



South Coast Air Quality Management District

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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS AIR TOXIC RISK FROM A FACILITY IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

State law ensures your right to know about possible health risks from toxic air pollutants emitted by facilities in your neighborhood. The law requires the following facility to notify you:

Facility Name: HIXSON METAL FINISHING
Address: 829 Production Place, Newport Beach
Type of Business: Metal Finishing

Even though this facility may be complying with all current air pollution control regulations, some toxic chemicals escape to the air during its normal operations. State law requires the facility to notify all of the people in the area where there is a potential health risk above established thresholds.

Summary of Health Risks

Toxic air pollutants (primarily hexavalent chromium) from Hixson Metal Finishing may be increasing the cancer risks for people who live and work in the area shown on the attached "Facility Risk Map." Assuming the facility's emissions in 2013 persisted for 30 years, people who live closest to the facility could have a maximum increase of 1,502 chances in one million of getting cancer. Those who work closest to the facility could have a maximum increase of 88 chances in one million of getting cancer over a 25-year exposure to the facility's 2013 emissions. The potential health risks are lower for those living and working farther away from the facility.

As the air pollution control agency for this area, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) has prepared the enclosed "Information Sheet." Officials from SCAQMD will conduct a public meeting in the community near Hixson Metal Finishing to answer questions about the toxic chemicals, the potential health risks, and what is being done to reduce toxic emissions. Officials from Hixson Metal Finishing will also attend the meeting to present information about their operations and to help answer your questions.

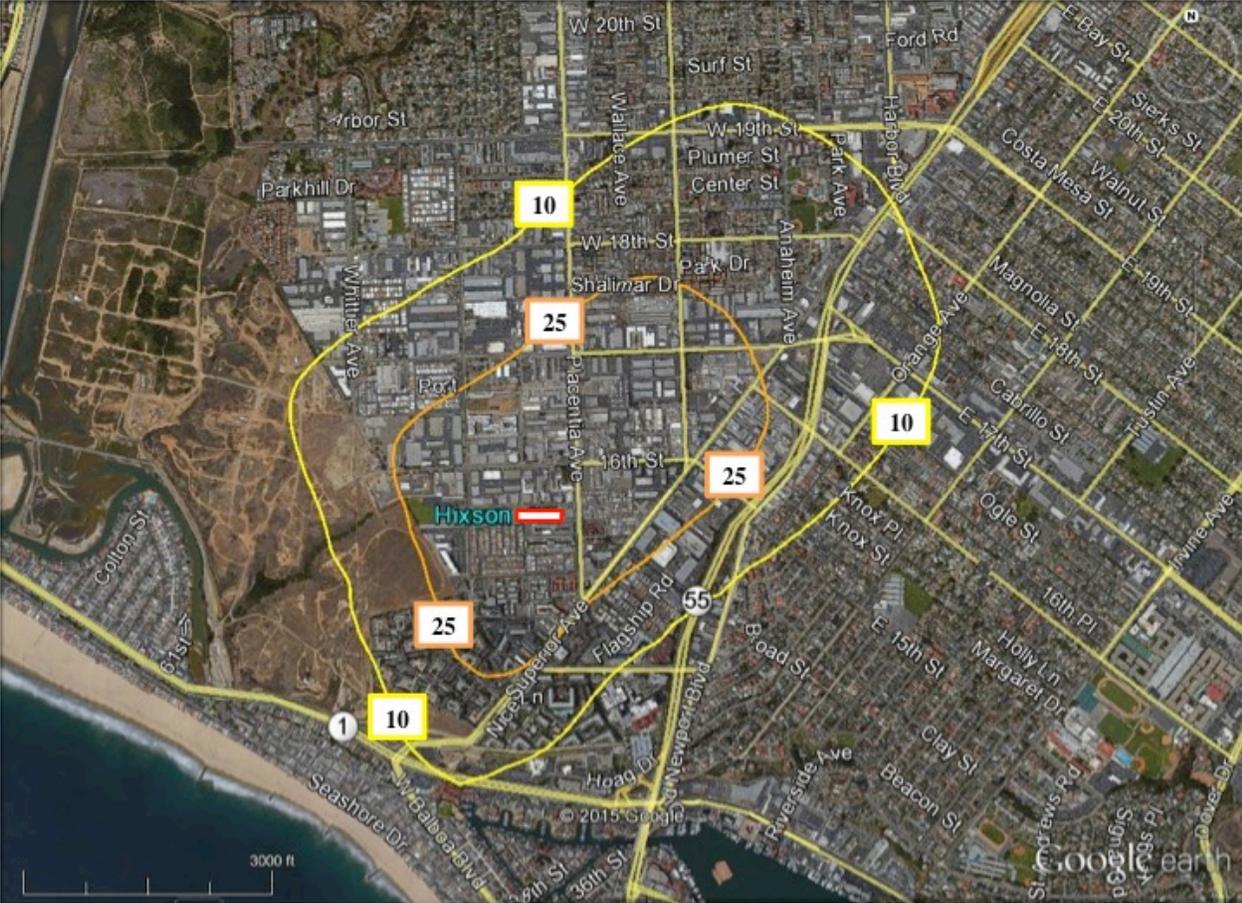
PUBLIC MEETING	<i>Date and Time:</i> June 18, 2015 @ 6:00 pm
	<i>Location:</i> Hoag Conference Center (<i>not the main Hoag Hospital</i>) 3900 West Coast Highway, Newport Beach, CA 92663

