



CONTRA COSTA
HEALTH

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cchealth.org

August 23, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

The public has an opportunity to comment on a report from a third-party consultant on a Screening-Level Human Health and Ecological Screening Risk Assessment associated with a spent catalyst release from the Martinez Refining Company (MRC) which occurred between November 24-25, 2022. The 45-day comment period is opening on August 28, 2023, and then closes on October 12, 2023. A public meeting will be held at the **Contra Costa County Administration Building, Room 110A/B/C located at 1025 Escobar Street in Martinez on September 25, 2023, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. To join via Zoom:**

<https://zoom.us/j/97867911814> or Dial: (360) 209-5623 Webinar ID: 978 6791 1814

At this meeting, Contra Costa Health's Hazardous Materials Programs (CCHMP) will discuss the findings from the screening risk assessment evaluation and receive comments about the report. A copy of the report can be found at the following link: <https://cchealth.org/hazmat/pdf/MRC-Refinery-incident-2022-1124-Risk-Assessment-Report.pdf>

MRC had a particulate matter release from their Fluid Catalytic Cracking Unit (CCU) on November 24-25, 2022. This release was estimated to have emitted 20-24 tons of fine particulate matter, called spent catalyst, into the surrounding community. Contained within the spent catalyst were elevated levels of select metals such as vanadium and nickel. The County, working with an Oversight Committee, hired TRC to perform soil sampling in the community and conduct a screening level assessment of health and ecological risk potentially posed to the community. The Oversight Committee included members of the community, the City of Martinez, the City of Benicia, United Steel Workers, a refinery representative, and CCHMP.

NOTE: This report is not an investigation of the spent catalyst release. The TRC report includes the results of soil sampling and evaluation of the levels of metals found in the samples compared to published sources of soil health standards as well as regional background levels for naturally occurring metals found in the catalyst dust. If you are interested and are available, attend the Public Meeting or submit comments on the report to Hazmat.Arpteam@cchealth.org or mail comments to the following address Attn: Michael Dossey:

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Sincerely,

Nicole A. Heath, Director of Hazardous Materials Programs