

**DOCKETED**

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|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Docket Number:</b>   | 25-OIIP-02                                                          |
| <b>Project Title:</b>   | Informational Proceeding on Petroleum Supply Stabilization          |
| <b>TN #:</b>            | 266116                                                              |
| <b>Document Title:</b>  | Julia May Comments - CBE Slides for 09242025 Refinery Stab Workshop |
| <b>Description:</b>     | N/A                                                                 |
| <b>Filer:</b>           | System                                                              |
| <b>Organization:</b>    | Julia May                                                           |
| <b>Submitter Role:</b>  | Public                                                              |
| <b>Submission Date:</b> | 9/24/2025 8:33:43 AM                                                |
| <b>Docketed Date:</b>   | 9/24/2025                                                           |

*Comment Received From: Julia May*  
*Submitted On: 9/24/2025*  
*Docket Number: 25-OIIP-02*

## **CBE Slides for 09242025 Refinery Stab Workshop**

Short CBE Presentation on Refinery Impacts and Phaseout

*Additional submitted attachment is included below.*

# CBE Excerpts & Briefing **California Refinery Impacts, Closures. Why We are Here**

Julia May, Senior Scientist, CBE  
[julia@cbeocal.org](mailto:julia@cbeocal.org), 9/24/2025



# REFINERIES ARE INHERENTLY DIRTY, EXPENSIVE, DEADLY ENERGY

They regularly explode.

They continuously emit Benzene, NOx, SOx, PM2.5, & much more into communities.

They're responsible for 4 big Fossil fuel subsectors that together cause ~HALF CA's GHGs. (2019)

Although exhibiting many monopolistic market characteristics, their production and cost is not regulated, as electricity is.

Our antiquated gasoline-based transportation infrastructure is expensive, deadly, and keeping people cash-strapped. Electric transportation is cheaper over the life of vehicles. We need to transition economies out of this fossil fuel stranglehold.

# Oil Refineries emit hundreds of Chemicals that Harm Health including:

## NEUROTOXINS / SMELLS / ASTHMA

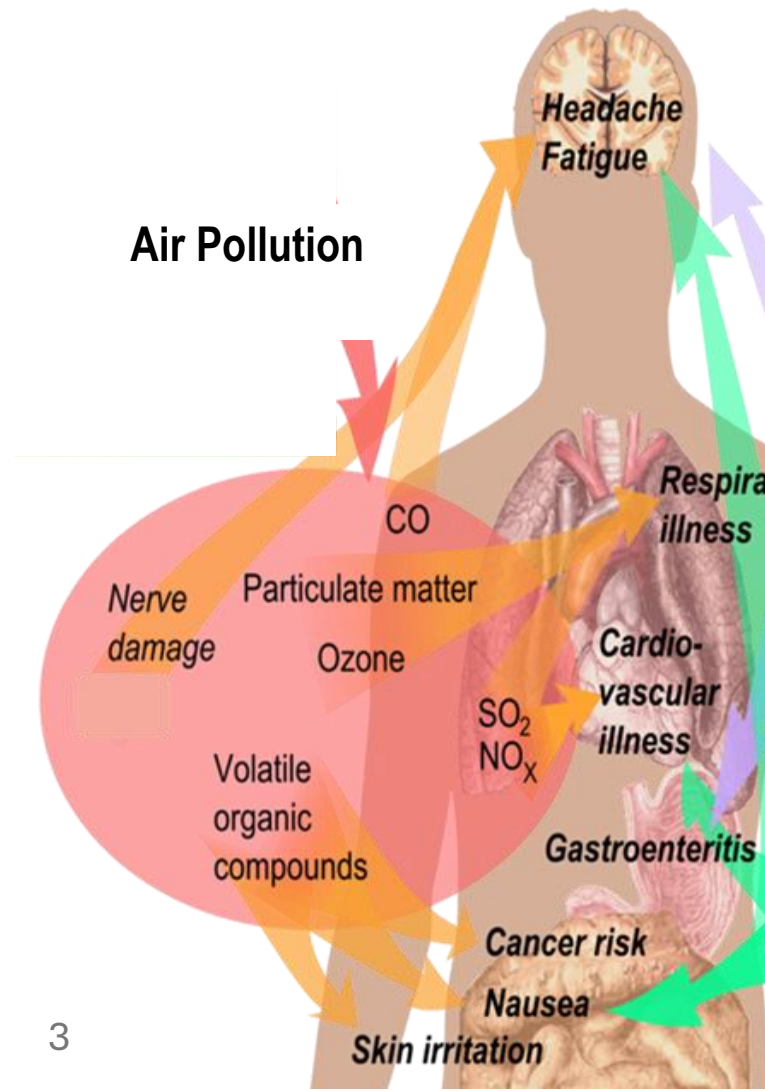
*"Individuals living in close proximity to oil refineries may be at risk of chronic exposure to hydrogen sulfide."* [OEHHA](#), p. A-17.

