



Quick Facts

What is the purpose of an Industrial Safety Ordinance (ISO)?

The main goal of an Industrial Safety Ordinance (ISO) is to prevent and/or minimize the effects of devastating accidents on the employees close to the accident **and the surrounding communities.**

Why does Benicia need this when the State has an ISO?

After the near-catastrophic May 5th Valero Refinery emergency shutdown and major flaring incident, it was even more apparent that Benicia is at risk without an ISO. Benicia is the only jurisdiction in the East Bay with a refinery or chemical industry that does not have a local safety ordinance such as the City of Richmond and other refinery communities have. The City of Benicia is covered by Cal/OSHA and Cal/EPA safety regulations. However, there are additional concerns not addressed by Cal/OSHA and Cal/EPA, such as no direct safety reports filed at the City of Benicia, leaving Benicia in the dark. An ISO would correct this and other safety matters.

How would this improve communications between Valero and the community of Benicia?

A local ISO would facilitate cooperation between industry, the City, the County, local fire departments, Cal/OSHA, Cal/EPA, other agencies that have oversight of businesses, and the public in the prevention and reduction of incidents at refineries like Valero. An ISO would also establish local air quality monitors for access to real time data.

Why is the Valero refinery the only Bay Area refinery not involved with a county or local ISO?

In 1998 Contra Costa County adopted an ISO, and revised and updated it after the Chevron fire. The City of Richmond also has a local ISO. These ISOs require among other things, refineries and other chemical businesses to submit a safety plan, undergo safety audits, and have risk management plans, each of which would allow more community input and access. The Contra Costa ISO has been praised as the best safety ordinance in the country, so effective that Cal/OSHA and Cal/EPA adopted many elements for state regulation and oversight. ***Benicia is the only city in Solano County that is home to refinery and currently our County has no plans to develop an ISO.*** It is up to the City of Benicia to develop and implement its own.

How would the ISO be managed and can Benicia afford it?

Contra Costa County's ISO enables the county to collect fees from industrial facilities to pay for comprehensive public safety alerts and local information about environmental risks and exposure to toxins due to an "event".

What are the next steps and how can I get involved?

Because Benicia deserves to be properly protected and informed, Benicians for a Safe and Healthy Community, Progressive Democrats of Benicia, The Benicia Independent, Carquinez Patriotic Resistance, Communities For a Better Environment and additional community groups *are urging the City Council to adopt and implement an Industrial Safety Ordinance for Benicia.* To learn more and get involved, visit BeniciaIndependent.com.



To learn more about ISO Benicia,
please attend a panel discussion with
State Officials and Contra Costa County experts
on why and how Benicia can better protect our community.

When: On Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at 7pm

Where: The Benicia Public Library in the Doña Benicia Room at 150 East L St. in Benicia.

Who: **Greg Vlasek**, Assistant Secretary for Local Program Coordination and Emergency Response, Cal EPA, Unified Program

Clyde Trombetta, Statewide Manager and Policy Advisor for Cal OSHA, Process Safety Management Unit

Randy Sawyer, Contra Costa County Chief Environmental Health and Hazardous Materials Officer

John Gioia, Contra Costa County Supervisor

(Solano County's Resource Management Department, Environmental Health Division was also invited to participate.)

Why: **Currently, Benicia is the only refinery town in the Bay Area not protected by an ISO.** In Contra Costa County, the Hazardous Materials Division of the Health Department is responsible for enforcing an ISO that governs the three refineries in the county unincorporated areas – Shell, Tesoro and Phillips 66. The City of Richmond has an ordinance that mirrors the County's and contracts with Contra Costa County for enforcement activities.

You: There will also be an opportunity for the public to ask questions and make comments at the end of the presentations.

For more information: Contact Andrés Soto at 510.237.6866 or andres@cbecal.org

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