

## Rendering Facilities

### Background

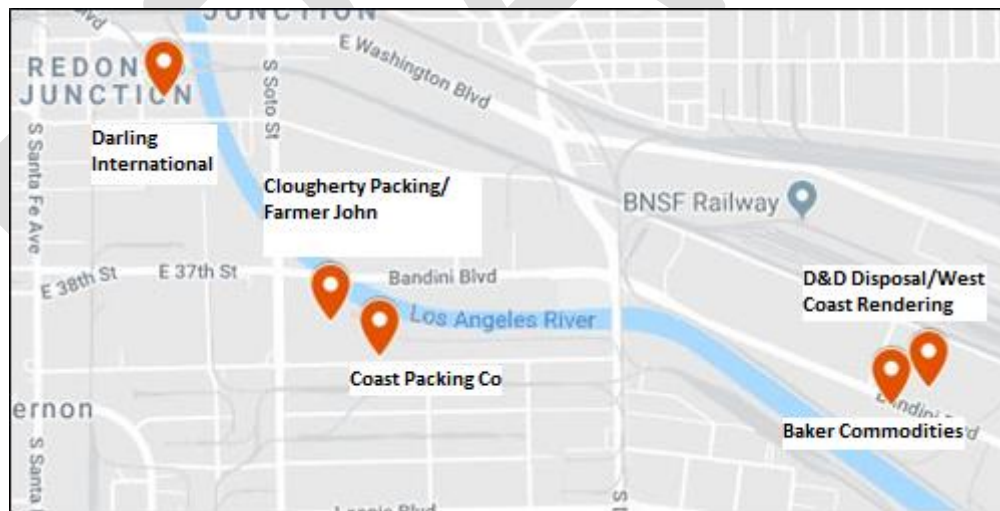
Rendering is a process that converts waste animal tissue into useful materials, such as grease, tallow, and meat meal. These materials are used to make finished products such as biofuels, animal feed, pet food, lubricants, soap, cosmetics, and fertilizer. The raw material that is rendered includes animal carcasses, slaughter waste and trimming, and out-of-date supermarket stock. Because animal carcasses are generally not allowed to be put in landfills, these materials must go to rendering facilities to be processed.

### Community Air Quality Priority – Odors from Rendering Facilities

Several processes within rendering facilities can emit odors. The processes include raw material receiving, raw material size reduction, cooking, fat processing, and wastewater treatment.

Odors from rendering facilities located in the Vernon area can impact the quality of life for the East Los Angeles, Boyle Heights, West Commerce community. There are five rendering facilities located in the Vernon area, including Baker Commodities, Darling International, D&D Disposal/West Coast Rendering, Clougherty Packing/Farmer John, and Coast Packing Co (see Figure 5e-1). It is often difficult to identify which facility is the source of an odor detected in the community because these rendering facilities are located close to one another.

Figure 5e-1: Map of Rendering Facilities



### Ongoing Efforts

Rule 415 – Odors from Rendering Facilities<sup>1</sup> was adopted by South Coast AQMD in November 2017 to reduce odors from rendering facilities. The rule requires emission controls, best management practices, and signs posted at the facility that provide contact information to the public for odor complaints. Rule requirements, such as odor best management practices, were

to have been implemented by facilities within 90 days of the rule’s adoption. The installation of emission controls is required to be completed by 2022 or sooner.

### Opportunities for Action

In addition to implementing Rule 415, the CSC identified reducing odors from rendering facilities as a priority. The actions to reduce odors from rendering facilities are described below.

<b>Action 1: Reduce Odors from Rendering Facilities</b>
<b>Course of Action:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide public outreach information for the community on Rule 415 requirements, which address odors from rendering facilities</li> <li>• Continue response to odor complaints and update complainants on a timely basis                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Provide CSC with periodic summaries of findings, such as whether odors were confirmed and traced back to a specific site/source, and any enforcement actions taken<sup>i</sup></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Conduct mobile monitoring<sup>ii</sup> for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) near each rendering facility in the community and make monitoring data publicly available</li> <li>• Conduct facility inspections to evaluate compliance with Rule 415, and follow-up with enforcement action, where appropriate                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Make referrals to other regulatory agencies and local health department, as appropriate</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Strategies:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Information and Outreach</li> <li>• Enforcement</li> <li>• Air Monitoring</li> <li>• Collaboration</li> </ul>
<b>Goal(s):</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage in two public outreach events to explain the requirements of Rule 415, and how the public can report odor complaints</li> <li>• Conduct mobile monitoring near each of the five facilities</li> <li>• Conduct inspections of each rendering facility in the community, and provide information about inspection results to CSC</li> </ul>

<sup>i</sup> Specific or detailed information from ongoing enforcement investigations will not be able to be shared until Notices of Violation, if any, are settled or closed.

<sup>ii</sup> As described in the Community Air Monitoring Plan Appendix B ([http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/ab-617-ab-134/camps/appendix-a-and-b\\_elabhwc.pdf](http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/ab-617-ab-134/camps/appendix-a-and-b_elabhwc.pdf)), South Coast AQMD staff will use specialized equipment that is capable of detecting VOCs at very low concentrations. However, most sources of odors are difficult to measure, even with modern air monitoring techniques, and, at times, the human nose can detect odors better than air measurement equipment.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide quarterly or biannual monitoring and enforcement updates to the CSC and engage community stakeholders (e.g., community organizations) to attend CSC updates</li> </ul>	
<b>Estimated Timeline:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First quarter of 2020, begin outreach to provide information on Rule 415 requirements</li> <li>• Second half of 2019, begin mobile monitoring for VOCs near rendering facilities</li> <li>• Mid-2020, begin quarterly or biannual updates to the CSC on monitoring and enforcement actions, as needed</li> </ul>	
<b>Implementing Agency, Organization, Business or Other Entity:</b>	
<b>Name:</b>	<b>Responsibilities:</b>
South Coast AQMD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct community outreach on Rule 415 and how to file odor complaints</li> <li>• Conduct inspections and provide facilities with information on Best Management Practices, with enforcement follow-up as needed</li> <li>• Conduct air monitoring measurements, and make data publicly available</li> <li>• Refer appropriate issues identified at these sites to other regulatory agencies and/or local health department</li> <li>• Provide updates to CSC</li> </ul>
<b>Additional Information:</b>	
Requirements for Rule 415 (Rendering Facilities): <a href="http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/rule-book/rule-iv/rule-415">http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/rule-book/rule-iv/rule-415</a>	

## References

1. South Coast AQMD, Rule 415 – Odors from Rendering Facilities, November 2017, <http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/rule-book/rule-iv/rule-415>, Accessed July 18, 2019.