the release location and measured winds



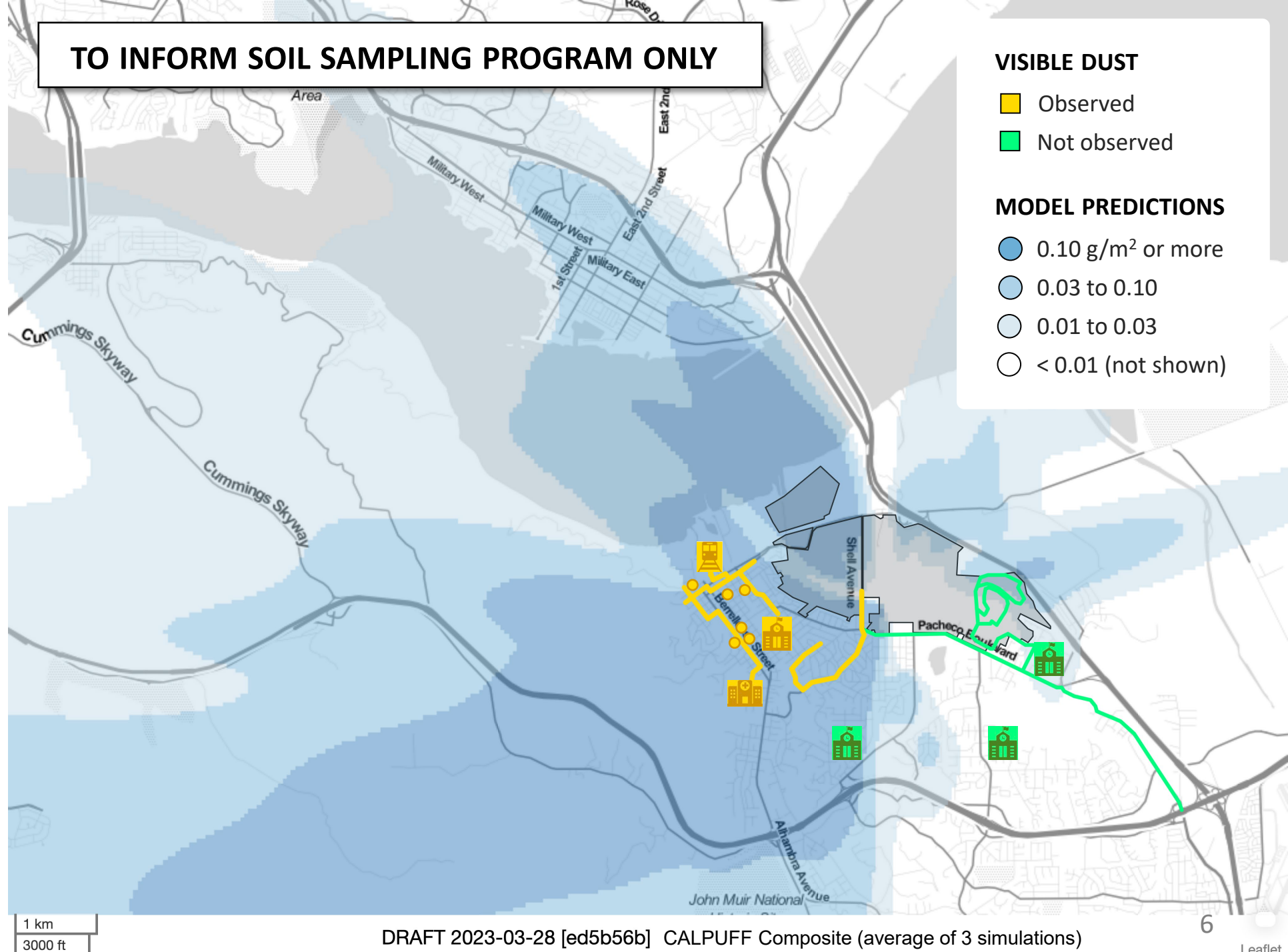
# Dust Modeling Setup

- Used an air quality model (CALPUFF) to simulate potential dust fallout
- Used stack opacity measurements to inform the timing of simulated emissions
- Ran simulations of two days (Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>) using three particle sizes (24, 50, and 85 micrometers)
- Smaller particles tend to travel farther
- Averaged multiple simulations to develop a composite map to inform soil sampling



# Composite Map

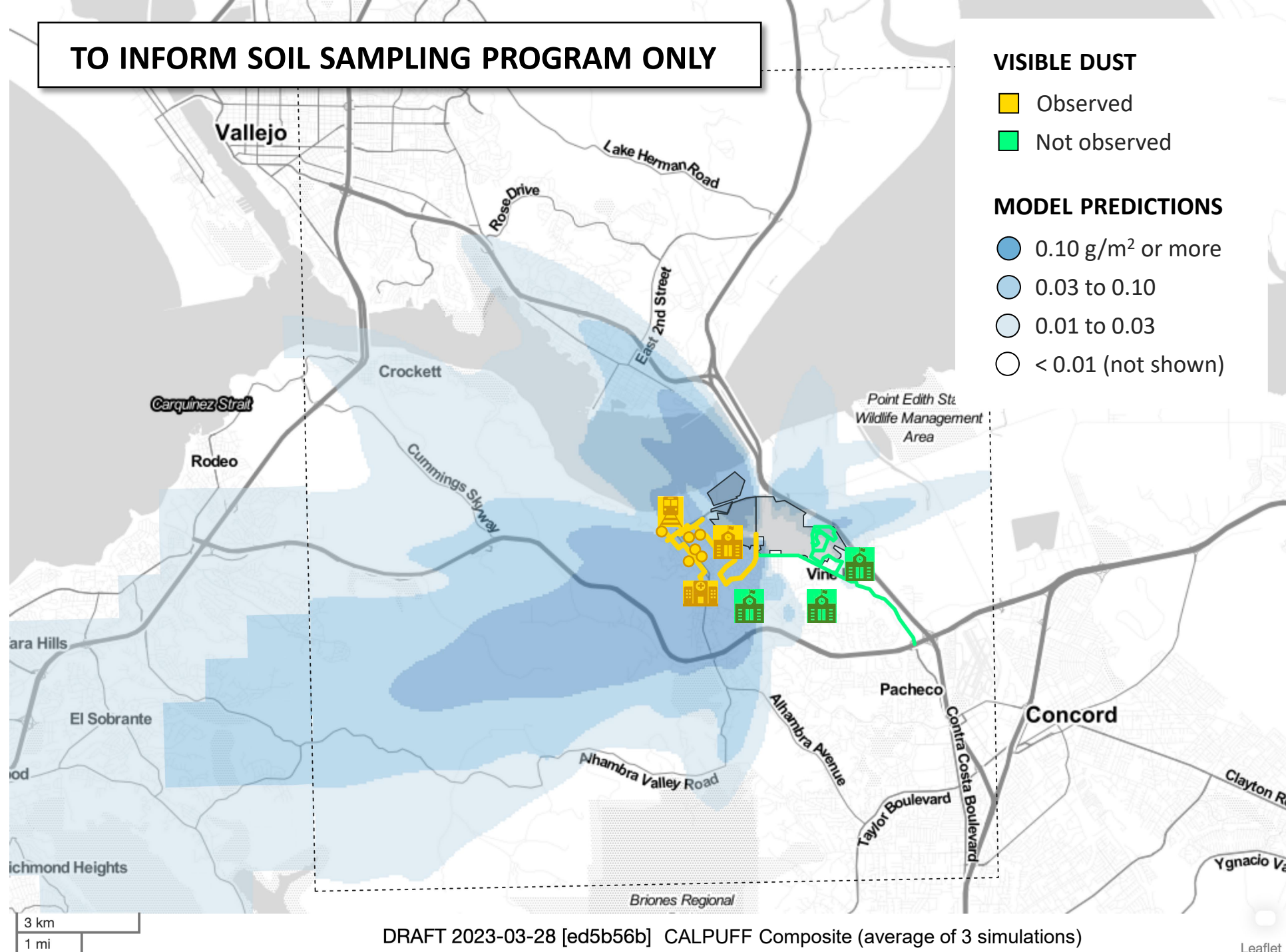
- Simulated levels of dust fallout on outdoor surfaces
- Overlaid with observations of visible dust
- Generally in agreement