## SMOG & TOXICS

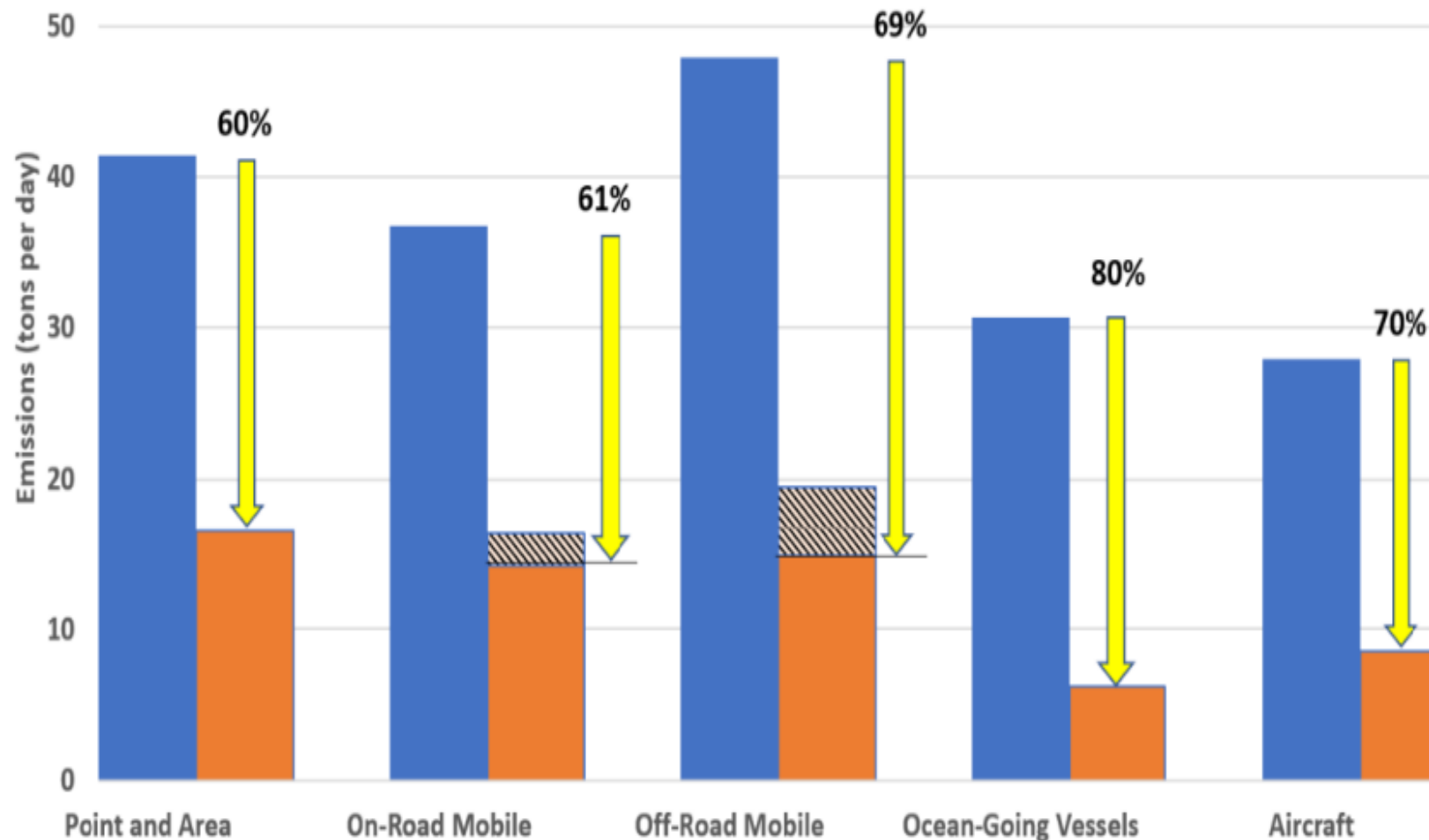
*Refineries are the largest sources of VOCs in the Wilmington, Carson, W. Long Beach refinery neighborhood (SCAQMD [AB617 plan](#), p.3b-6).*

