

MOTION

In September 2015, Harbor Department voluntarily disclosed that the China Shipping terminal failed to comply with some mitigation measures, including air quality mitigation measures that the City had agreed to in the 2008 Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The 2008 EIR was ordered as part of a 2004 legal settlement with homeowners and environmental groups. The Innovation, Grants, Technology, Commerce and Trade Committee held a hearing on this matter and is monitoring the potential legal repercussions and mitigation negotiations.

The Harbor Department launched a self-initiated audit of the mitigation measures contained in the 2009 permit for the 185-acre TraPac terminal near Wilmington. The Harbor Department audit found that 49 of 52 measures were met; however, the following three mitigation measures were not:

- (1) A measure to reduce harmful diesel emissions that requires massive cargo ships to shut down their engines and plug into shore-based electricity 80% of the time they are docked. It has come to light that ships in the TraPac terminal were plugged into shore power only 53% of the time in 2015. TraPac provided a letter to the Port stating that the failure was due to ongoing construction and port congestion and that these failures will be corrected;
- (2) A measure requiring that all yard equipment at the terminal run on the cleanest possible Tier 4 diesel engines by 2014. The audit found 22% of yard equipment at the TraPac terminal failed to meet this standard. The TraPac terminal provided the Port with a purchase order demonstrating they will remedy this situation in this calendar year; and
- (3) A measure requiring a road improvement project on Alameda Street. The Harbor Department has taken the initial steps to move this project forward.

The Harbor Department and the TraPac terminal have attributed these shortcomings to the backlog created by construction work and port congestion problems that prevented ships from using shore power, but failure to meet this requirement is troubling. Furthermore, although TraPac Inc. has provided purchase orders showing that its remaining yard equipment would be upgraded this year to the cleaner models required by the City, the impact of this failure needs to be measured and reviewed.

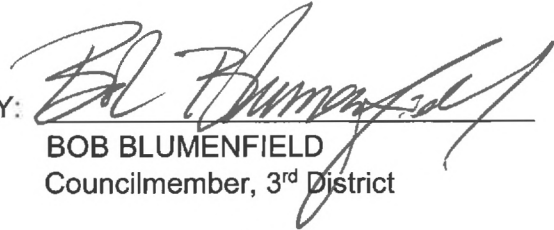
Considering that the TraPac and China Shipping terminals make up about one-third of the containers moving through the port, TraPac terminal's failed and/or delayed compliance with pollution reducing measures can have a significant impact. In light of the Harbor Department's recent findings the Harbor Department should report on TraPac's failed and/or delayed compliance with their mitigation measures and the steps that TraPac and the Harbor Department will take to address them.


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ORIGINAL

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Harbor Department be requested to report regarding the failed and/or delayed compliance of the required air quality mitigation measures, and on all the steps it and TraPac are undertaking to address this important situation.

PRESENTED BY:


BOB BLUMENFIELD
Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY:



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