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**From:** Clerk of the Board  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 4, 2025 9:15 AM  
**To:** Supervisor John\_Gioia; Supervisor Candace Andersen; Supervisor\_Burgis; Supervisor Carlson; Supervisor Scales-Preston  
**Cc:** Monica Nino; Sarah Kennard; June McHuen  
**Subject:** FW: PBF Refinery Fire Comment

The email below was received in the Clerk of the Board's office.

Stacey M. Boyd  
Deputy Clerk  
Clerk of the Board  
1025 Escobar St., 1st Floor  
Martinez, CA 94553  
(925)655-2002 (Desk)  
(925)655-2000 (Office)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Rachel deikman <r...>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 4, 2025 8:49 AM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board <ClerkOfTheBoard@cob.cccounty.us>  
**Subject:** PBF Refinery Fire Comment

Hello,

My family has lived in downtown Martinez for almost seven years. I also work in downtown Martinez. On Saturday my work closed at 3pm. It was terrifying to see black smoke and hear the rumbles. We did not receive notices and were unsure what to tell customers or even if we would be able to get home due to street closures. When I got home my children were scared and we cancelled my daughter's birthday party that was supposed to happen Saturday night. We ended up leaving and heading out of town overnight due to sirens and not knowing if we would be able to get out and stay safe if we continued to stay.

Why was fence line data not available during the fire? We need independent monitoring systems in place for full transparency!

We want Shanelle Scales-Preston on the industrial safety committee! She represents us and we elected her to keep us safe.

We do not want MRC running press conferences! We want to hear from our regulatory agencies.

What is being done about our air water and soil contamination?

The fire is still burning! My children are still sheltering in place at their elementary school. We have had our air purifiers running on high for the last three days! PG&E is high enough without this added in. PBF is holding our community in a high state of anxiety and fear and costing us extra just to live our lives. This is unacceptable! Please hold them accountable and shut them down. They don't care about fines! They are poisoning us and making money off our (and their workers) distress!

We can work together to transition away from fossil fuels. Our community deserves better!

Thank you,



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**From:** Clerk of the Board  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 4, 2025 9:11 AM  
**To:** Supervisor John\_Gioia; Supervisor Candace Andersen; Supervisor\_Burgis; Supervisor Carlson; Supervisor Scales-Preston  
**Cc:** Monica Nino; Sarah Kennard; June McHuen  
**Subject:** FW: Urgent Action Needed on Martinez Refinery's Ongoing Safety & Environmental Hazards

The email below was received in the Clerk of the Board's office.

**Stacey M. Boyd**  
**Deputy Clerk**  
**Clerk of the Board**  
1025 Escobar St., 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Martinez, CA 94553  
(925)655-2002 (Desk)  
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**From:** Matt Hall >  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 4, 2025 7:53 AM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board <ClerkOfTheBoard@cob.cccounty.us>  
**Subject:** Urgent Action Needed on Martinez Refinery's Ongoing Safety & Environmental Hazards

Dear Supervisors,

I am writing to demand stronger county action in holding the Martinez Refinery accountable for its repeated safety failures and environmental violations. The February 1, 2025, fire, which injured six workers and forced a shelter-in-place order, is just the latest in a long history of dangerous incidents. Since 2022, this refinery has had 46 flaring incidents, 21 hazardous spills, and multiple fires, exposing Contra Costa residents to toxic pollution and unsafe conditions.

Despite this ongoing pattern, emergency alerts remain inadequate, leaving the public uninformed and at risk. The refinery's 2022 release of toxic spent catalyst over Martinez without warning is proof that we cannot rely on self-reporting. Stronger public notification requirements are needed now to ensure that residents are immediately warned about hazardous releases.

Beyond immediate safety concerns, I urge the County to take action on long-term public health and environmental damage:

- What is being done to assess and address contamination in our air, water, and soil? Contra Costa residents deserve full transparency about refinery pollution and its health risks.
- How will the County push for stricter refinery regulations? Stronger oversight, enforcement, and penalties are needed to prevent continued violations.

- What is the plan to transition away from fossil fuels? The refinery's failures show that reliance on this industry is neither safe nor sustainable. The County should begin planning for economic diversification to support workers and businesses in a clean energy future.

I urge you to take bold action now to protect public health, enforce accountability, and ensure a long-term transition away from hazardous fossil fuel dependence. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Matt Hall



NOT present



**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY  
Board of Supervisors**

**REQUEST TO SPEAK (2-minute limit)  
CITIZENS PARTICIPATION**

There are opportunities for citizens to make comments or present information to the Board of Supervisors.

When you are recognized by the chair to speak, approach the lectern, and give your name followed by comments.

Personal information is optional. This speaker card is part of the public record for this meeting.

After completing this form place it in the box near the podium.

Agenda item No. U-1

Date: 2/4/25

Your Name: Vanessa Avery

Representing: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBJECT MATTER TO BE PRESENTED:**

Refinery fire

\*I do not want to speak but would like to leave comments for the Board to consider (Use the back of this form)

Please write comment here if you wish not to speak.

- 1) The refinery has proven to operate unsafely, putting residents at risk. Residents should not have their health and safety impacted for profits. Countless irresponsible incidents have happened and its time to decommission the refinery.
- 2) It's not about just this incident but the track record of unsafe practices affecting the community time and time again. People deserve to be prioritized over profits.
- 3) Need a better alert system. Not all residents received an alert. It gave no context or what to do. Level 2 - need to say what that means. Should have told us if there is a chance of explosion, etc. →



We got lucky this time. That's unacceptable.  
shut the refinery down - this is not good  
for our town, our people, our businesses.