



San Diego County Air Pollution Control District

July 15, 2025

Dear Community Member:

This letter is to let you know that you live in an area that has potentially elevated health risks created by air toxic emissions from the following facility. The attached map shows the area of elevated health risks around this facility.

Facility Name: Encina Wastewater Authority
Address: 6200 Avenida Encinas, Carlsbad, CA 92011
Type of Business: Municipal Wastewater Treatment

State law¹ protects your right to know about possible health risks from stationary sources² of air pollution in your neighborhood by requiring the facilities which create elevated health risks to notify you. The San Diego County Air Pollution Control District (SDAPCD) is responsible for requiring public notifications and reduction in health risks from such facilities per SDAPCD Rule 1210³.

SDAPCD required a health risk assessment from Encina Wastewater Authority based on their air toxic emissions from 2021. That health risk assessment (HRA) shows that, in 2021, Encina Wastewater Authority released air toxic emissions, primarily formaldehyde from operation of engines which produce electrical power and heat (cogeneration) by burning a renewable fuel (digester-gas) that is generated as a result of treating wastewater at this facility, that could increase the chances of getting cancer for people who live in the area by a maximum of up to 16.0 in one million. This represents the highest chance of getting cancer if a person is living at the location outside the facility boundaries, where the concentration of air toxics from Encina Wastewater Authority facility is the highest and the person is living at the same property and exposed to such maximum level of emissions for 30 years.

In addition to cancer risk, the HRA shows that the air toxic emissions from 2021, primarily formaldehyde from operation of digester-gas fired cogeneration engines, could also cause non-cancer health effects. Specifically, the HRA shows the *maximum acute (short term) health impact* for their 2021 emissions was a health hazard index (HHI) of 1.01. A HHI above one indicates the potential for certain individuals to possibly

¹ Air Toxics "Hot Spots" Information and Assessment Act of 1987, Health and Safety Code sections 44360, et seq.

² Stationary sources include factories or manufacturing plants, power plants, shipyards, landfills, rock or asphalt plants, and other industrial, commercial and governmental operations that can emit air pollution

³<https://bit.ly/Rule1210>

experience negative health effects, whereas an HHI below one means that negative health effects from the facility's air toxic emissions are unlikely.⁴ The acute HHI from this is at 1.01, which is just slightly above HHI of 1.0.

SDAPCD Rule 1210 required this facility to submit a health risk reduction audit and plan to SDAPCD in 2024. In April 2025, the SDAPCD approved the health risk reduction audit and plan. Encina Wastewater Authority has initiated implementation of the health risk reduction at their facility. The facility has proposed installation of controls on the cogeneration engines to reduce emissions of toxic air contaminants, along with source testing of other emissions sources to demonstrate reduced emissions. SDAPCD Rule 1210 requires an initial public notification and public meeting, as well as annual progress reports submitted to SDAPCD and annual public notification and public meetings until the facility has fully implemented the health risk reduction audit and plan and has demonstrated that risks have been reduced below the Rule 1210 Significant Risk Thresholds. This notice is for the annual public notification and public meeting for this facility. You can stay updated about their plan by subscribing to SDAPCD GovDelivery through the following link: <https://bit.ly/SDAPCD-Updates> and clicking on the Air Pollution Control District News list.

Please join us at a virtual public meeting on August 6, 2025, at 5:00 p.m., by registering at <https://tinyurl.com/EncinaPublicMeeting> if you have any questions or concerns. You can also reach out to the facility by contacting Alicia Appel at (760) 268-8861 or AAppel@encinajpa.com. The attached fact sheet has additional information. If you have any questions, please send us the attached survey or contact us at APCDEngineering@sdapcd.org or at (858) 586-2600.

Sincerely,

PAULA FORBIS
Air Pollution Control Officer

⁴ The noncancer health hazard index is calculated by dividing the estimated amount of emissions in the air emitted from a facility by the amount that is not expected to cause any health issues