# Composite Map

- Simulated levels of dust fallout on outdoor surfaces
- Overlaid with observations of visible dust
- Generally in agreement



# Uses and Limitations

The modeling-based map will inform soil sampling, but **has limitations:**

- Simulations are highly uncertain, because key inputs are highly uncertain:
  - Exact timing of the catalyst emissions; and
  - Sizes of the catalyst particles when they were released.
- In view of the large amount of rain since the event, the catalyst material has likely moved since the initial fallout. Soil sampling aims to determine how much catalyst material is currently in the soil.
- The County's Oversight Committee has selected a toxicologist that will develop a sampling plan to determine the extent of community impact from the release.

# Next Steps

- The Air District will continue to pursue actions toward preventing future problems at MRC.
- The modeling team at the Air District will be available to assist in applying the map to inform the soil sampling plan.
- A Summary Report of modeling and mapping is available now.
- A more detailed Technical Support Document will be completed this week.

# MRC Oversight Committee Update

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# Committee Members

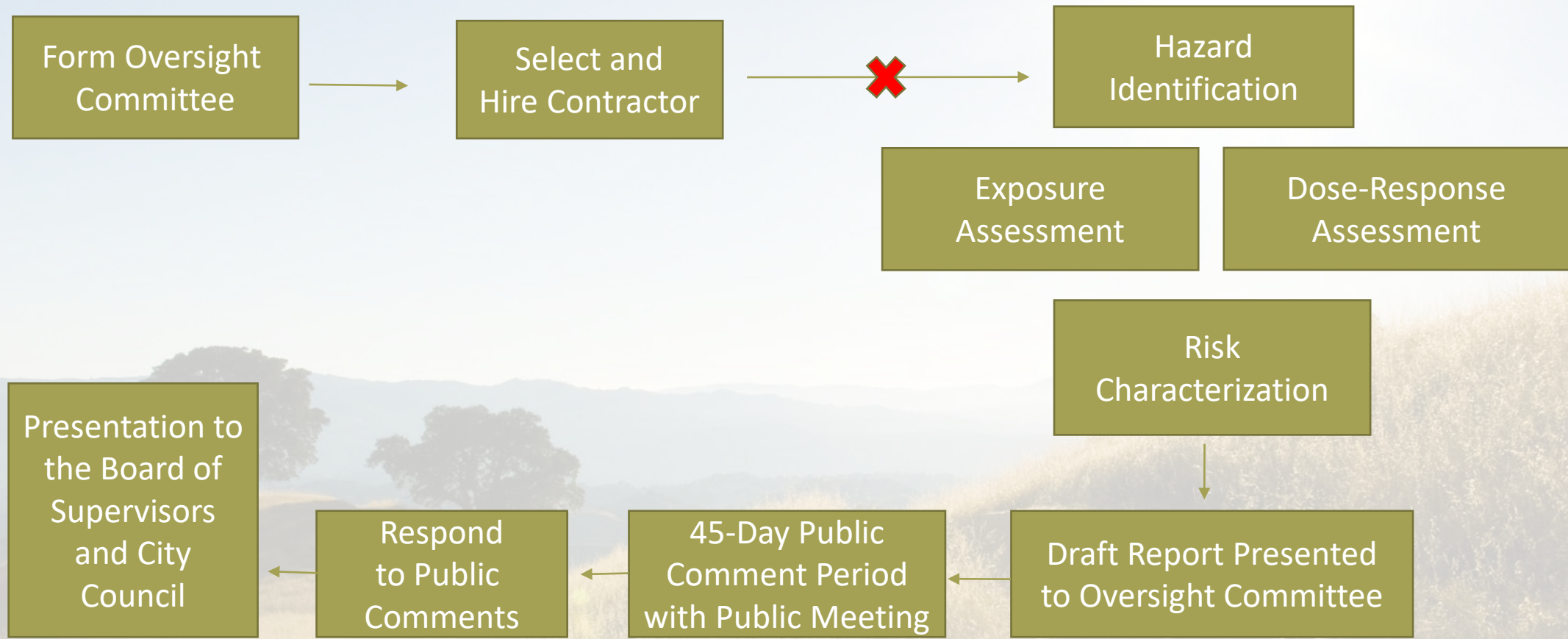
- Nicole Heath (Contra Costa Health Hazmat, Chair)
- Ken Axe (Martinez Refining Company Representative)
- Nick Plurkowski (Martinez Refining Company USW Representative)
- Lauren Sugayan (Martinez Representative)
- Josh Chadwick (Benicia Representative)
- 6 community Members (Martinez, Pacheco, etc. Representatives)
  - Tony Semenza
  - Dierdre Castillo
  - Ben Therriualt
  - Cheryll Grover
  - Pedro Babiak
  - Kent Hull\*



# Independent Incident Investigation



# Independent Risk Assessment





# Oversight Committee Priorities

- Complete an initial Risk Assessment
  - Present Soil Sampling Plan to Oversight Committee
  - Perform soil evaluation
  - Identify any mitigative actions if necessary
  - Work with community to complete actions
- Start the Independent Investigation

