

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Francisco Bay Region
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400, Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 622-2300

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PUBLIC HEARING
FOR
DISCHARGE PERMIT
for
Valero Benicia Refinery - California**

The Valero Benicia Refinery – California has filed an application for reissuance of its individual permit under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System. The San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board’s (Regional Water Board’s) staff has prepared a tentative permit for this discharger, containing limitations and provisions in accordance with the Federal Clean Water Act and the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act.

The Valero Benicia Refinery is located at 3400 East Second Street, Benicia, Solano County. It processes an average crude oil volume of approximately 135,000 barrels per day, producing hydrocarbon products, byproducts, and intermediates. The average volume of crude oil processed is expected to increase to 165,000 barrels per day during the term of the proposed permit, which would result in increased discharges of process wastewater. Wastewaters generated by the refinery are treated by its wastewater treatment plant, which discharges an average of approximately 2 million gallons of treated wastewater per day to Suisun Bay through a deep-water outfall. The proposed permit would also regulate storm water discharges from various areas of the refinery through 16 outfalls to Carquinez Strait and Suisun Bay, or tributaries thereto.

The Regional Water Board intends to consider adopting the tentative permit during a meeting to commence at the time and location as follows:

Time and Date: 9:00 a.m., November 18, 2009
Location: Auditorium, Elihu Harris State Building
1515 Clay Street, Oakland

The deadline for comment is 5:00 p.m. on October 5, 2009. Comments must be sent to the attention of **John H. Madigan**. Persons wishing to file written comments on or objections to the tentative permit, or other aspects of this matter must do so no later than this deadline so that such comments may be considered. No written comments will be accepted or responded to in writing if received after this deadline.

Interested persons are invited to attend and express their views at the public hearing on this matter. The Regional Water Board will hear oral testimony, but will not accept written comments after the deadline noted above.

Pursuant to section 2050(c) of Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations, any party that challenges the Regional Water Board’s action on this matter through a petition to the State Water Resources Control Board under Water Code section 13320 will be limited to raising only those substantive issues or objections that were raised before the Regional Water Board at the public hearing or in timely submitted written correspondence delivered to the Regional Water Board.

The application, tentative permit, fact sheet, comments received, and related documents may be inspected and copied at the Regional Water Board office. The tentative permit, fact sheet, and any additional information and developments on this matter are also available at www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay. A response to comments will be posted on that website one week prior to the hearing. Contact John H. Madigan at

(510) 622-2405 or by e-mail at JMadigan@waterboards.ca.gov if you have any questions on this matter.