## CARCINOGENS:

*Refinery benzene emissions were grossly underestimated at every refinery (34 times higher than reported on average, South Coast Refinery [Fluxsense study](#) p. 94, CBE Decoder [here](#), similar results in Texas).*



*“The only way to achieve the required NO<sub>x</sub> reductions is through extensive use of zero emission technologies across all stationary and mobile sources.”* -- [2022 S Coast AQMP](#) Ex. Summ.

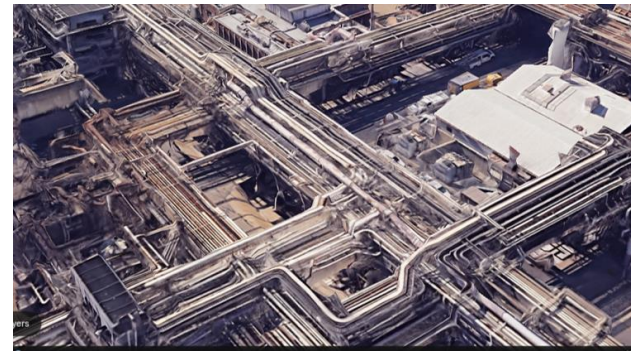


For decades we have worked for and won emission controls, one piece at a time, through Clean Air Act requirements, as well as safety measures

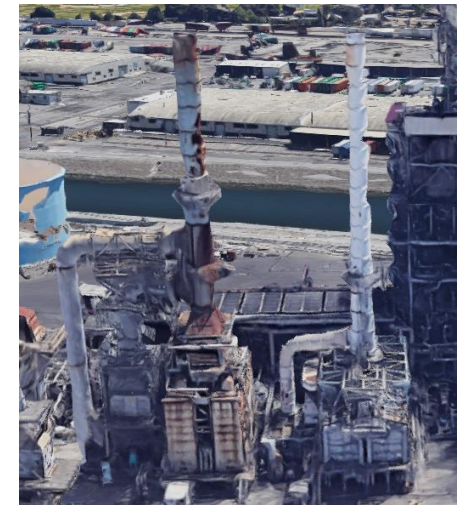
**STORAGE TANKS** VOCs, Benzene, more (domes, seal & leak standards, vapor recovery, monitoring, more)