# Hazmat Notification Policy CWS Update

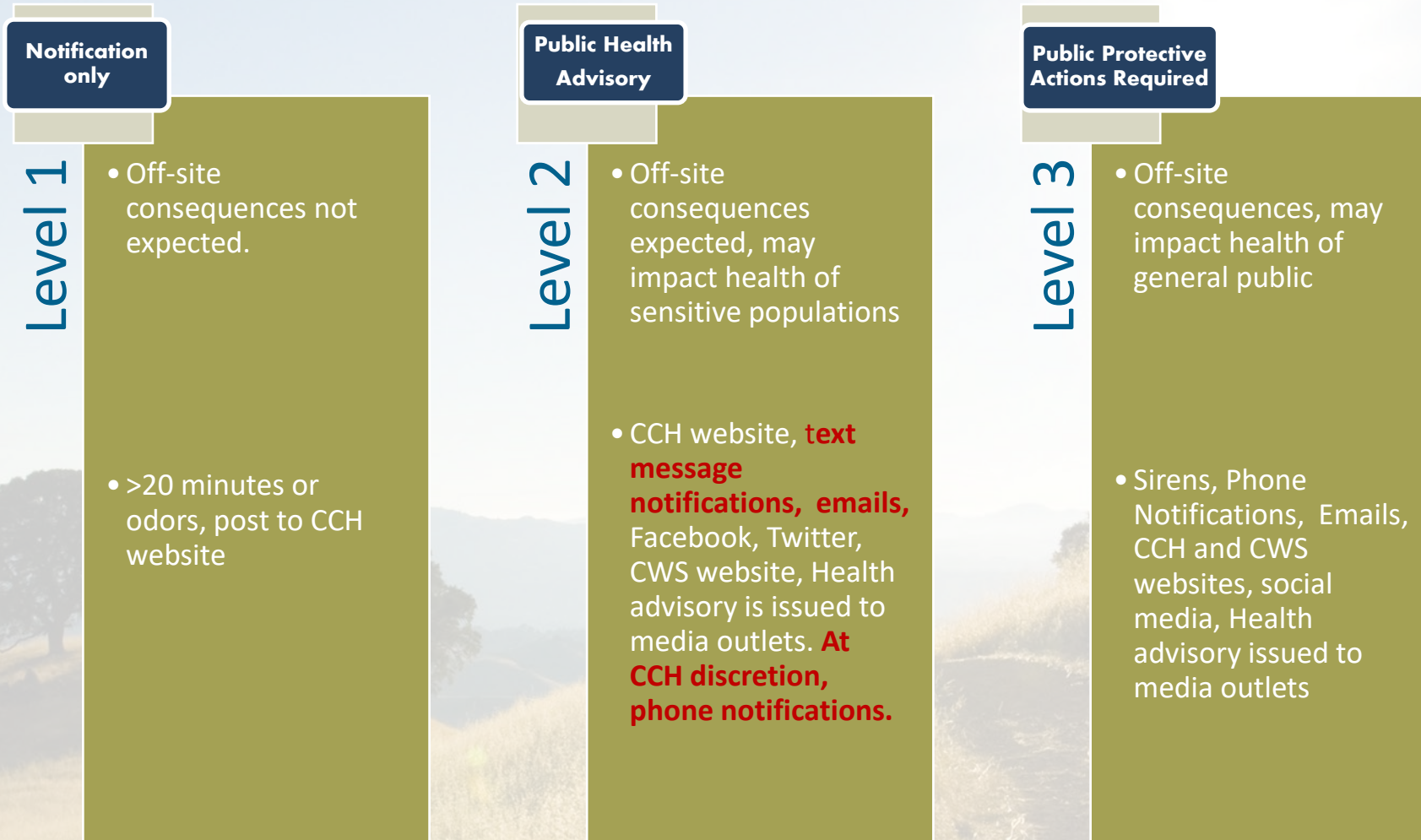
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# Community Warning System Level

## (Proposed Changes)

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# Steps you can take



- Sign up at [cwsalerts.com](https://cwsalerts.com)
- Register to receive notifications
  - Fastest way to be alerted in events which require **you** to take action

# Contra Costa Health Services Hazardous Materials Programs

## HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENT NOTIFICATION POLICY

### I. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Policy is to promote prompt and accurate reporting to Contra Costa Health Services Hazardous Materials Programs (“CCHSHMP”) of releases or threatened releases of hazardous materials that may result in injury or damage to the community and/or the environment.

The primary reason for prompt and accurate notification to CCHSHMP is to enable CCHSHMP to take measures to mitigate the impacts of a hazardous materials release, such as:

1. Dispatching of CCHSHMP emergency response teams quickly and with the appropriate equipment and personnel
2. Assessing the extent of the release or the potential extent of the release and whether neighboring communities are at risk of exposure
3. Determining whether the Community Warning System should be activated (if not already activated)<sup>1</sup>
4. Responding to inquiries from the public and the media

As outlined in Section III, facilities are required to call 911 immediately upon the discovery of a hazardous materials release. Notification to CCHSHMP under this policy does not relieve the responsible business from having to comply with any legal requirement to notify other local, state or federal agencies.

### II. BACKGROUND:

#### A. Origin of Policy

The Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors approved the original Hazardous Materials Incident Notification Policy on November 5, 1991. The policy was established in response to incidents, both in Contra Costa County and elsewhere, which demonstrated that preliminary assessments of hazardous materials releases often underestimate the extent and potential danger of such releases.

#### B. Policy Supplements Regulations

CCHSHMP administers Article 1 of Chapter 6.95 of the California Health and Safety Code, often referred to as the “AB 2185” or “Business Plan” program, which requires immediate

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<sup>1</sup> Facilities capable of initiating the Community Warning System shall follow the Community Warning System Operating Protocols established for it in addition to this policy.

notification in the event of a hazardous materials release.<sup>2</sup> For purposes of this policy, the definition of a hazardous material is that of California Health and Safety Code Section 25501(n). The fines that can be assessed for not reporting can be up to \$25,000 per day and up to one year in jail for the first conviction.<sup>3</sup> Notification to CCHSHMP does not absolve the facility of requisite notifications to other regulatory agencies.

CCHSHMP also administers Article 2 of Chapter 6.95 of the California Health and Safety Code, referred to as the California Accidental Release Prevention (CalARP) Program. This policy assists facilities to meet their obligations under these and other laws.

This Notification Policy assists CCHSHMP in meeting the requirements established in Assembly Bill (AB) 1646 (approved by the California Governor on October 8, 2017). AB 1646 requires CCHSHMP to develop and implement an alerting and notification system to alert surrounding communities of an incident at a petroleum refinery.<sup>4</sup>

### **C. Community Warning System**

The CalARP Program requires facilities to determine the potential off-site consequences from accidental releases of a CalARP Program regulated substance. This information has been used in developing emergency response plans for such potential releases and was used to help design the Community Warning System (CWS).

The CWS is a fully integrated web based alert and notification system that incorporates outdoor safety sirens, emergency responder pagers, the Emergency Alert System (EAS), Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA), NOAA weather radios via the National Weather Service (NWS), phone calls to landline telephones, phone calls, text messages and emails to registered users, posts to social media and public website. Direct communication is made to emergency responders, including law enforcement. EAS, WEA and NOAA weather radios provide a means of getting

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<sup>2</sup> Health and Safety Code Division 20, Chapter 6.95, Section 25510(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), the handler or an employee, authorized representative, agent, or designee of a handler, shall, upon discovery, immediately report any release or threatened release of a hazardous material, or an actual release of a hazardous substance, as defined in Section 374.8 of the Penal Code, to the UPA, and to the Office of Emergency Services, in accordance with the regulations adopted pursuant to this section. The handler or an employee, authorized representative, agent, or designee of the handler shall provide all state, city, or county fire or public health or safety personnel and emergency response personnel with access to the handler's facilities.

<sup>3</sup> §25515.3 A person or business that violates Section 25510 shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for each day of violation, by imprisonment in a county jail for not more than one year, or by both the fine and imprisonment. If the conviction is for a violation committed after a first conviction under this section, the person shall be punished by a fine of not less than two thousand dollars (\$2,000) or more than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) per day of violation, by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170 of the Penal Code for 16, 20, or 24 months or in a county jail for not more than one year, or by both the fine and imprisonment. Furthermore, if the violation results in, or significantly contributes to, an emergency, including a fire, to which the county or city is required to respond, the person shall also be assessed the full cost of the county or city emergency response, as well as the cost of cleaning up and disposing of the hazardous materials.