For more information about SCAQMD programs to control toxic air pollution or the public meeting, contact Ian MacMillan of SCAQMD at (909) 396-3244 or e-mail him at imacmillan@aqmd.gov. For more information about the facility, please contact Mr. Douglas Greene of Hixson Metal Finishing at (800) 900-9798.

Businesses receiving this notice should post it where it is most likely to be read by employees.

Cleaning the air we breathe...

Facility Risk Map
Hixson Metal Finishing (ID No. 011818)
Newport Beach, California



10 & 25 in-a-million Residential Cancer Risk Contours

INFORMATION SHEET

What are toxic air pollutants?

Chemicals that cause cancer, birth defects or other health effects are known as toxic substances. When these toxic substances are released in the air, they are called toxic air pollutants.

Where do toxic air pollutants come from?

Toxic air pollutants come from a variety of sources. These sources include chemical plants and large manufacturers as well as cars and trucks and smaller businesses. Many products used at home, such as cleaners and paint thinners also contain toxic air pollutants.

What toxic air pollutants does this facility emit?

Under normal operation, this facility emits the toxic air pollutants listed below. The possible health effects of exposure to those pollutants are listed below:

Pollutant	Possible Health Effects
Hexavalent chromium	cancer

What is the cancer risk from this facility?

For chemicals that could cause cancer, a calculation called a “health risk assessment” was done. This is the best method officials currently have for estimating the chance that breathing or otherwise being exposed to small amount of a chemical over a long period of time will cause cancer. Because the odds are generally small, they are written as a “number of chances in one million” of getting cancer.

The health risk estimate conservatively assumes that a person is continually exposed for 30 years at a single location to the hexavalent chromium emissions that came from Hixson Metal Finishing in 2013. Most people do not stay in one location for that amount of time, so their actual risk is likely to be lower. In addition, monitors operated by SCAQMD have shown that levels of hexavalent chromium near Hixson have decreased substantially since early 2014, however risks remain at unacceptable levels.

Based on the risk assessment, people who live in the area shown on the Facility Risk Map would have their chance of getting cancer increased by up to 1,502 chances in one million because of hexavalent chromium emissions from this facility, and people who work in the area shown would have their chance of getting cancer increased by up to 88 chances in one million. The attached Facility Risk Map shows the risks at various locations.

How does the risk from this facility compare to other risks?

The cancer risk from this facility is relatively small compared to the average overall risk for people living in the United States. Currently, according to the American Cancer Society, about four out of ten people will get cancer sometime during their lifetime. In other words, the odds of getting cancer at some time in your life are about 400,000 per million.

What is the cancer risk from toxic air pollution in general?

SCAQMD’s Multiple Air Toxics Exposure Study IV (MATES IV) presents estimates of cancer risk throughout SCAQMD’s four county jurisdiction. The average cancer risk from all pollutants emitted from all sources (cars, trucks, factories, power plants, etc.) is about 900 per million. In the neighborhood around Hixson Metal Finishing, the background risk is about 630 per million.

The additional cancer risk from hexavalent chromium emissions from Hixson are similar to risks that have been found near a rail yard or a freeway with heavy truck traffic.

How was the health risk from this facility determined?

The health risk assessment relied on data collected from air quality monitoring instruments set up on and near Hixson as inputs into a computer model that predicts air pollutant concentrations throughout the community. As required by law, guidance from the state Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment was used to determine how the predicted levels of air pollutants in the air may impact people’s health. This guidance was updated in March 2015 to specifically address recent scientific advancements in the understanding of how toxic air pollutants have a greater influence on children than they do on adults. This newer methodology results in risk estimates for Hixson that are approximately 3.7 times higher than those using previous methods. This method of determining risk may differ from other regulatory programs, such as public notification being carried out under Proposition 65.

What is being done to reduce the health risks from this facility?

The state law requiring issuance of this public notice is one step in getting facilities throughout the state to reduce toxic emissions resulting from their operations. The SCAQMD and other agencies have also developed other programs designed to prevent pollution and reduce exposure to toxic air pollution. For example, SCAQMD’s Rule 1402 (Control of Toxic Air Contaminants from Existing Sources), applies to facilities that exceed specific risk thresholds (e.g., cancer risk greater than 25 per million) and requires the facility to reduce its risk below threshold within three years.

How can I get more information?

A copy of the Hixson Metal Finishing health risk assessment report is available for your review at the following libraries. The health risk assessment and other information about SCAQMD activities related to Hixson can be found on our website at:

<http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/compliance/toxic-hot-spots-ab-2588/hixson-metal-finishing>

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