




# Meeting Minutes MRC Oversight Committee – Risk Assessment

 **Date:** 4/6/23  
 **Start:** 2:00 PM  
 **End:** 3:17 PM

Information about the Oversight Committee including agendas, meeting minutes, recordings, etc., can be found at <https://cchealth.org/hazmat/mrc/>

## Oversight Committee Member Attendance

Community Members: Cheryll Grover, Pedro Babiak, Ben Therriault, Tony Semenza, Kent Hull, Deirdre Castillo  
MRC Representative: Ken Axe  
MRC Employee Representative: Nick Plurkowski  
City of Martinez: Lauren Sugayan  
City of Benicia: Josh Chadwick  
Contra Costa County: Nicole Heath (Chair), Michael Dossey, Sam Calvert, Trisha Johnson

## I. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Meeting called to order by Committee Chair Nicole Heath at 2:03 PM

## II. OPEN ISSUES

- a. Update on consultant selection

Two consultants selected, one for the Root Cause Analysis (Scott Berger & Associates) and one for the Risk Assessment (TRC). Contract for TRC has been signed and fully approved. CCH Hazmat waiting on submittal of documentation from Root Cause Analysis consultant to move forward with approval of contract.

## III. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Review plume modeling results (Air District)

Dr. Phil Martien presented on the results of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District Plume Model for the Martinez Refining Company catalyst release in Nov. 2022. The Air District plume modeling generally agreed with the visual observations that occurred after the incident, showing the highest impacts to Martinez (especially west of the refinery). Additionally, the plume modeling indicated that the catalyst was likely also deposited in Benicia, CA and smaller amounts were likely deposited across West Contra Costa County (Crockett, Richmond, etc.). Air District stated that this modeling does not address health effects that may have occurred from the release, and instead was developed to help guide the soil sampling for the risk assessment to be conducted by the third-party consultant (TRC).

Nicole Heath (CCH) stated that the consultant (TRC) will be using the various sampling information that was compiled in the aftermath of the incident and the plume modeling in order to develop a plan for the soil sampling.

Oversight Committee Comments: Oversight Committee members had questions about the accuracy of the model, considering that the visual observations of the catalyst fall out suggested that the particle

size was much greater than the inputs to the model. Oversight Committee members commented that they believe it is important to review TRCs plan for the soil sampling and provide input prior to the sampling being conducted. City of Martinez provided following update on communications. City of Martinez plans to include information related to this incident in the water bills that are being mailed out over the coming months.

#### **IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public were given 2 minutes to comment. There were 6 comments received. Two comments were questions related about who has authority for enforcement against Martinez Refining Company, one comment was related to particle size significance and how it could affect the plume modeling, one comment was from Solano county to let Oversight Committee know they were open to helping the review as it pertained to Benicia, one comment about where the data for plume model was obtained, and one comment was about whether plume model impacts any changes regarding the health advisory related to eating food in garden. **Please see recording for full comments and answers.**

#### **V. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 3:17 PM