



Angeles Chapter
3250 Wilshire Blvd. #1106
Los Angeles, CA 90010-1513

April 26, 2018

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

Dear Chairman Burke:

We salute Congressmembers Ted Lieu, Nanette Barragán, and Maxine Waters, Assemblymember Muratsuchi, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, and the City Councils of Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, and Manhattan Beach for their support for a ban on hydrofluoric acid in 2 local refineries. They have shown that they are greatly concerned for the safety of everybody in the South Bay, including the men and women who work in these refineries.

The Sierra Club (Angeles Chapter) shares that concern. We urge the South Coast Air Quality Management District Governing Board to approve an expeditious ban on “modified” hydrofluoric acid (MHF) and hydrofluoric acid HF in local refineries.

Most of the area from Torrance to Carson, from Wilmington to Long Beach, and all the beach cities would be at risk if there were a major leak of hydrofluoric acid, HF, from one of these refineries, depending on which way the wind blew.

- **We want safety for the workers, our children, our schools, our homes, our workplaces.**
- **We are not asking the refineries to close.**
- **We do not want to see the refinery workers lose their jobs.**
- **We are asking that the refineries convert their processes to avoid using this deadly chemical hydrofluoric acid.**

The refinery companies say it would be too expensive, that they cannot afford to make their refineries safer. We have heard this industry rhetoric many times before when safety regulations are discussed. When industry finally complies with higher standards, it costs them much less than they claim. They make their product safer without going out of business or making it too expensive for customers.

Support public safety. Please approve a ban on “modified” hydrofluoric acid (MHF).

Sincerely,

Sharon Koch
Chair
Sierra Club Angeles Chapter

George Watland
Sr. Chapter Director
Sierra Club Angeles Chapter