

CITY OF TORRANCE REPORT

FIRE OPERATIONAL RESPONSE OVERVIEW



**ExxonMobil Incident
February 18, 2015**

CALIFORNIA SENATE COMMITTEES BRIEFING

**California Senate Energy Utilities
Communication & Environmental Quality**

CITY OF TORRANCE REPORT

ExxonMobil Incident

February 18, 2015

0850 hrs

Deputy Fire Chief David A. Dumais

PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- **Response**

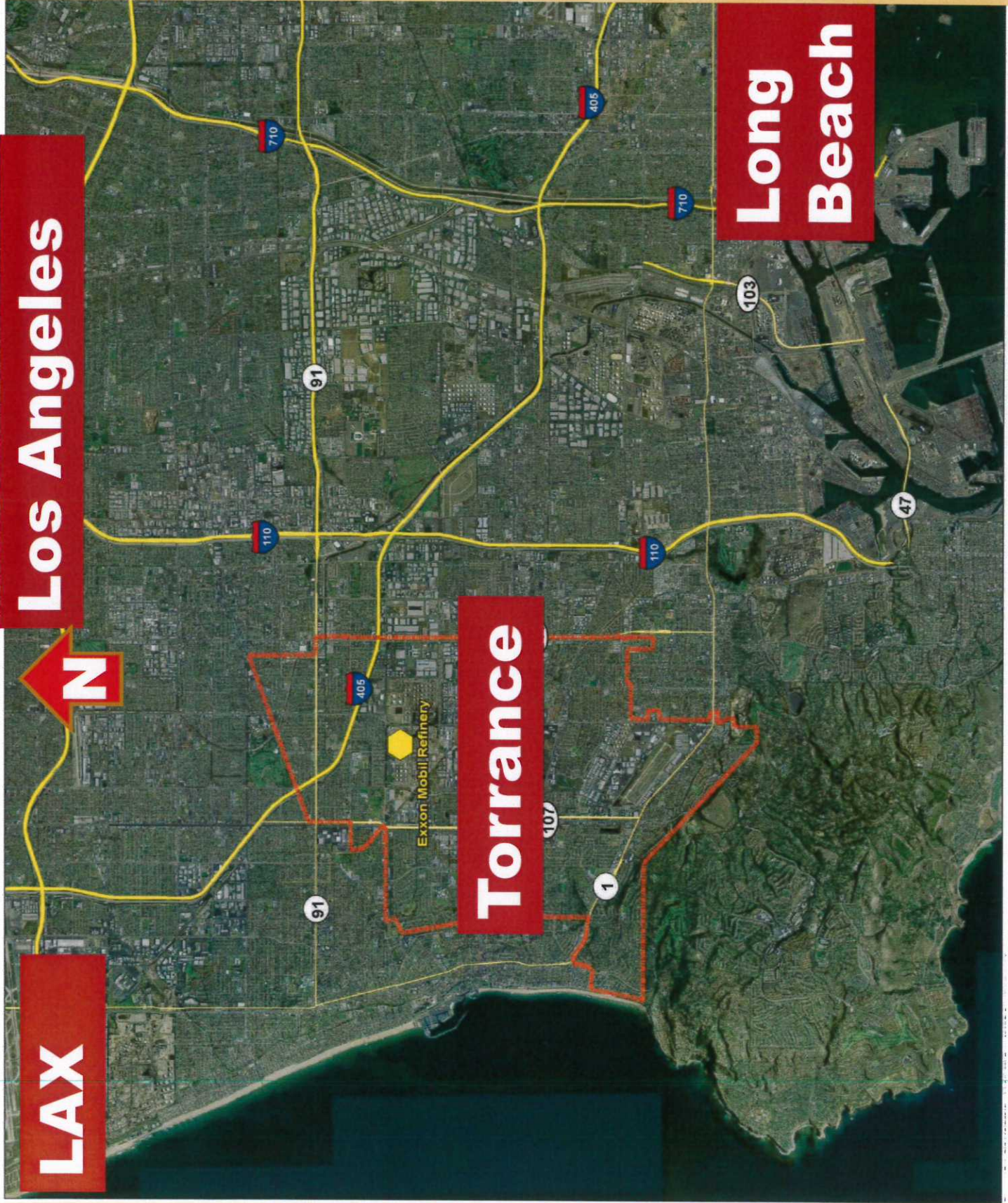
- Preparation

- **Hazard Mitigation**

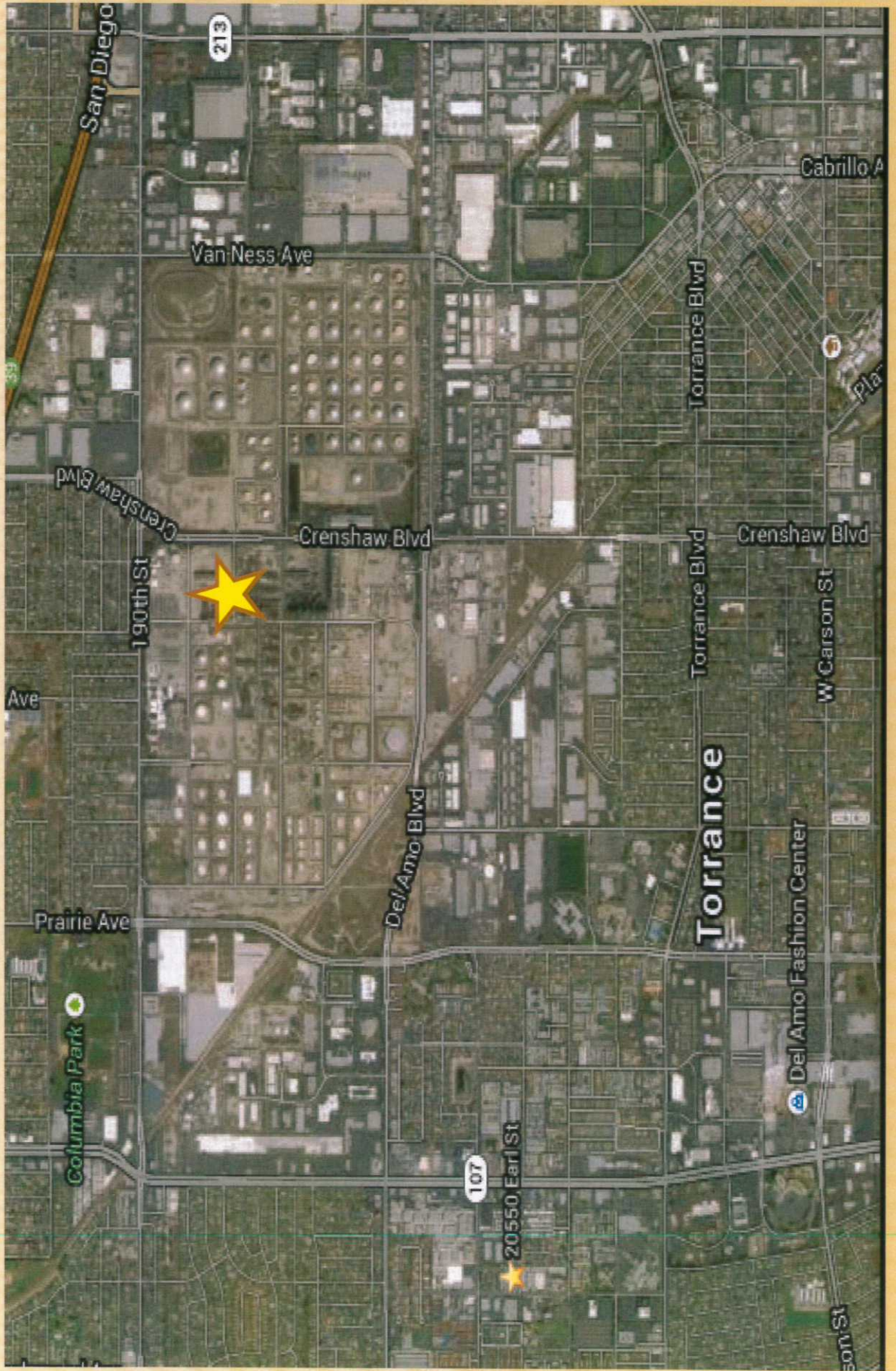
- Stabilization

- De-escalation

- **Notifications Systems**