<sup>4</sup> H&SC §25536.6(a) Each local implementing agency shall develop an integrated alerting and notification system, in coordination with local emergency management agencies, unified program agencies, local first response agencies, petroleum refineries, and the public, to be used to notify the community surrounding a petroleum refinery in the event of an incident at the refinery warranting the use of the automatic notification system.

messages out to a broad range of residents. WEA is a federally maintained tool that can broadcast short text-like alerts to WEA capable cell phones. The CWS sends messages about the incident and recommended protective actions. In addition to sent alerts, information about an incident can be found during an incident at [www.cococws.us](http://www.cococws.us), including the area where protective actions have been issued.

The CWS was developed through the efforts of the Contra Costa County Community Awareness and Emergency Response (“CAER”) Group working cooperatively with CCHSHMP, representatives from local industry, the community, and other regulatory agencies to provide local residents with timely notification of emergencies, including hazardous materials releases.

The success of the CWS is dependent upon industry’s prompt notification to CCHSHMP. CCHSHMP would like the public to be assured that the CWS will be activated in a timely manner to implement preventive measures, such as sheltering-in-place. The CWS may also be activated to allay community concerns when a visible incident occurs, such as an explosion that does not pose a health hazard. In order to expedite notification, some facilities have CWS terminals on-site and may activate the CWS directly using pre-defined protocols and procedures.

#### **D. Benefits of Prompt Notification and Cooperation**

CCHSHMP is aware that information provided during the initial notification may be preliminary and that facilities may not be able to provide completely accurate information. CCHSHMP also does not intend for the need to provide notification to CCHSHMP to impede other emergency response activities related to the release (e.g., calling 911 to report a hazardous materials release). However, CCHSHMP’s ability to make quick and informed decisions to mitigate the impacts of a release is dependent upon receiving prompt notification and accurate information about the release.

Since its adoption in 1991, this policy has improved cooperation and communication between industry, CCHSHMP, and the public during hazardous materials emergency events. CCHSHMP remains committed to ongoing improvement of this policy as industry, CCHSHMP, and the public gain additional experience.

### **III. POLICY:**

**A. When Immediate Notification Required.** Responsible businesses<sup>5</sup> are required to provide immediate notification to the 911 system and CCHSHMP of a release or threatened release in the following situations.

1. **General.** Immediate notification to the 911 system, as well as CCHSHMP, is required upon discovery of any release or threatened release of a hazardous material that may have or did have the potential for an adverse health effect from exposure to the

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<sup>5</sup> The term “responsible business” or “business” includes facilities and other entities that have custody of the hazardous material at the time that it is accidentally released, or the facility where the release occurs. For example, a transportation company is the responsible business if the material is released in transit. If there is a release from a transport vehicle when the vehicle is at a fixed facility, the fixed facility is primarily responsible for notifying CCHSHMP under this policy.

chemicals release. This can be on-site, or during transport, handling, storage, or loading of such material, via vehicle, rail, pipeline, marine vessel, or aircraft.

**2. Specific Situations.** Immediate notification is required in the following situations:

- a. The release or threatened release of a hazardous material that results in a substantial probability of harm to nearby workers or the general public. This includes all hazardous materials incidents in which medical attention beyond first aid is sought. (Do not delay reporting if the level of treatment is uncertain.)
- b. The release or threatened release of hazardous materials that may affect the surrounding population including odor, eye or respiratory irritation.
- c. The event may cause general public concern, such as in cases of fire, explosion, smoke, or flaring. This does not include a non-process fire, such as a grass fire, as long as the non-process fire will not impact a process.
- d. The release or threatened release may contaminate surface water, groundwater or soil, either on-site (unless the spill is entirely contained and the clean-up is initiated immediately and completed expeditiously) or off-site.
- e. The release or threatened release may cause off-site environmental damage.

**B. CCHSHMP Notification.**

1. Facilities with CWS Access – Immediately notify the CCHSHMP Incident Response Team (on-call 24 hours a day) by any of the following methods:
  - a. Through a CWS communication terminal (this is the preferred method); or
  - b. Directly via emergency response pager (If provided by CCHSHMP); or
  - c. Any time by phone at (925) 655-3232
2. Facilities without CWS Access – Immediately notify 911
  - a. First, immediately call 911;
  - b. Second, notify CCHSHMP via the following:
    - i. Directly via emergency response pager (If provided by CCHSHMP); or
    - ii. Any time by phone at (925) 655-3232

**C. Confirmation of Notification.** The facility is responsible for ensuring that CCHSHMP has received the notification. If confirmation cannot be achieved within ten (10) minutes of notification, an alternative method of notification identified above in Subsection B should be used in order of ascending priority.

**D. Required Information.** Provide the information required by the Facility Incident Checklist (Attachment A). *Do not delay* the notification due to inability to provide any of the information called for in the Facility Incident Checklist.

**E. Timeliness of Notification.** Facilities are required to make notification to CCHSHMP as required by this policy as soon as possible or within fifteen (15) minutes from discovery of a release, or threatened release, of a hazardous material.



If confirmation of a release, or threatened release, of a hazardous material from the facility cannot be made within ten (10) minutes of being made aware of potential or actual hazardous materials release, communication should be made immediately to CCHSHMP (within ten (10) minutes) that the facility is investigating a potential release, or threatened release, of a hazardous material.

**F. Other Notifications May Be Required.** Notification to CCHSHMP under this policy does not relieve the responsible business from having to comply with any legal requirement to notify other local, state or federal agencies.

**G. When Notification Is Not Required.** This policy does not require reporting of a release of a hazardous material that *clearly* does not meet any of the criteria described in Subsection A, above. Examples of such situations are:

1. Emergency Medical Services calls *not* associated with hazardous materials incidents (e.g., falling off of a ladder).
2. Incidental release (as defined by Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations, Section 5192(a)(3)).
3. Small spills where the spill is contained, and where it is clear that none of the situations described in Subsection A apply. Spill containment means:
  - a. The spilled material is caught in a fixed berm or dike or other impermeable surface, or is contained by using effective spill control measures (NOTE: Petroleum refineries (only) the petroleum spill is less than 150 gallons.);
  - b. All of the spilled material is prevented from contaminating surface or groundwater; and
  - c. The spill does not pose a substantial probability of adverse health consequences to the public.

**H. Follow-up Reporting of a Hazardous Materials Release.**

1. For all Public Health Advisory – Level 2 and Public Protective Actions Required – Level 3 incidents (as defined in Attachment A-1), or upon request of CCHSHMP, a written follow-up report of the incident shall be submitted within 72-hours. (If the due date falls on a weekend or holiday, the Director of Hazardous Materials Programs may allow the report to be submitted on the next business day.) The report shall confirm, modify and/or update the information provided in the initial notification (Facility Incident Checklist). The report shall be submitted on the 72-Hour Follow-Up Report Form (Attachment B). A hard copy and electronic copy of the report should be submitted.
2. A written final report of the incident shall be made to CCHSHMP as soon as practicable, but no later than 30 calendar days from the date of the release, for all Public Health Advisory – Level 2 and Public Protective Actions Required – Level 3 incidents and for any incident for which CCHSHMP requests such a report. If the investigation has not been completed within 30 calendar days, an interim report shall be submitted

and a final report submitted when the investigation is completed. The facility shall give written monthly status reports of the incident investigation, which is submitted the last business day of the month following the 30-day report, until the incident investigation is complete and the final report has been issued to CCHSHMP. Refer to Attachment C for the 30-Day Final Incident Report format. A hard and an electronic copy of the 30-day and subsequent reports should be submitted.

