

Environmental Justice *for* Refinery Communities

Assembly U&E Committee Oversight Hearing

Connie Cho, MSc, JD

Asian Pacific Environmental Network



APEN
ASIAN PACIFIC
ENVIRONMENTAL
NETWORK

*Sandy Saetern, APEN
Contra Costa Political
Director and Richmond
mother leading a 2023 Toxic
Tour in Richmond, CA,*



*Above, APEN Richmond elders, adult working age, and youth
at a CARB workshop on the 2022 Climate Change Scoping Plan
in Sacramento, CA.*

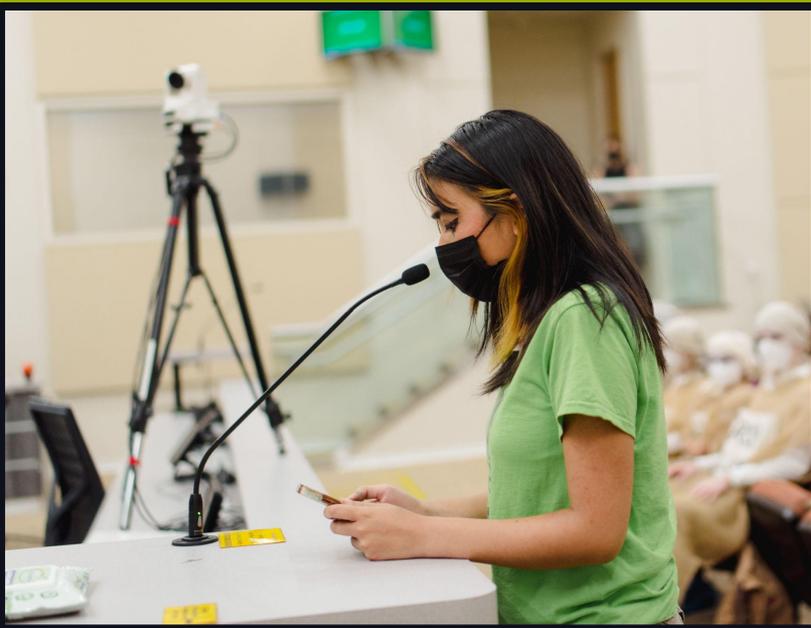


*Left, APEN Youth Academy 2024 at the RYSE Youth Center, a
state-funded Community Resilience Center (CRC) in Richmond, CA*

*In August 2012, the
Chevron Richmond
Refinery fire sent 15,000
people to the hospital*



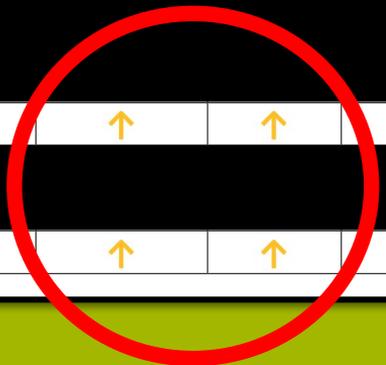
Photo from the U.S. Chemical Safety Board Final Investigation Report on the (2012) Chevron Refinery Pipe Rupture and Fire, 2013. Credit: Fototaker.net



Ashley Phuthama, "Why I got a bus at 6am to go to Sacramento," Oct. 7, 2022.
 Link: <https://open4ej.org/why-i-got-on-a-bus-at-6am-to-go-to-sacramento/>.

Table 2. Direction of Emission Changes at Facilities Near High-Scoring CES Communities Varies by Pollutant and Sector (2018 Compared to 2012 Emissions)

Sector	Number of facilities in high-scoring CES communities (maximum)	GHG	PM2.5	Air Toxics
Hydrogen Plants	6	↑	↑	↓
Refinery	14	↑	↑	↓



California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, *Impacts of Greenhouse Gas Emission Limits Within Disadvantaged Communities: Progress toward Reducing Inequities*, February 2022, p. 37.

Link: <https://oehha.ca.gov/environmental-justice/report/ab32-benefits>

Policy Recommendations*

1. **Minimum Reserve Storage Requirements - SUPPORT**
 - a. Also recommend **foreign export data analysis** to evaluate if a portion of exported fuel products can be stored and meet CA standards, helping to smooth out supply & avoid price spikes
2. **Spot Market Reporting & Transparency - SUPPORT**
3. **Price-gouging Penalty** with robust cost-benefit & risk assessment - **SUPPORT**

Continue to Explore

4. **Cost-of-Service, Gas Price Stabilization Fund, Retail Margin Management**
 - a. Add refiner-retail management policy options (CDFTA)

**in response to CEC Transportation Fuels Assessment Policy Options*

Additional EJ Policy Recommendations

-  1. **Safeguards for Community Safety:** Require milestone reductions in refinery fuel production and total refinery emission reductions that meet in-state demand
2. **Direct Payments to Income-Qualified Consumers:** Increase economically vulnerable consumers' limited ability to pay for fuel and/or other modes of transit