

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

*** PUBLIC NOTICE ***

**BIG WEST OF CALIFORNIA, BAKERSFIELD REFINERY
- CLEAN FUELS PROJECT -**

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF A PUBLIC HEARING
AND
REQUEST FOR PUBLIC INPUT ON A PERMIT REGULATING THE
EMISSION OF AIR POLLUTANTS**

EPA Permit # SJ-05-01 (06-029-S0033-1.0)

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”), Air Permits Office, Region 9, is requesting public comment on a proposal to issue an air permit to Big West of California, LLC. The permit will grant conditional approval, in accordance with the Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) regulations (40 CFR 52.21), for Big West to construct and operate additional processing units within the existing Bakersfield refinery, located at 6451 Rosedale Highway, about 2.5 miles northwest of the City of Bakersfield. The addition of these units, as well as associated refinery modifications, is referred to as the Clean Fuels Project (CFP). The purpose of the CFP is to increase production of gasoline and diesel fuel that meets California Air Resources Board fuel specifications.

The proposed PSD permit will require the use of Best Available Control Technology to limit emissions of carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), and sulfur dioxide (SO₂) to the greatest extent feasible. The emissions of other air pollutants from the proposed project will be regulated and limited by the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District (District).

The table below shows the maximum allowable air emissions of these pollutants from the project.

Pollutant	Emissions (tons per year)
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	166.44
Nitrogen Oxides (NO _x)	83.2
Sulfur Dioxide (SO ₂)	84.9

The proposed air permit, statement of basis and ambient air quality impact report, and other supporting information will be available on the EPA Region 9 website at <http://www.epa.gov/region9/air/permit/big-west/>. The administrative record may also be viewed in person, Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, at the EPA Region 9 address below. Due to building security procedures, please call to arrange a visit 24 hours in advance. Hard copies of the administrative record can be mailed to individuals upon request.

Any written comments must be received (if sent by e-mail) or postmarked (if sent by U.S. mail) on or before December 12, 2007 at the following addresses:

E-mail: R9airpermits_bigwest@epa.gov

U.S. Mail: Kathleen Stewart (AIR-3)
U.S. EPA Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901
Phone: (415) 947-4119

In addition, EPA will offer an informational Open House and a Public Hearing on this permit. The Open House will be an informal opportunity for the public to ask questions and receive answers about the project and the permit. Those interested in the permit are encouraged to attend the Open House and Public Hearing. The Public Hearing will provide a formal opportunity for the public to comment on the project in person. EPA will not respond to questions at the Public Hearing, however, EPA will respond to the formal comments received at the Hearing in a written document following the close of the public comment period on December 12, 2007.

Written and oral comments presented at the Public Hearing will receive the same weight in EPA's decision making as those written comments submitted at other times during the public comment period. However, for accuracy of the record, EPA strongly encourages all important testimony to be submitted in writing. Oral comments may summarize written comments, but need not repeat them. Oral comments may only be submitted at the Public Hearing.

The date, location, and time of the Open House and Public Hearing are as follows:

Date: December 5, 2007
Time: Open House: 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm
Public Hearing: 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Location: Discovery Elementary School, Multipurpose Room
9500 Vaquero Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93308

Spanish language translation will be provided at the Hearing. Spanish language speakers will be available at the Open House to answer questions. If you require additional reasonable accommodation, please contact Terisa Williams (EPA Region 9 Reasonable Accommodation Coordinator) at 415-972-3829, or Williams.Terisa@epa.gov, by Wednesday, November 21.

All comments that are received will be included in the public docket without change and will be available to the public, including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Information that you consider CBI or otherwise protected should be clearly identified as such and should not be submitted through e-mail. If you send e-mail directly to the EPA, your e-mail address will be automatically

captured and included as part of the public comment. Please note that an e-mail or postal address must be provided with your comments if you wish to receive direct notification of EPA's final decision regarding the permit and responses to comments submitted during the public comment period.

EPA will consider all written and oral comments before taking final action on the PSD air permit and will send notice of the final decision to each person who submitted comments and contact information during the public comment period or requested notice of the final permit decision. EPA will respond to all substantive comments in a document accompanying the final permit decision and make the hearing proceedings available to the public.

The final decision will become effective 30 days from the date of issuance unless:

1. A later effective date is specified in the decision; or
2. The decision is appealed to the Environmental Appeals Board pursuant to 40 CFR 124.19 (any person who submits written comments on the proposed permit or who participates in the Public Hearing may petition the Environmental Appeals Board to review any part of the permit decision within 30 days after the decision has been issued. Any person who failed to file comments and failed to participate in the public hearing on the proposed permit may petition for review by the Environmental Appeals Board only those parts of the final permit decision which are different than the proposed permit); or
3. There are no comments requesting a change to the proposed permit, in which case the final decision shall become effective immediately upon issuance.

If the proposed permit becomes final, and there is no appeal, construction of the CFP may commence, subject to the conditions of the permit and other applicable permit and legal requirements.

For questions or information requests, please contact Kathleen Stewart at (415) 947-4119, or send an email to R9airpermits_bigwest@epa.gov. Para información en Español, por favor comuníquese con Irma Miranda, al número (415) 972-3968, o Gerardo Rios, supervisor de la oficina de permisos, en la división de aire, al número (415) 972-3974.

Please bring the foregoing notice to the attention of all persons who would be interested in this matter.