**FUGITIVES** (tight leak standards, monitoring)



**BOILERS & HEATERS** (NO<sub>x</sub>) - Selective Catalytic Reduction



**MARINE LOADING** (vapor recovery for tankers)



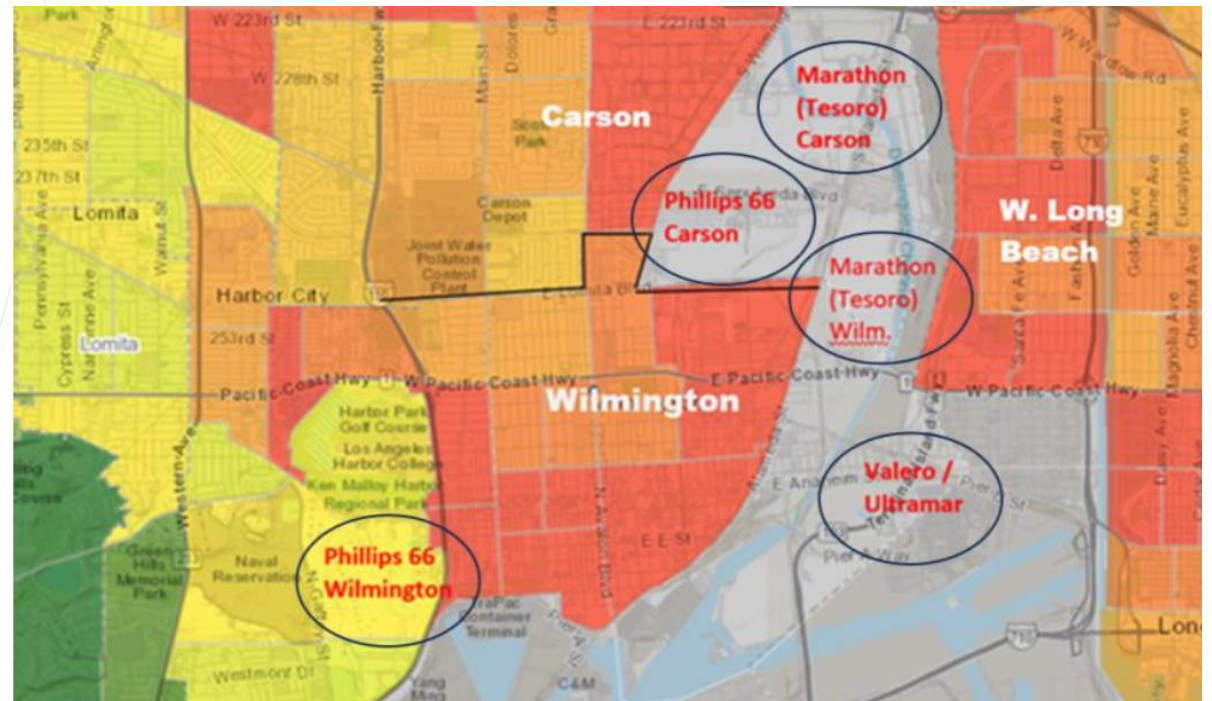
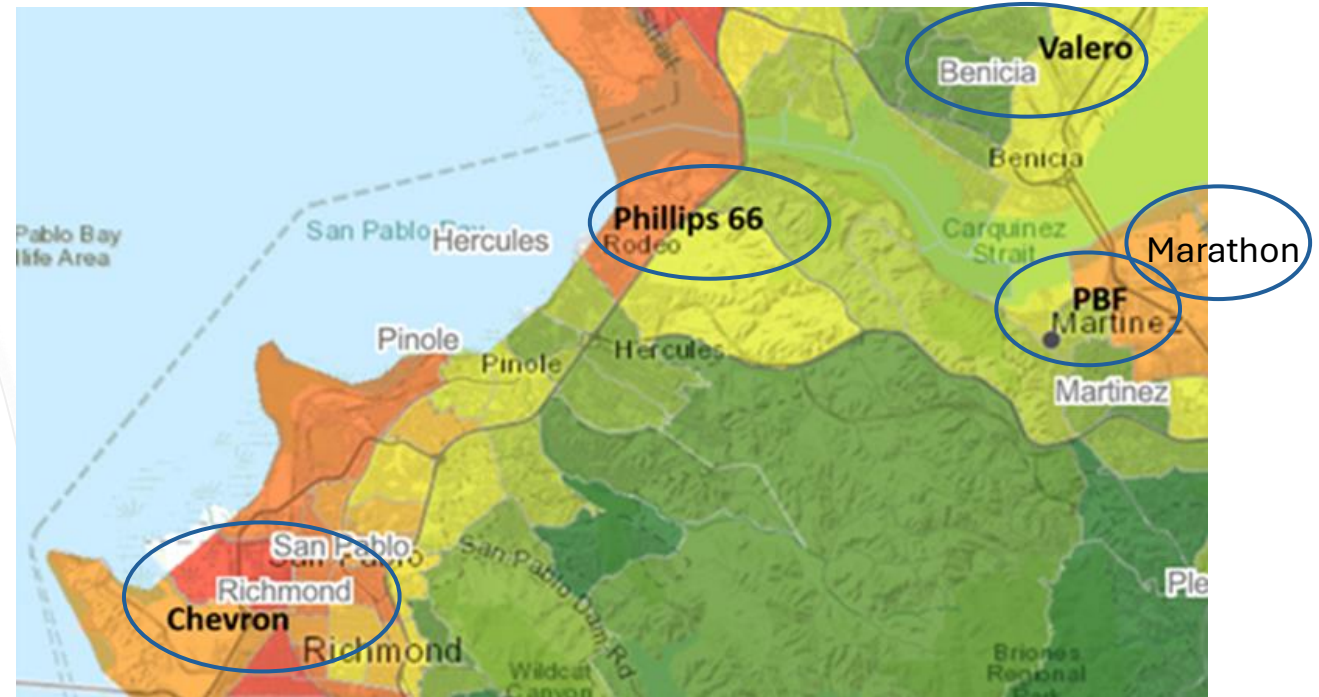
**FLARES** (SO<sub>x</sub> & VOCs) compressors, accident prevention, more

