

The SDCEA and the residents of South Durban demand the closure of the Engen Refinery due to its proximity to people. For this we will continue to fight.

Until then we demand....

1. A Free mobile Asthma Clinic operational 24 hours in the surrounding communities that will attend to sufferers of Engen's toxic soup.
2. The closure of the Community Liaison Forum as it is not representative of the rights and needs of common people. We call on Engen to open direct lines of communication with the SDCEA and other community groups.
3. The characterization of all smells escaping over the Engen fence-line into the homes of Indian and Colored area's.
4. The local, provincial and national authority improvement of data collection on the refinery industry, including flare monitoring of volumes and content of flare gas, extension to measure for other noxious chemicals otherwise ignored, as well as video monitoring.
5. When information on emissions is provided by the refineries, this needs to be independently verified as a point of law.
6. All Environmental Impact Assessments must take account of cumulative impacts and be reviewed by the authorities or any other independent party and be widely advertised to the local public.
7. A reform in the gas market, so that excess gas can easily be utilized by industries both locally and nationally.
8. In Alberta, if the refinery operators do not solve a flaring problem, the public can submit a written objection to the EUB (Energy and Utilities Board). The board will then consider the application for a permit and the objection. We demand similar legislation here that acknowledges residents as being crucial in terms of public participation and for bringing potential problems to the fore.
9. Enforcement of any open and penalty based permitting system to ensure that the industry is accountable.
10. Skilled personnel and specialists in the refinery field to be introduced in local, provincial and national departments, as well as in community organizations.
11. Engen needs to employ an increased number of locals and invest in training these candidates, thereby developing resources.
12. The MPP Monitoring Stations are improved to function at all times, especially when flaring incidents are occurring, and to measure a larger number of chemicals emitted by the refineries.
13. A reduction in the need for flaring through more efficient operating procedures and Best Available Technology (BAT) at the refineries, with flare gas recovery systems being of a sufficient size to handle most upsets.
14. In order to reduce flaring incidents and accidents, that the refineries and power suppliers look at alternative power sources and back up systems for when there are power failures that cause the supply to the refineries to be interrupted.
15. Engen must calculate the carbon emitted not by assuming high combustion efficiency but rather, by measuring actual combustion efficiency.
16. Furthermore, we demand that the actual efficiency in the destruction of hydrogen sulphide within a flaring system is measured.
17. Engen needs to provide an interval for their maintenance cycle to the public.
18. Engen needs to introduce vapor recovery systems. Engen has made some modification to recapture benzene. Results need to be independently verified and advertised.
19. Engen needs to make clear their position on the addition of auxiliary fuels added to flares as the statement that they do not do this is in contradiction with their project in progress to develop the use of Methane.
20. Engen needs to adopt a better attitude in dealing with its public and correctly train its public liaison officers to properly handle and understand the opinion of people on the street.
21. Engen should publicly and in a transparent way, illustrate profits and exact community investments for civil analysis, comment and application.

For further information please contact Office Staff on 031 4611991 or sdcea@mail.ngo.za



Freedom from **ENGEN**

South Durban Community Environmental Alliance

Position Paper No. 2

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A Ship that never Sails

Engen, currently the second largest integrated oil company in Southern Africa after Sasol was created in 1989 when Mobil Corporations sold its Southern African operations to Gencor. Engen is the major shareholder in Energy Africa, which is active in West Africa and is listed on the Johannesburg and Luxemburg Stock Exchanges.

It was in 1948 when the then Standard-Vacuum Oil Company of South Africa approached the South African Government with the idea of building the country's first Crude Oil Refinery. Negotiations continued for nearly three years until in February 1951 the Standard-Vacuum Refining Company of South Africa was registered and plans to build a new refinery to the south of Durban Harbour were announced.

Today the refinery continues its growth and outputs, polluting the air with a toxic lace into the South Durban Valley. These toxins have become a way of life for residents of the Bluff, Wentworth and Merebank. Not only are people faced with the noise and look of an aging refinery – the pungent smells cause headache and constant loss of appetite to over 400 000 people. 52% of children suffer with Asthma according to a University of Kwazulu Natal health Study, recognized as a world record. Skin irritations, cancer and leukemia are all adverse health effects with an increased incidence in this area. The refinery has a marked history of carelessness and the perpetuation of environmental racism and social injustice. The most distressing factor may be the fact that common people have generally accepted their fates at the hands of the refinery, overwhelmed by other social issues. The lack of government action for the needs of people however – is equally disturbing.

