



**Action Summary Minutes**

**SOUTHERN REGION HEARING BOARD MEETING**

Southern Region Office Video Teleconference (VTC) Room

34946 Flyover Court, Bakersfield, CA 93308

**Wednesday, August 12, 10:00 a.m.**

**Meeting held via teleconferencing (VTC) with the  
Central Region Office (Fresno) participating via VTC.**

**MINUTES**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Chair, Hollis Carlile, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL:

Kimm Wolber - Medical	Present
Donna Carpenter – Public	Present
John Stovall - Attorney	Present
Hollis Carlile (chair) - Engineer	Present
Bill Bland, Public	Present

Staff present—Southern Region (Bakersfield): Ellyce Baldwin

Central Region (Fresno): Ryan Hayashi, Supervising Air Quality Specialist; Patrick Houlihan, Senior Air Quality Specialist; Catherine Redmond, Assistant District Counsel; and Michelle Banuelos, acting as Clerk to the Board.

3. APPROVE MINUTES OF JULY 8, 2009

The Chair, Hollis Carlile, asked if there were any comments regarding the Minutes of July 8, 2009. Hearing none, the Minutes for July 8, 2009, were approved.

4. PUBLIC HEARING:

The Chair asked the Clerk if all items had been properly noticed. The Clerk responded yes, they had been properly noticed. All those present to testify were sworn in by the Chair, and he requested that they sign in.

The Chair, Hollis Carlile, recused himself due to a conflict of interest. The chair was turned over to William Bland at this time.

A. S-09-40S Short Chevron, USA, Inc.  
17Z Gas Plant  
McKittrick Oil Field

Petitioners: Bob Langner  
John Gruber

Patrick Houlihan presented the report. Chevron, USA, Inc. (CUSA) is seeking a short variance for a 15-day period from September 1, 2009, and November 29, 2009, to shut down various processes within the gas plant and open various parts to the atmosphere to facilitate the turnaround.

Petitioner, John Gruber stated the District's presentation accurately captured the contents of their petition. However, he wished to point out that the reason for their petition was preventive maintenance and also to comply with the requirements of District rule 4409. Mr. Gruber requested two minor changes in the District's staff report:

Page Two, paragraph one - Change the month from September to October, 2009.

Page Five, Condition 12 (E) – 17Z Gas Plant is not a Title V facility and therefore, does not fit under this condition. Is there an alternate type of condition?

Patrick Houlihan stated that Condition E could be struck from the staff report since there is no alternate language or any other requirements.

Public Comments: None

Motion: Wolber Second: Stovall

AYES: Wolber, Carpenter, Stovall, Bland

NAYS: None

Having decided the petition has met the required findings, the Hearing Board voted to pass the Motion to grant the variance subject to the conditions in the staff report.

Hollis Carlile returned to the meeting and the Vice-Chair relinquished the Chair to Mr. Carlile.

B. S-09-41S Short ExxonMobil Production Company  
P. O. Box 4358  
Houston, TX 77210

Petitioners: Jack Jones

Patrick Houlihan presented the report. ExxonMobil Production Company (ExxonMobil) is requesting a short, cumulative, non-consecutive 30-day variance period between August 12, 2009, and November 9, 2009, to allow the storage tanks and vessels to continue to store VOC containing liquids without operational vapor recovery systems, and to allow possible venting from the thermally enhanced oil recovery casing collection gas system.

Patrick Houlihan stated a change in the District's Staff Report:

Page Four, Condition Four - Change the VOC emissions from 23.8 pounds to 47.6 pounds.

Petitioner, Jack Jones, stated this variance is needed for preventive maintenance. They asked for 30 days because it's unknown what they will find once they get into the machinery. They hope to be done within seven days.

Mr. Carlile asked how old the equipment is. Mr. Jones answered it was built in 1986, and they have a plan to conduct preventive maintenance every three years.

Public Comments: None

Motion: Stovall Second: Wolber

AYES: Wolber, Carpenter, Stovall, Bland, Carlile

NAYS: None

Having decided the petition has met the required findings, the Hearing Board voted to pass the Motion to grant the variance subject to the conditions and changes in the staff report.

D. S-09-42S Short ExxonMobil Production Company  
P. O. Box 4358  
Houston, TX 77210

Petitioners: Jack Jones

Patrick Houlihan presented the report. ExxonMobil is requesting a short variance for a 30-day period to occur sometime between August 12, 2009, and November 9, 2009, to allow the subject tanks and vessel to be isolated from the vapor recovery system so they can be drained, cleaned, and inspected.

Petitioner, Jack Jones, stated these vessels are part of their FIMS Program (Facility Integrity Management System) and are being inspected thoroughly before any problems or leaks arise. This is part of their preventive maintenance program.

Mr. Carlile asked what the vapor pressure is on the oil in these tanks. Mr. Jones answered 1.8 vapor pressure of the oil in the T-6 and added that they will be draining the tank, filling it with fresh water, removing hydrocarbons off the top of it, then purge with nitrogen and then drain it. Mr. Jones confirmed that they will be disposing of the water by reinjecting it back into the facility.

Public Comments: None

Motion: Carpenter Second: Stovall

AYES: Wolber, Carlile, Stovall

NAYS: None

Having decided the petition has met the required findings, the Hearing Board voted to pass the Motion to grant the variance subject to the conditions and changes in the Staff Report.

5. The Southern Region Hearing Board heard two emergency variances since the July 8, 2009 Hearing.
6. PUBLIC COMMENTS: No public comments.
7. HEARING BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: Mr. Carlile asked if the District received Ms. Wolber's E-mail regarding the increase of stipends for Hearing Board Members. Mr. Houlihan indicated he would check again but he had not yet received it. Catherine Redmond added that Ms. Wolber either mail it or bring it in next time she visits the District.
8. NEW BUSINESS: No new business.
9. NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: Wednesday, September 9, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. The meeting will be held via video conferencing (VTC) in the Southern Region Office (Bakersfield) with the Central Region Office (Fresno) participating via VTC.
10. ADJOURNMENT: The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:10 a.m.