# No surprise - Refinery communities endure Environmental Racism

## CalEnviroScreen shows:

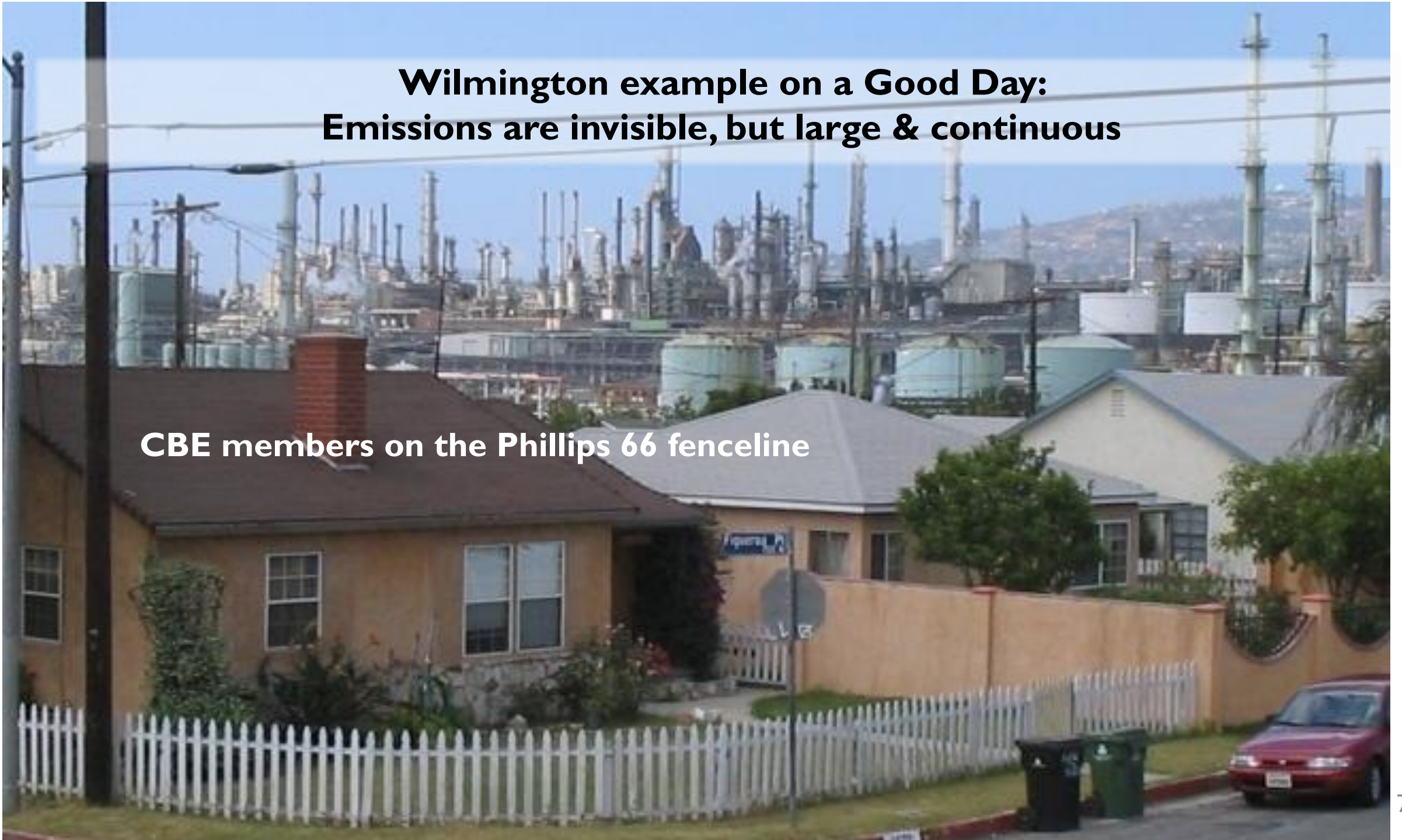
Most census tracts near refineries are communities of color, low income, and have **highest percentile exposures to Toxic Releases and Overall vulnerability (most over 90th percentile worst in state).**

