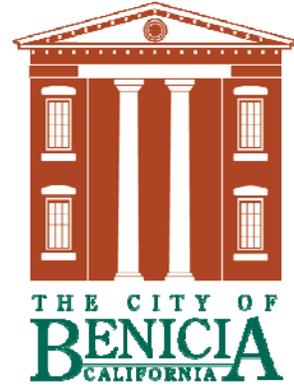


PRESS RELEASE

CITY OF BENICIA
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UPDATE- Valero Incident Sunday Afternoon

Benicia, CA (May 7, 2017) — Staff from the City of Benicia have continued to communicate with the management at the Valero Benicia Refinery since the event on Friday May 5, 2017. The refinery staff have been providing updated information about the process of inspecting the plant and safely restoring the operations.

As has been previously stated in various media statements, there will be continued flaring at the refinery throughout the process of safely restoring the operations of the facility. This is a necessary process to ensure the safety of the equipment during the restoration of operations. The flare systems are working as designed with the introduction of steam to minimize the smoke or particulate being produced during the flaring operation.

The purpose of this update is to share that Valero has advised the City that they are switching the flaring from the South Flare to the North Flare. The North Flare is the one closest the Refinery Administration Building on East Second Street. Since late in the day Friday, the flaring has been at the South Flare. The purpose of the switch is to allow for the complete inspection of the South Flare this week. This is just one of the many steps that Valero is undertaking to ensure the completion of safety inspections of the facility as they continue to restore operations.

We are sharing this information in case members of the community noticed the change and were concerned. As previously stated, this change is planned and is a part of the process of completing the necessary inspections in order to restore operations at the refinery.

For more information, contact: Fire Chief/Acting Assistant City Manager Jim Lydon @ (707) 746-4200 or jlydon@ci.benicia.ca.us

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