3. All “Major Chemical Accidents or Releases” (defined at County Ordinance Code section 450-8.014(h)) should be investigated using root cause investigation methodology. CCHSHMP will either participate in or closely monitor the investigation. (County Ordinance Code, §450.8.016(c)(1).)
4. If the release requires a written emergency release follow-up report to be submitted to the Chemical Emergency Planning and Response Commission pursuant to section 2632(b) of Title 19 of the California Code of Regulations, a copy of such report shall be sent to CCHSHMP within 30 calendar days.
5. A facility may elect to include with the 30-Day Incident Report Form (Attachment C) a brief narrative of how this incident relates to any of the prevention programs required by CalARP Program regulations and described in the CCHSHMP CalARP Program guidance document.
6. Reports should be sent to the following address:

Contra Costa Health Services Hazardous Materials Programs  
ATTENTION: Hazardous Materials Director  
4585 Pacheco Boulevard, Suite 100  
Martinez, CA 94553

**I. Additional Communications**

1. There may be situations where notification is not required by Chapter 6.95 of the California Health and Safety Code; however, communication to CCHSHMP and local law enforcement and/or fire agency dispatch centers is warranted.
2. Examples of situations that warrant communication:
  - a. Non-process fires or incidents, such as a grass fire, where a process is not involved or expected to be impacted.
  - b. Training exercises or other activities that may result in fire/smoke visible offsite.
  - c. Three (3) or more unconfirmed offsite odor complaints within one hour.
  - d. Flaring that does not meet the definition of this policy; however, the visibility of the flare to the public may be of concern.
3. How to Communicate with CCHSHMP
  - a. Preferably communications under Section III(H) should be made during normal working hours (Monday thru Friday, 8 AM to 5 PM) unless there is enhanced media or public interest.
  - b. See Section III(B) above for communication methods.

**IV. REFERENCES:** California Health and Safety Code Chapter 6.95 (§25500 et seq.); Title 19 Cal. Code Regs §2631 et seq.; County Ordinance Code Chapter 450.8. (Californian Public Utilities Commission Decision 91-08-019/R.88-07-039 requires similar notification for rail accidents.)

Bd approved 11/5/91  
Revised Bd Approved 1/93  
Revised Bd Approved 6/19/01  
Revised Bd Approval 12/14/04  
Revised Bd Approved 2/9/16

Figure 1. CCHS Hazardous Materials Programs Incident Notification Policy Flowchart

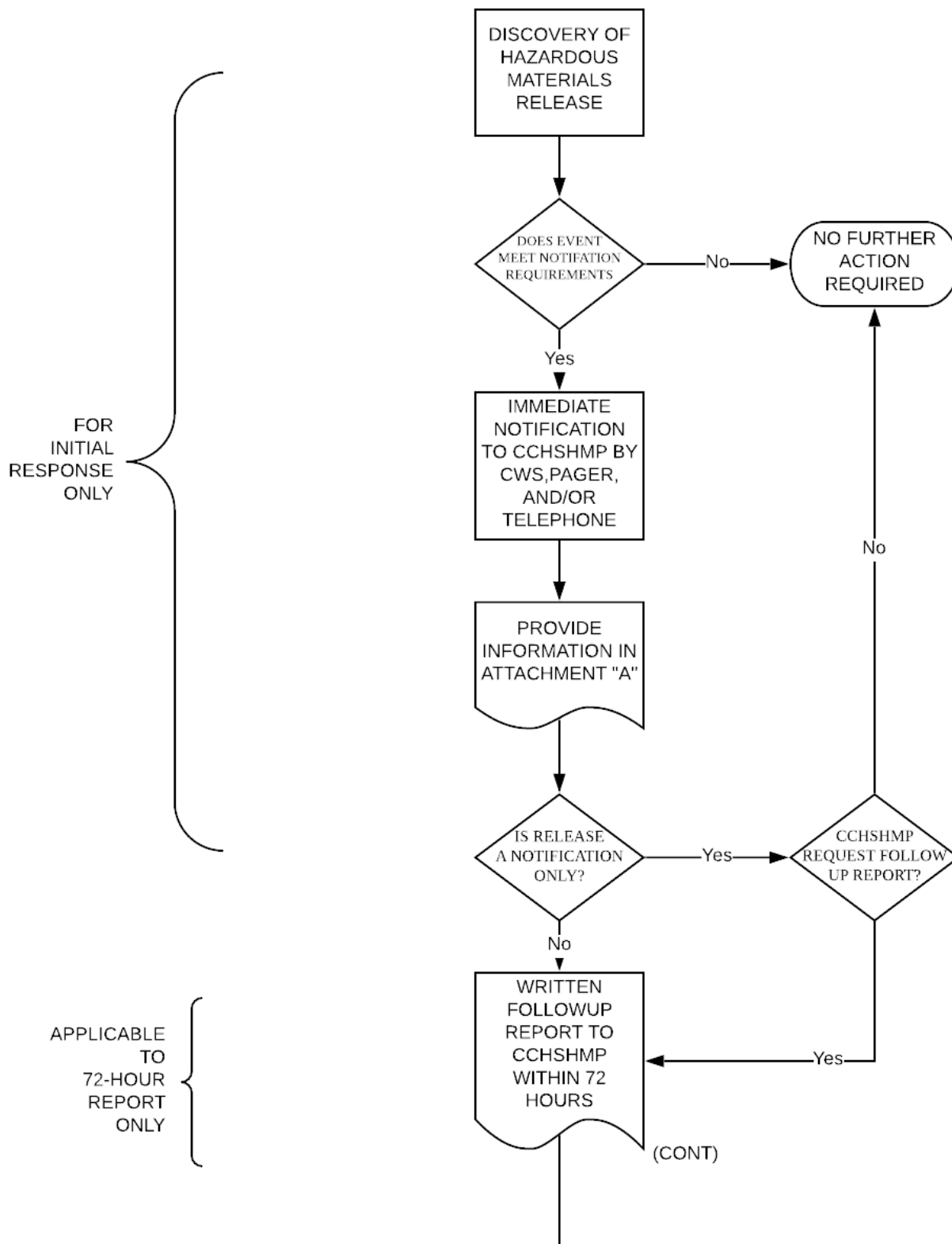
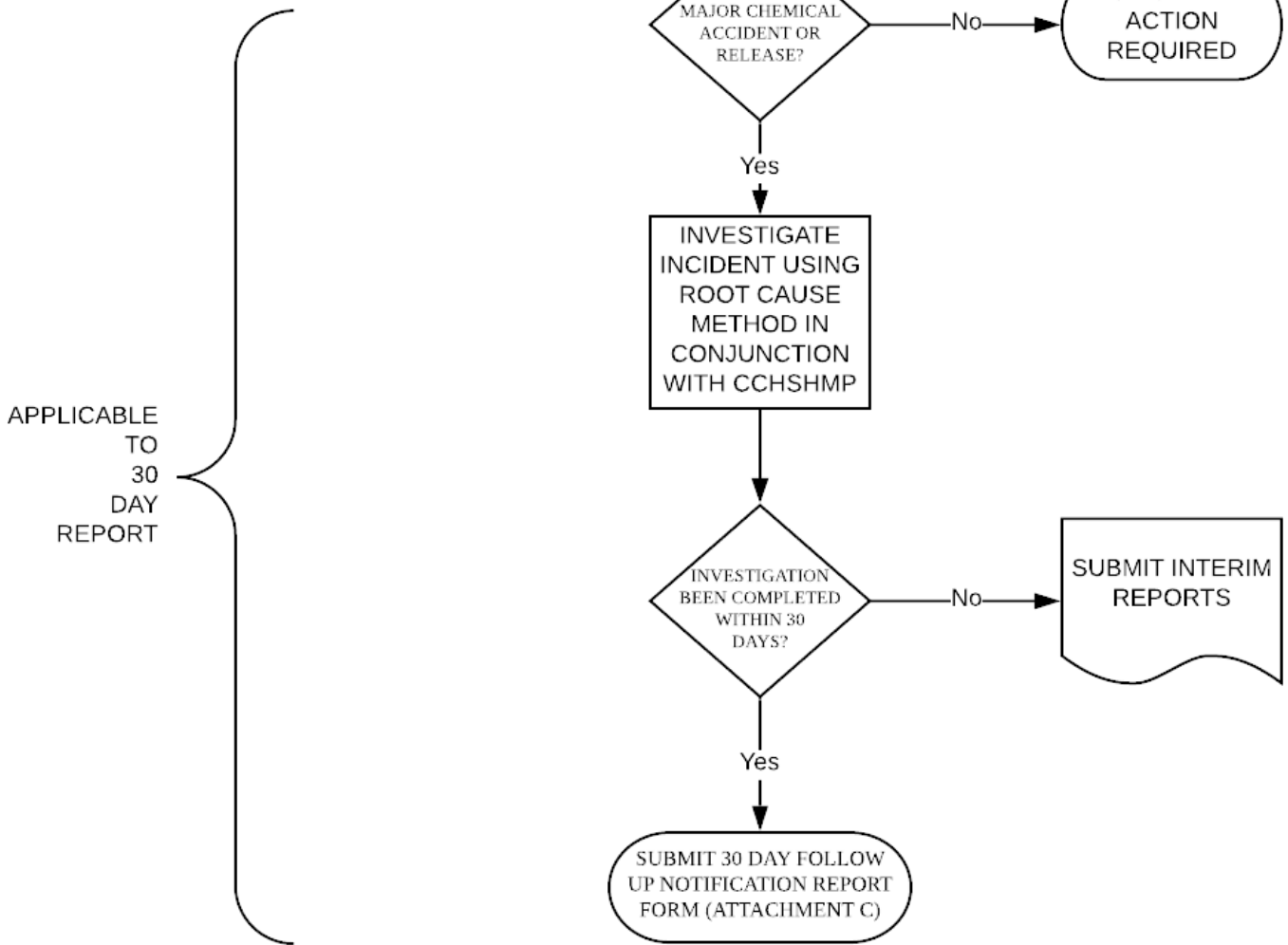