Black, brown, indigenous communities get the worst impacts.



**Wilmington example on a Good Day:  
Emissions are invisible, but large & continuous**

**CBE members on the Phillips 66 fenceline**



**Wilmington example on Bad Days: spills, fires, flaring**  
(photos by CBE & our members).

Phillips LA's neighbors are not sorry to see the Refinery go,  
though they want a Just Transition.



2017



2022

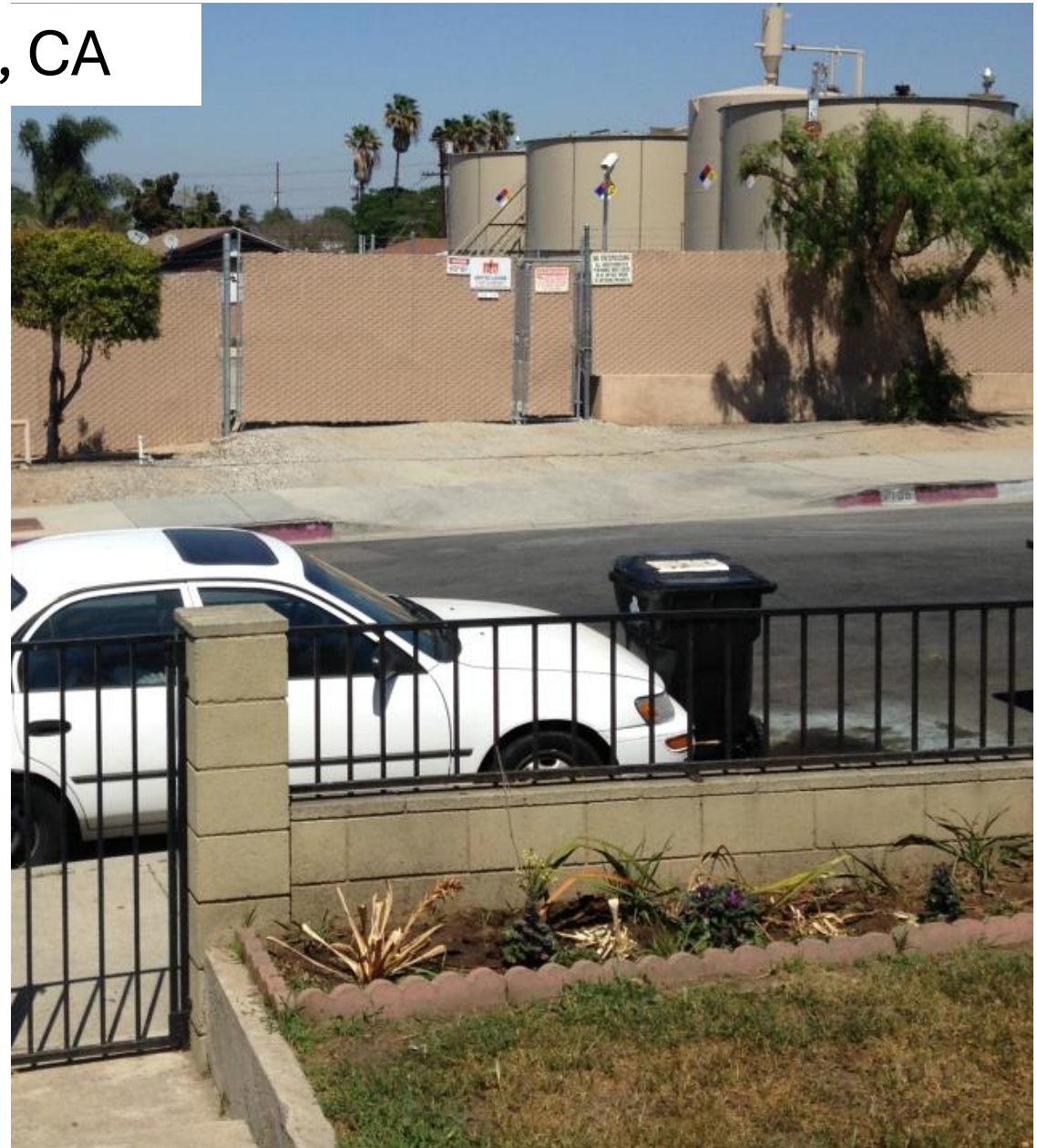


2023



2024

## Oil Drilling in West Wilmington, CA





# Statewide dangers living next to refineries – Dirty, antiquated energy



Last few years, with APEN & CEJA partners, **we won two steps to start a *gradual Refinery phaseout PLAN***, before the Oil Industry instigated recent chaotic, disruptive closures.



### Scoping Plan

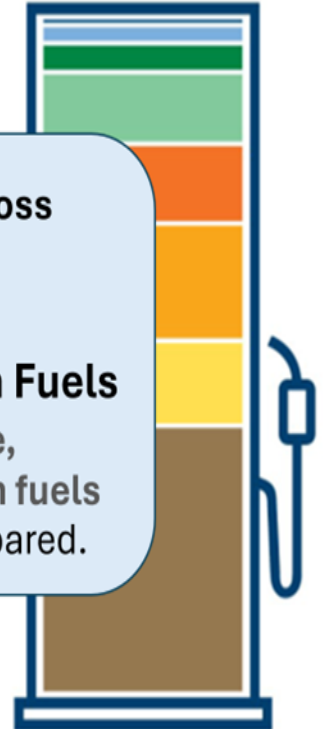
To manage phasedown of petroleum refining and oil extraction toward declining in-state demand . . .  
“ . . . a multi-agency discussion is needed to . . . plan for the transition to ensure that it is equitable.” p. 101



### SBXI-2

1) **Stop Price Gouging:** “set a maximum gross gasoline refining margin” and penalty for excessive profits.

2) **PLAN PHASEOUT:** a Transportation Fuels Transition Plan - reliable, safe, equitable, affordable transition away from petroleum fuels in line with declining demand – must be prepared.



