



Policy, Government and Public Affairs
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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Chevron Appeals Court Decision Stopping Refinery Upgrade *Lawsuit stopped project that reduces emissions and creates 2000 construction jobs*

Richmond, Calif. (July 20, 2009) – Today, Chevron filed an appeal to overturn the July 1 Superior Court order that invalidates the Richmond city permits for the Energy and Hydrogen Renewal Project at its Richmond refinery. The future of the project remains in question until the appeals court can decide the issues.

“We believe there is ample factual and expert evidence, as well as law, supporting the Environmental Impact Review and the project,” said refinery manager Mike Coyle. “We believe the city correctly approved the project and that its construction and operation should be allowed to proceed. We look forward to presenting our case to the Court of Appeal.”

The project will replace existing equipment at the facility with newer, cleaner technology that uses less energy and lowers emissions. At its peak the project will create over 2,000 construction jobs, pump significant new spending into the Richmond and Contra Costa County economies, and provide \$61 million in community benefits to serve people living in Richmond. Since the July 1 decision, more than 1,000 construction workers have been laid off and the \$61 million community benefits agreement has been terminated.

Communities for a Better Environment, the West County Toxics Coalition and the Asian Pacific Environmental Network filed a lawsuit challenging the city’s Environmental Impact Review (EIR) and requested that the Superior Court stop construction and ultimately operation of the project. The appeal to the California State Court of Appeal asks for the EIR and city permits to be reinstated.

Environmental consultants hired by the City of Richmond conducted an extensive, nearly four-year environmental review which concluded that the project would be environmentally friendly, reduce air emissions from the refinery and help improve air quality in Richmond. The Bay Area Air Quality Management District concurred with the environmental findings and approved construction of the improvements.

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