FIGURE 1. CONT





**ATTACHMENT A  
FACILITY INCIDENT CHECKLIST**

- A. Send a Community Warning System alert at the appropriate level (see Attachment A-1).  
If the CWS is not available or you do not have access, call/page CCHSHMP:  
[Phone: (925) 655-3232, Pager: \_\_\_\_\_]

**INFORMATION NEEDED IMMEDIATELY (IF KNOWN)**

- B. Provide your name and identify your facility and its address.
- C. Provide your phone number or a number with immediate access to an individual who can answer further questions from CCHS. (No voice mail phone numbers.)
- D. Provide the Community Warning System (CWS) Facility Reporting Classification Level (1, 2 or 3): (See Attachment A-1).
- E. Date of Release: \_\_\_\_\_ Time of Release: \_\_\_\_\_
- F. Is this release associated with a planned or unplanned activity?
- G. Is the release ongoing? Yes/ No If yes, what is the expected release duration? \_\_\_\_ Hours/ Unknown
- H. Is the release expected to be continuous or intermittent?
- I. Provide, if known, the chemical or material released and describe the physical state (solid, liquid, gas and/or vapor). Has this been verified? Yes/No/ Unknown \_\_\_\_\_
- J. Has the material gone off-site? Yes/ No/ Unknown. \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, what area is being impacted? What is the direction of flow? \_\_\_\_\_ Is there any impact to storm drains or surface waters?
- K. Have TENS Zones been activated? Yes/No? If yes, which TENS Zones have been activated? If no, which TENS Zones should be activated, if any?
- L. Have you received any public complaints? Yes/ No/ Unknown. \_\_\_\_\_
- M. Provide wind direction out of (from) the \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_ and degrees if known.  
[e.g., "Wind is blowing from the Northwest (300°) to the Southeast (120°)].
- N. Provide wind speed. \_\_\_\_\_ (If wind speed is unknown, inform CCHSHMP whether the wind is blowing significantly or not.)

**INFORMATION NEEDED AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE**

- O. Are there any injuries on-site or off-site? Yes/No/Unknown \_\_\_\_\_
- P. Provide the on-site contact person and gate number or address to which the CCHSHMP Incident Response (IR) Team should respond. \_\_\_\_\_
- Q. Are any sensitive receptors or subdivisions nearby? (e.g., School/ Day Care facilities/Hospitals/ Nursing Homes) \_\_\_\_\_
- R. Has the facility's "Emergency Operations Center" or emergency response staff been activated? Yes/ No/ Unknown \_\_\_\_\_
- S. Provide estimated quantity of chemical released (over-estimate rather than under-estimate release)  
\_\_\_\_\_

- T. Have other agencies been notified? Yes/ No. \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, state list.
- U. Is there potential for involvement of other hazardous materials due to the proximity to the incident?

**ATTACHMENT A-1: NOTIFICATION GUIDELINES AND RESPONSE MATRIX FOR FACILITIES WITH COMMUNITY WARNING SYSTEM TERMINAL**

	<u>Notification Only – Level 1</u>	<u>Public Health Advisory – Level 2</u>	<u>Public Protection Actions Required – Level 3</u>
<b><u>When To Notify CCHSHMP</u></b>	Immediate notification to CCHSHMP is required upon discovery of any release or threatened release of a hazardous material. Specific situations are identified in Section III(A)(2).		
<b><u>Incident Description</u></b>	Hazardous Materials releases, or threatened releases, that are not expected to have off-site health consequences.	Hazardous Materials releases, or threatened releases, that:  - has been or expected to go off-site, and; - may have adverse health consequences for sensitive individuals including those with lung or heart disease, the elderly and the very young.	Hazardous Materials releases, or threatened releases, that  - has been or expected to go off-site, and - may have adverse health consequences for the general public.
<b><u>Incident Guidelines</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Flaring as defined in this policy</li> <li>- A release or threatened release of a hazardous material as defined by this policy that is not expected to have an off-site consequence.</li> <li>- Fire/smoke/plume visible from offsite</li> <li>- A fire beyond the incipient stage</li> <li>- Three or more offsite odor complaints within an hour, odors confirmed as originating onsite</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fire/explosion/pressure wave/smoke/plume/release that may have adverse health consequences for sensitive individuals including those with lung or heart disease, the elderly and the very young.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fire/explosion/smoke/plume /release that may cause off-site adverse health consequences for the general public,</li> <li>- Hazardous material or fire incident where the Incident Commander or Unified Command through consultation with CCHSHMP Incident Response Team requires the sirens to be sounded</li> </ul>

