



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

December 9, 2008

Mohsen Nazemi
Deputy Executive Officer
Engineering and Compliance Division
South Coast Air Quality Management District
21865 E. Copley Dr.
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Re: Proposed Title V Permit for the Paramount Refinery (Facility ID # 800183)

Dear Mr. Nazemi:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the proposed title V permit for the Paramount Refinery, located at 14700-0 Downey Avenue in Paramount. We received the proposed permit statement of basis, letter to EPA, and the public notice electronically on Wednesday, September 3, 2008 and the permit application via mail on Monday, September 8, 2008. The EPA review period ends on December 9, 2008. Our staffs discussed a number of issues concerning the permit over the last month. In a letter sent to EPA on December 9, 2008, the District committed to incorporating changes that were discussed with EPA prior to the issuance of the final Title V permit for this facility. We appreciate the District's willingness to work with us throughout this process.

The enclosure enumerates EPA's comments in detail, including the revisions that the District has indicated that they will incorporate to address the issues EPA noted during our review period as well as suggestions for improving the permit. We look forward to working with the District to complete these revisions before the final permit is issued.

I thank you and your staff for your effort to prepare this complex permit, and for the time spent discussing it with us. If you have any questions or if you would like to discuss this matter further, please call me or have your staff call Kate Hoag at (415) 972-3970.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gerardo C. Rios".

Gerardo C. Rios
Chief, Air Permits Office

Enclosure