1



**SAFETY** framing – local & global safety requires Fossil Fuel Phaseout (stopping explosions also keeps sufficient supply available when needed)

3



Expand programs to **CUT DEMAND** for gasoline & diesel

2



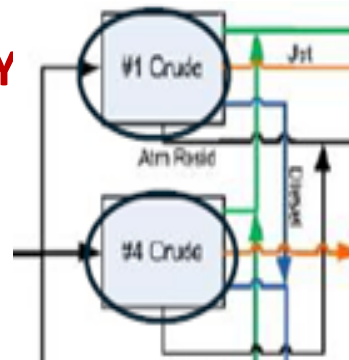
Begin **REGULATION** to lower emissions & production gradually, instead of chaotically

4 **SMOOTH** lowering of refinery production

- Balance EXPORTS & IMPORTS 
- Gasoline RESERVES ahead of maintenance shutdowns



- **PARTIAL REFINERY SHUTDOWN PATHWAY** shuttering duplicate units first, avoiding premature whole-refinery closures



## **LOCAL ORDINANCES** for transition need to be stronger, with more Community & Worker input

- **Phase out polluting land uses** (eg re-adopt LA's Oil Drilling phaseout)
- **Land and water cleanup after phaseout**
- **Polluter Pays into transition funds** ahead of time
- **City and County of LA transition ordinances and policies** on closure to support Workers & Community

## **COMMUNITIES WANT A CLEAN ECONOMY**

- Green energy & good jobs, • Grocery stores, • Restaurants,
- Green spaces, • Adequate housing, • Clean soil, water, and air,
- Walkable communities, • Inclusion in decision-making for new projects,
- No polluting projects.



COMMUNITIES  
FOR A BETTER  
ENVIRONMENT  
established 1978