

SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

To: Governor's Office of Planning and Research - State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth St, Suite 222
Sacramento, CA 95814-5502
and
County Clerk, Dean Logan
County of Los Angeles
12400 E Imperial Hwy, Room 2001
Norwalk, CA 90650

From: South Coast Air Quality Management District
(South Coast AQMD)
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Subject: Filing of Notice of Determination in Compliance with Public Resources Code Section 21152 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15096(i)

Project Title: AltAir Renewable Fuels Conversion Project

State Clearinghouse No: 2020069013

Project Applicant and Project Locations: AltAir Paramount LLC– Paramount Refinery
South Coast AQMD Facility ID Number 187165
14700 Downey Avenue, Paramount, CA 90723

Paramount Pipeline LLC – Lakewood Tank Farm
South Coast AQMD Facility ID Number 187442
2920 East 56th Way, Lakewood, CA 90805

Lead Agency: City of Paramount
16400 Colorado Avenue
Paramount, CA 90723

Lead Agency Contact: John Carver,
(562) 220-2036

Responsible Agency: South Coast AQMD
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Responsible Agency Contact: Barbara Radlein,
(909) 396-2716

Date of Project Approval: August 25, 2023

Project Description: The City of Paramount, as the Lead Agency, for the AltAir Renewable Fuels Conversion Project (Project), prepared and certified the Final Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) for Conditional Use Permit No. 757 – AltAir Renewable Fuels Conversion Project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as part of their April 11, 2022 approval of the Project. The Final SEIR analyzed the complete conversion of the Paramount Refinery into a renewable fuels production facility, eliminating the refining of crude oil. The Project includes modifications to the Paramount Refinery facility which include: 1) installation of a new Pretreat Unit and new Pretreatment Wastewater Treatment Unit; 2) modifications to the existing Renewable Fuels Unit A and repurposing/modifications of existing heaters and boilers for renewable fuels operation; 3) installation of a new Renewable Fuels Unit B; 4) installation of a new Hydrogen Generation Unit; 5) installation of a new Hydrogen Recovery Unit; 6) installation of a new Propane Recovery Unit; 7) upgrades to the existing wastewater treatment system; 8) installation of a new Hydrogen Sulfide Recovery Unit; 9) installation of a second Sour Water Stripper; 10) installation of a new flare; 11) modifications to the existing truck and rail loading/unloading racks; 12) installation of new pipelines within the refinery; 13) upgrades/repairs to some existing storage tanks along with some permit modifications that will allow the storage of different commodities (e.g., non-edible vegetable oils and beef tallow); 14) relocating several buildings on-site; and 15) providing temporary buildings for the demolition and construction process. The Project includes a previously approved South Coast AQMD Rule 1166 Site Specific VOC-Contaminated Soil Mitigation Plan to address air quality impacts during construction at the Paramount Refinery. Lastly, the Project intends to continue to rely on the use of two existing 55,000-barrel storage tanks located at the Lakewood Tank Farm for the storage and blending of renewable fuel products (e.g., renewable jet fuel) in addition to conventional petroleum products traditional (e.g., conventional jet fuel).

The City of Paramount adopted Findings, a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and a Statement of Overriding Considerations, as set forth in the City of Paramount City Council's Resolution No. 22:021 Conditional Use Permit (CUP) No. 757 Amendment and Resolution No. 22:022 Zone Variance No. 409 for the project.

This is to advise that the South Coast AQMD, as the Responsible Agency, has approved the above-described Project and made the following determinations:

1. The Project will have a significant effect on the environment.
2. A Final SEIR for the AltAir Renewable Fuels Conversion Project (SCH Number 2020069013) was prepared and certified by the City of Paramount, as Lead Agency for the Project, pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

3. The City of Paramount adopted mitigation measures which were made a condition of Project approval.
4. The City of Paramount adopted Findings, a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and a Statement of Overriding Considerations.
5. The South Coast AQMD, after reviewing and considering the Final SEIR, the Findings, Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and Statement of Overriding Considerations adopted by the City of Paramount, adopted its own Findings concerning the significant impacts identified in the Final SEIR (SCH Number 2020069013) as required by CEQA Guidelines Section 15096(h).
6. These Responsible Agency determinations for the Project reflect the independent judgment of the South Coast AQMD.

This is to certify that the following documents are available to the public and may be examined at South Coast AQMD located at 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765: 1) the Final SEIR with comments and responses, the Findings, Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and Statement of Overriding Considerations adopted by the City of Paramount; 2) supporting materials and the record of Project approval by the City of Paramount; 3) the South Coast AQMD's adoption of its own Findings as Responsible Agency; 4) supporting documentation provided by the applicant, AltAir Paramount LLC and Paramount Pipeline LLC; and 5) the record of Project approval by the South Coast AQMD.

Date Received for Filing: _____

Signature:



August 29, 2023

Barbara Radlein
Acting Planning and Rules Manager, CEQA
Planning, Rule Development, and
Implementation