May 19, 2022

Dear Community Member:

State law (Air Toxics "Hot Spots" Information and Assessment Act of 1987, Assembly Bill (AB) 2588) protects your right to know about possible health risks from toxic air contaminants emitted by sources of air pollution in your neighborhood. The San Diego County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) is the local government agency responsible for implementing the Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program in San Diego County.

The following facility is required to notify all community members living in areas where there is a potential health risk at or above the significant risk threshold in accordance with APCD Rule 1210 and hold a public meeting to discuss this information. The enclosed map shows the boundaries of the area that is exposed to health risks at or above the significant risk threshold.

Facility Name: National Steel and Shipbuilding Company (NASSCO)
Address: 28th and Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92113
Type of Business: Ship repair and fabrication facility

Based on air emission data in 2017 the APCD requested a health risk assessment from NASSCO. NASSCO requested to use the results of the approved health risk assessment based on air emission data in 2013, as there were no facility or process modifications made between 2013 and 2017 that would have increased any risk. Upon review, the APCD determined that NASSCO’s air emissions in 2017 were essentially the same as the emissions that occurred in 2013 since the operations did not change much between 2013 and 2017. Therefore, the health risks on this notification letter are based on the APCD approved health risk assessment conducted for the emissions that occurred in the 2013 calendar year, which are also representative for the emissions that occurred in the 2017 calendar year. That health risk assessment shows that some toxic air contaminants, primarily diesel exhaust and hexavalent chromium, from NASSCO may be increasing the cancer risks for people who live in the area up to a maximum increase of 53 chances in one million of getting cancer.

APCD Rule 1210 defines significant health risk thresholds as, and requires public notification and a public meeting, when the cancer risk is above 10 in one million, or when any of the non-cancer health hazard indexes or cancer burden is greater than 1.0. As indicated above, for this facility, the maximum residential cancer risk is 53 in one million, which is above 10 in one million. APCD Rule 1210 also requires facilities with emissions at or above significant health risk thresholds (for cancer risk the 10 in one million threshold applies to emissions that occurred in calendar year 2018 or later) to reduce their health risks below these health risk thresholds.
The APCD has prepared the enclosed “Program Fact Sheet” regarding its Air Toxic Hot Spots Program and a survey card to obtain your questions and comments regarding the information provided in this notice. If you would like more information, please complete and return the enclosed survey card to the APCD via mail, 10124 Old Grove Road, San Diego, 92131, or e-mail at apcdengineering@sdapcd.org.

Additionally, a virtual public meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, June 29, 2022, from 5pm – 7pm to discuss the information on this notification and address your questions. If interested, please join the meeting at https://bit.ly/3LnUtU3. For more information regarding the APCD’s Air Toxics Hot Spots program, please contact the APCD at 858-586-2600 or via email at apcdengineering@sdapcd.org. For more information regarding the facility please contact Ms. Sara Giobbi of NASSCO, at 619-544-8764 or via email at EnvironmentalInfo@nassco.com.

Sincerely,

Paula Forbis
PAULA FORBIS
Air Pollution Control Officer

Digitally signed by Paula Forbis
Date: 2022.05.20
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