

**PRESS RELEASE**  
CITY OF BENICIA  
Benicia Fire Department  
250 East L Street  
Benicia, California 94510



March 24, 2019

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### **Advisory Update: Valero Benicia Refinery Emission**

**Benicia, CA (March 24, 2019)** – Shortly after 9 a.m., Sunday, March 24, 2019, Valero Benicia Refinery advised the City of Benicia that it is performing a controlled shut down of the entire refinery. This shut down is being conducted to improve conditions and minimize risk from earlier operational issues. This shutdown is expected to last for multiple days and will result in visible flaring.

Benicia Fire Department personnel continue to work with Solano County Environmental Health, Solano County Public Health, and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD).

The advisory notice continues for all residents with respiratory issues.

Those with respiratory compromise should do the following immediately:

- Go inside your home, workplace, or the nearest building that appears to be reasonably airtight and stay there.
- Close all doors, windows, and any fireplace dampers. Cracks around doors and windows can be sealed with tape or damp towels.
- Stay tuned to receive emergency announcements and instructions.
- Healthy individuals – limit outdoor activity.

The City continues to work with Valero Benicia Refinery on the issue, and has partially activated the City's Emergency Operations Center. The City has also been in active contact with the Solano County Environmental Health Department, a physician of the Solano County Public Health Department, as well as the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. The Benicia Unified School District and

Solano County's Office of Emergency Services have also been notified as precaution.

If symptoms such as difficulty breathing develop, contact your healthcare provider; call 9-1-1 if the symptoms become severe. Please do not call 9-1-1 unless you are experiencing an emergency.

Please check the City of Benicia's Twitter and Facebook accounts for updates.

For any Valero Benicia Refinery questions, please contact Lillian.Riojas@valero.com.

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