



# South Coast Air Quality Management District

21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182  
(909) 396-2000 • [www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov)

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL  
IMPACT REPORT, INITIAL STUDY, AND OPPORTUNITY FOR  
PUBLIC COMMENT**

**PROJECT TITLE: MARATHON LOS ANGELES REFINERY MODERNIZATION  
PROJECTS**

**PROJECT APPLICANT: TESORO REFINING & MARKETING COMPANY, LLC  
(DOING BUSINESS AS MARATHON LOS ANGELES  
REFINERY)**

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD), as Lead Agency, has prepared a Notice of Preparation (NOP) and Initial Study (IS) for the proposed project identified above. The NOP/IS serves the following purposes: 1) to notify the public that the South Coast AQMD is preparing an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) which will assess the potential adverse environmental impacts that may result from implementing the proposed project; and 2) to provide information on the proposed project and allow public agencies and the public (collectively referred to as the public) the opportunity to review and comment on the scope of the environmental analysis.

This letter and the NOP/IS are not South Coast AQMD applications or forms requiring a response from you. Their purpose is simply to provide information to you on the proposed project. **No action on your part is necessary if the proposed project has no bearing on you or your organization.** A CEQA Scoping Meeting will be held for the proposed project. Attendees will have the opportunity to provide public comments.

**Comments focusing on your area of expertise, your agency's area of jurisdiction, or other issues relative to the environmental analysis will be accepted during a 34-day public review and comment period beginning November 5, 2025 and ending December 9, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.** Please note that under the California Public Records Act (Gov. Code Section 7920.000 et seq.) your written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (e.g. your address, phone, email, etc.) become part of the public record and can be released to the public on request or posted on the South Coast AQMD website.

The attached NOP provides information on how to obtain the IS, how the public may attend and participate at the CEQA Scoping Meeting, and how to submit comments.

**NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP) OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR),  
INITIAL STUDY (IS), AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

**To:** Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate  
Innovation – State Clearinghouse  
1400 Tenth St, Suite 222  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5502

**From:** South Coast Air Quality Management  
District (South Coast AQMD)  
21865 Copley Drive  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

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**Project Title:** Marathon Los Angeles Refinery Modernization Projects

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**State Clearinghouse Number:** TBD

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**Project Applicant:** Tesoro Refining & Marketing Company, LLC (doing business as Marathon Los Angeles Refinery)

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**Project Locations:**

Tesoro Los Angeles Refinery - Carson Operations (Facility ID 174655)  
2350 East 223rd Street (nearest intersection: Marathon Way and East 223rd Street)  
Carson, CA, 90810, Los Angeles County

Tesoro Los Angeles Refinery - Wilmington Operations (Facility ID 800436)  
2101 East Pacific Coast Highway (nearest intersection: Alameda Street and East Pacific Coast Highway)  
Wilmington, CA, 90744, in the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County

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Both of these facilities are located in the AB 617 Wilmington, Carson, and West Long Beach community.

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**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** Tesoro Refining & Marketing Company, LLC doing business as Marathon Los Angeles Refinery, proposes to modernize its Marathon Los Angeles Refinery (Refinery), which is comprised of its Carson Operations and Wilmington Operations, for the purpose of: replacing equipment that is at the end of its useful life; providing asphalt binder to meet market demand; enabling flexibility by making modifications to specific processing units to adjust product yields between transportation fuel products (i.e., gasoline, diesel fuel, and jet fuel), depending on market demand; and more efficiently producing octane-blending components needed for gasoline supply. Specifically, Tesoro is proposing modifications to: 1) replace aging coke drums; 2) produce asphalt binder; 3) improve operational performance of the Fluid Feed Hydrodesulfurization Unit which removes sulfur from the gas oil feed before it goes to the Fluidized Catalytic Cracking Unit (FCCU), and 4) improve efficiency to make more high-octane, low vapor pressure clean-gasoline blendstocks by modifying the: a. FCCU which converts heavy hydrocarbons into gasoline and other lighter hydrocarbons, b. alkylation units which convert lighter hydrocarbons into blendstocks for gasoline, and c. the C3 Splitter Unit which separates propane and propylene (compounds containing three carbon molecules) for further processing elsewhere or sold as product. Each of these proposed projects are designed to ensure continued safe operations and provide a reliable and affordable supply of transportation fuels to meet the market shift during California's transition to a zero-emission transportation system. The four proposed projects fulfill different needs at the Refinery, such that any single project can occur without any of the other three projects and have independent utility. However, because each project will have an overlapping construction schedule, the projects are evaluated altogether. The NOP/IS identifies potentially significant adverse impacts to the environmental topics of air quality and greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality related to water demand during operations, noise during construction, and transportation during construction. This facility is identified on lists compiled by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control per Government Code Section 65962.5.

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**Lead Agency:**  
South Coast AQMD

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**Division:**  
Planning, Rule Development and Implementation

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**The NOP/IS and all Supporting Documentation are available at:**

- 1) **South Coast AQMD CEQA webpage:**  
<http://www.aqmd.gov/home/research/documents-reports/lead-agency-permit-projects>
  - 2) **South Coast AQMD Public Information Center** at 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765,  
by email at [PublicAdvisor@aqmd.gov](mailto:PublicAdvisor@aqmd.gov) and by phone at (909) 396-2039
  - 3) **State Clearinghouse of the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation** website at:  
<https://ceqanet.lci.ca.gov/search/recent>
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**The NOP is provided to the public through the following:**

- Los Angeles Times (November 5, 2025)
  - Los Angeles County Clerk
  - South Coast AQMD Webpage
  - South Coast AQMD Public Information Center
  - South Coast AQMD Mailing List & Interested Parties
  - Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation – State Clearinghouse Website
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**NOP/IS Review Period (34 days):** November 5, 2025 through December 9, 2025

Questions, comments, documents, or other relevant information relative to the NOP/IS may be directed to:

**Farzaneh Khalaj, Ph.D.**

Planning, Rule Development and Implementation, CEQA Section  
South Coast Air Quality Management District  
21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765  
Email: [fkhalaj@aqmd.gov](mailto:fkhalaj@aqmd.gov)

**Staff requests that written comments on the NOP/IS be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. on December 9, 2025.** Please include the name, phone number, and email address of the contact person, and the organization name, if applicable. Please note that under the California Public Records Act (Gov. Code Section 7920.000 et seq.) your written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (e.g. your address, phone, email, etc.) become part of the public record and can be released to the public on request or posted on the South Coast AQMD website.

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**Scheduled Public Meeting Date (subject to change):** CEQA Scoping Meeting on November 18, 2025 from 5:00 p.m. via video conferencing (Zoom) which can be accessed via personal computer or smart phone. Alternatively, stakeholders can phone in to participate. Attendees are invited to ask questions and make comments. Please see the following instructions on how to participate:

Join Zoom Meeting - from PC or Laptop:  
<https://aqmd.zoomgov.com/j/1614593538>  
Zoom Webinar ID: 161 459 3538 (applies to all)  
Teleconference Dial In +1 669 254 5252  
Spanish (Español) Language Webinar ID: 161 104 2947

Please note if the Zoom meeting link provided does not work, copy the link into web browser, or directly enter the meeting ID into the Zoom web or mobile application.

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**Date:** November 4, 2025

**Signature:**



Kevin Ni  
Program Supervisor, CEQA  
Planning, Rule Development, and Implementation