	<p>- Any notification made for the release or threatened release of a hazardous material to the California Office of Emergency Services or National Response Center</p>		
<p><b>Response to be Expected from CCHSHMP</b></p>	<p>- CCHSHMP will determine if the CWS level of activation is correct in accordance with this policy. CCHSHMP will consider incident-specific circumstances including potential or actual community exposure to the release. CCHSHMP will revise the CWS level as necessary to protect the public health of the community.</p> <p>- If notifying through the CWS, an automated reply should be received within ten (10) minutes to confirm the message was sent. If confirmation is not received, use Section III(B) to ensure notification was received by CCHSHMP.</p> <p>- No further action expected from CCHSHMP unless any of the following apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Incomplete information provided in the CWS notification.</li> <li>○ CCHSHMP may contact the facility when questions arise beyond the information provided in the CWS notification.</li> <li>○ CCHSHMP receives information that may not be consistent with the</li> </ul>	<p>- CCHSHMP will determine if the CWS level of activation is correct in accordance with this policy. CCHSHMP will consider incident-specific circumstances including potential or actual community exposure to the release. CCHSHMP will revise the CWS level as necessary to protect the public health of the community.</p> <p>- CCHSHMP will be issuing a Public Health Advisory for those individuals with pre-existing medical conditions and/or chemical sensitivities.</p> <p>- CCHSHMP will contact the facility via phone. CCHSHMP will expect to speak with a facility representative that is knowledgeable about the incident.</p> <p>- CCHSHMP will dispatch response personnel to the community surrounding the facility to perform air monitoring.</p> <p>- CCHSHMP will send an agency representative to the facility (e.g., Emergency Operation Center).</p>	<p>- CCHSHMP will determine if the CWS level of activation is correct in accordance with this policy. CCHSHMP will consider incident-specific circumstances including potential or actual community exposure to the release. CCHSHMP will revise the CWS level as necessary to protect the public health of the community.</p> <p>- CCHSHMP will be issuing protective action instructions to the public for the affected areas.</p> <p>- CCHSHMP will contact the facility via phone. CCHSHMP will expect to speak with a facility representative that is knowledgeable about the incident.</p> <p>- CCHSHMP will dispatch response personnel to the community surrounding the facility to perform air monitoring.</p> <p>- CCHSHMP will send an agency representative to the facility (e.g., Emergency Operation Center).</p>



	<p>information provided in the CWS notification.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Work within the established Incident Command System to ensure adequate mitigation measures are addressed.</li> <li>- CCHSHMP will initiate and/or participate in an After Action Review with facility representatives regarding the response to the incident.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Work within the established Incident Command System to ensure adequate mitigation measures are addressed.</li> <li>- CCHSHMP will initiate and/or participate in an After Action Review with facility representatives regarding the response to the incident.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Community Notifications</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- For incidents that have a visible and/or audible impact to the community lasting twenty (20) minutes or longer, or any off-site odors, the following will occur: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Initially posted on social media (Twitter and Facebook) by CCHSHMP</li> <li>o Initially posted on CCHSHMP website</li> <li>o Follow-up communications with the community to be sent by CCHSHMP</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Health Advisory issued by CCHSHMP for identified area(s) of actual and/or potential off-site health consequence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>At the discretion of CCHSHMP, phone calls to all landline phones and registered phones in identified areas of actual and/or potential off-site health consequence</u></li> <li>- <u>Text message to all registered cellular phones in identified area(s) of actual and/or potential off-site health consequence</u></li> <li>- <u>Email to all registered email addresses in identified area(s) of actual and/or potential off-site health consequence</u></li> <li>- <u>At the discretion of CCHSHMP, Wireless Emergency Alert System in identified area(s) of actual and/or potential off-site health consequence</u></li> <li>- <u>At the discretion of CCHSHMP, Emergency Alerting System activated on televisions and radios regionally</u></li> </ul> </li> <li>- Posted on social media (Twitter and Facebook) by CCHSHMP</li> <li>- Posted on CCHSHMP website</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Health Advisory issued by CCHSHMP for identified area(s) of actual and/or potential off-site health consequence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sirens sounded in identified area(s) of actual and/or potential off-site health consequence</li> <li>- Phone calls to all landline phones and registered phones in identified areas of actual and/or potential off-site health consequence</li> <li>- Text message to all registered cellular phones in identified area(s) of actual and/or potential off-site health consequence</li> <li>- Email to all registered email addresses in identified area(s) of actual and/or potential off-site health consequence</li> <li>- Wireless Emergency Alert System in identified area(s) of actual and/or potential off-site health consequence</li> <li>- Emergency Alerting System activated on televisions and radios regionally</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Follow-up communications with the community to be sent by CCHSHMP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Posted on social media (Twitter and Facebook) by CCHSHMP</li> <li>- Posted on CCHSHMP website</li> <li>- Follow-up communications with the community to be sent by CCHSHMP</li> </ul>
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**NOTE: When in doubt of Level of Activation, always default to the higher level of activation.**

**ATTACHMENT B  
72 HOUR FOLLOW-UP NOTIFICATION REPORT FORM  
CONTRA COSTA HEALTH SERVICES HAZARDOUS MATERIALS  
PROGRAMS**

**For CCHSHMP Use Only:**

**Received By:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Date Received:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Incident Number:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Copied To:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Event Classification Level:** \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS:** A hardcopy and an electronic copy of this report is to be submitted for all Public Health Advisory – Level 2 and Public Protective Actions Required – Level 3 incidents or when requested by CCHSHMP. See Attachment B-1 for suggestions regarding the type of information to be included in the report. Attach additional sheets as necessary. Forward the completed form to:

**ATTENTION:**  
Hazardous Materials Programs Director  
Contra Costa Health Services Hazardous Materials Programs  
4585 Pacheco Boulevard, Suite 100  
Martinez, CA 94553

**INCIDENT DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**INCIDENT TIME:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**FACILITY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PERSON TO CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

**I. SUMMARY OF EVENT:**

**II. AGENCIES NOTIFIED, INCLUDING TIME OF NOTIFICATION:**

**III. AGENCIES RESPONDING, INCLUDING CONTACT NAMES AND PHONE NUMBERS:**

**IV. EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACTIONS:**

**V. IDENTITY OF MATERIAL RELEASED AND ESTIMATED OR KNOWN QUANTITIES:**

**72-HOUR REPORT, PAGE 2**

**INCIDENT DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FACILITY:** \_\_\_\_\_

VI. **METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS AT TIME OF EVENT** including wind speed, direction, and temperature:

VII. **DESCRIPTION OF INJURIES:**

VIII. **COMMUNITY IMPACT** including number of off-site complaints, air sampling data during event, etc.:

IX. **INCIDENT INVESTIGATION RESULTS**

Is the investigation of the incident complete at this time? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  
If the answer is no, submit a 30 day final or interim report.

If the answer is yes, complete the following:

X. **SUMMARIZE INVESTIGATION RESULTS BELOW OR ATTACH COPY OF REPORT:**

XI. **SUMMARIZE PREVENTATIVE MEASURES TO BE TAKEN TO PREVENT RECURRENCE INCLUDING MILESTONE AND COMPLETION DATES FOR IMPLEMENTATION:**



## **ATTACHMENT B-1**

### **72-Hour Report Guidelines**

*The following list are items that may be included in the 72-Hour Report to CCHSHMP following an accidental release of a hazardous material. Not all of the items below may be applicable or available at the time of submission.*

- I. Summary of the Event
  - Background Information/ Events Preceding the Incident
  - Incident Summary, including timing of key events
  - Shift Logs, real-time computer/instrument logs, fence line monitor data, etc.
- II. Emergency Notifications (include names, phone numbers and times)
  - CCHSHMP
  - Time/ Level of CWS Activation
  - Other Agencies
  - Copy of State OES Emergency Release Follow-Up Notice Reporting Form
- III. Agencies Responding
  - Agency
  - Person or people responding
  - Contact person with telephone number
- IV. Emergency Response Actions
  - Mutual Aid Activated?
  - Fire Department Response?
- V. Material Involved
  - Estimated Quantities
  - CalARP Regulated Substances?
  - Safety Data Sheets
- VI. Meteorological Data (wind speed, direction, temperature, rain/sun, etc.)
- VII. Injuries (including number, type and severity)
- VIII. Community Impact
  - Community Complaints
  - Off-Site Consequence Impact Analysis (i.e., injury, property damage, etc.)
  - Sampling Data, including fence line monitors, if applicable
  - Community Monitoring Results
- IX. Incident Investigation
  - Procedure Summary
  - Will Root Cause Analysis Be Performed?
  - Investigation Team/ Contact Person(s)
  - Findings/Conclusions
    - Root Causes
    - “Safety System” Flaws
  - Corrective Action/ Preventative Measures
  - Description
  - Implementation Dates

**ATTACHMENT C  
30-DAY FOLLOW-UP NOTIFICATION REPORT FORM  
CONTRA COSTA HEALTH SERVICES HAZARDOUS MATERIALS  
PROGRAMS**

**For CCHSHMP Use Only:**

**Received By:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date Received:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Incident Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Copied To:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Event Classification Level:** \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS:** A hardcopy and an electronic copy of this report is to be submitted for all Public Health Advisory – Level 2 and Public Protective Actions Required – Level 3 incidents or when requested by CCHSHMP. See Attachment C-1 for suggestions regarding the type of information to be included in the report. Attach additional sheets as necessary. This form is also to be used for update reports after the initial 30-day report has been submitted. Forward the completed form to:

**ATTENTION:**

Hazardous Materials Programs Director  
Contra Costa Health Services Hazardous Materials Programs  
4585 Pacheco Boulevard, Suite 100  
Martinez, CA 94553

**INCIDENT DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**INCIDENT TIME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FACILITY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PERSON TO CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

**PROVIDE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION THAT WAS NOT INCLUDED IN THE 72-HOUR REPORT WHEN THE 72-HOUR REPORT WAS SUBMITTED, INCLUDING MATERIAL RELEASED AND ESTIMATED OR KNOWN QUANTITIES, COMMUNITY IMPACT, INJURIES, ETC.:**

**I. INCIDENT INVESTIGATION RESULTS**

Is the investigation of the incident complete at this time? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

If the answer is no, when do you expect completion of the Investigation?

\_\_\_\_\_  
If the answer is yes, complete the following:

**SUMMARIZE INVESTIGATION RESULTS BELOW OR ATTACH COPY OF REPORT:**

**SUMMARIZE PREVENTATIVE MEASURES TO BE TAKEN TO PREVENT RECURRENCE INCLUDING MILESTONE AND COMPLETION DATES FOR IMPLEMENTATION:**

**30-DAY REPORT, PAGE 2**

**INCIDENT DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FACILITY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**STATE AND DESCRIBE THE ROOT-CAUSE(S) OF THE INCIDENT:**

## **ATTACHMENT C-1**

### **30-Day Report Guidelines**

*The following outline suggests items in addition to those listed on the 72-Hour report guidelines (Attachments B and B-1) that may be included in the 30-Day Final Report to CCHSHMP following the accidental release of a hazardous material.*

*(Some of the items listed below may not be applicable or available at the time of submission.)*

#### **I. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- Detailed Event Timeline
- Correspondence (if determined to be relevant)
- Relevant History of Incidents with Similar Equipment or Procedures

#### **II. INCIDENT INVESTIGATION**

- Findings/Conclusions, including causal factors, contributing factors, and root causes or their equivalent
- Preliminary Corrective Action/ Preventative Measures
  - Immediate
  - Long-Term
  - Implementation Dates



# HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENT NOTIFICATION POLICY

## GLOSSARY AND ACRONYMS

- **CalARP** – California Accidental Release Prevention
- **CAER** – Community Awareness and Emergency Response
- **CCHSHMP** – Contra Costa Health Services Hazardous Materials Programs
- **CLERS** – California Law Enforcement Radio System
- **CWS** – Community Warning System
- **EAS** – Emergency Alerting System
- **Environmental damage:** Detrimental impact on surroundings beyond facility operations.
- **Flaring** - Smoke, fire or flame from a flare that involves the release, or threatened release, of any amount of a hazardous material requires immediate notification to CCHSHMP in accordance with this policy. For the purposes of this policy, flaring at petroleum/renewable fuel refineries excludes auxiliary flares not connected to a process unit. Flaring conditions that should be considered when determining the associated CWS reporting level as required by this policy include, but are not limited to, the following:
  1. Completeness of combustion
  2. Duration of the incident
  3. Presence of smoke
  4. Adequacy of steam
  5. Intensity of burn
  6. Presence of an odor
  7. Visibility and/or audible impact to the public
  8. Weather conditions at the onset of, and throughout, the flaring incident.
  9. The flaring incident presents an actual or potential hazard to human health and safety, property, or the environment

For flaring that is not associated with the release, or threatened release, of a hazardous material, the following conditions should be considered when determining applicability for reporting and the associated CWS reporting level:

1. Completeness of combustion
2. Duration of the incident
3. Any presence of smoke
4. Adequacy of steam
5. Intensity of burn
6. Any presence of an odor
7. Any visibility and/or audible impact to the public
8. Weather conditions at the onset of, and throughout, the flaring incident.
9. The flaring incident presents an actual or potential hazard to human health and safety, property, or the environment

Flaring is considered a Notification Only – CWS Level 1 incident if there are no off-site

health consequences to the surrounding community. However, incident-specific circumstances may result in an off-site health consequence requiring the incident to be reported as a Public Health Advisory – CWS Level 2 or Public Protective Actions Required – CWS Level 3 incident.

- **Incidental Release:** An incidental release is one that does not cause a health or safety hazard to employees and does not need to be cleaned up immediately to prevent death or serious injury to employees.
- **NOAA** - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- **NWS:** National Weather Service
- **Release:** Release means any spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, discharging, injecting, escaping, leaching, dumping, or disposing into the environment, unless permitted or authorized by a regulatory agency.
- **Responsible Business:** The business that has the custody of the hazardous material when there is an accidental release or the business where the accidental release occurs. Examples are 1) transportation companies when they are off-site from a business is then the responsible business when there is a release from their transport vehicle, 2) if there is a release from a transport vehicle at a fixed facility, then the fixed facility is the responsible business.
- **Root cause investigation:** A method for investigating and categorizing the root causes of hazardous materials incidents with safety, health, AND environmental impacts. Root causes are the most basic causes that can reasonably be identified, that management has control to fix, and for which effective recommendations for preventing recurrence can be generated.
- **Telephone Emergency Notification System (TENS):** The automated telephone calling system that notifies the community downwind during an incident.
- **Threatened Release:** Threatened release means a condition, circumstance, or incident making it necessary to take immediate action to prevent, reduce, or mitigate a release with potential to cause damage or harm to persons, property, or the environment.
- **WEA:** Wireless Emergency Alerts