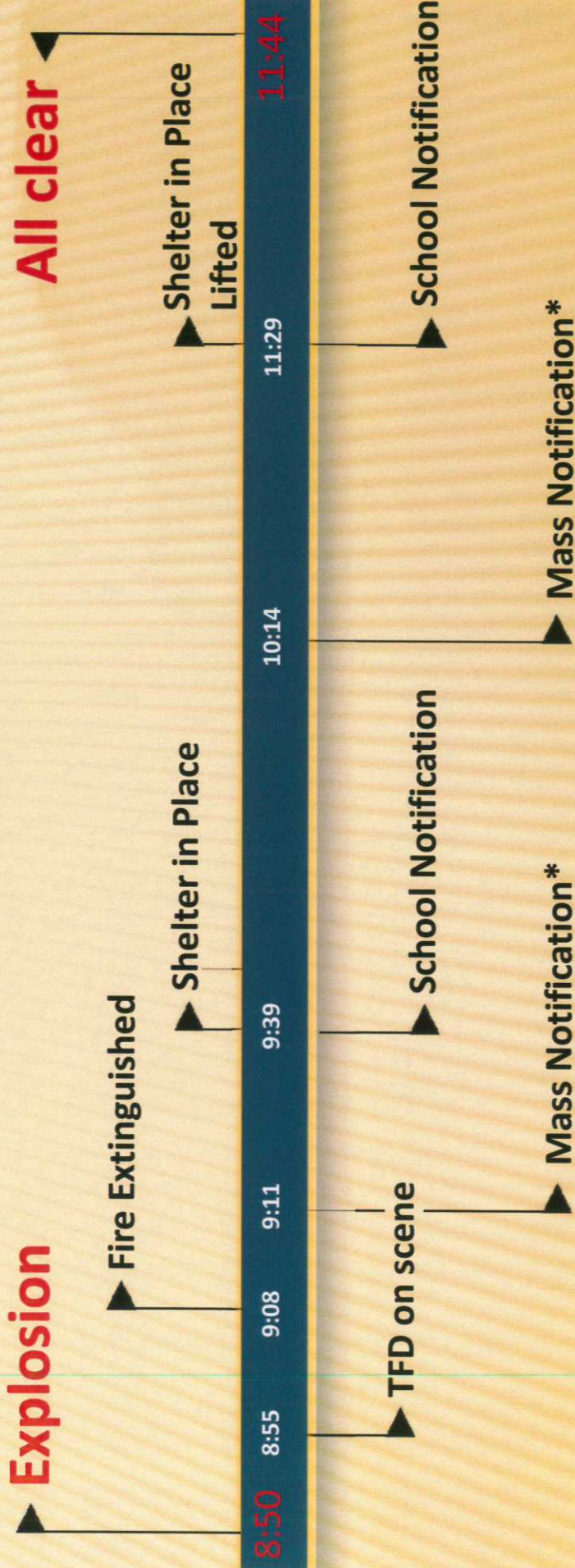


EXXON MOBIL REFINERY



TIMELINE

INCIDENT



ACTION

*Notifications to the public, including via Facebook, Nixle, TorranceAlerts, Twitter

INCIDENT TIMELINE



0850 hrs

Torrance Fire is dispatched to ExxonMobil Fire / Haz Mat Response -First Alarm Assignment



0853 hrs

Incident upgraded to 2nd alarm



0855 hrs

TFD E-93 Onscene reports both flares in operation

INCIDENT TIMELINE



**0901
hrs**

**HM 91,
monitoring at
East Fence
line
No levels
detected
(flammables)**



**0904
hrs**

**All Torrance
Fire Units on
scene
E 93 reports
ground Fire
extinguished**



**0905
hrs**

**Del Amo /
Maple gates
closed;
monitoring in
place along
Crenshaw
with zero
readings**

INCIDENT TIMELINE



**0908
hrs**

- **Shelter in Place determined not necessary for the schools per the I/C**
- **No wind**
- **OK if they felt it necessary due to any odors**



**0911
hrs**

- **Notification attempted via Fire Emergency Services Coordinator**
- Contacted for Assistance**



**0915
hrs**

Mutual Aide enroute

INCIDENT TIMELINE



**0918
hrs**

**School District notified via phone
No need to shelter at this time**



**0921
hrs**

➤ **B 21 arrives on scene assigned Operations**
➤ **Mutual Aide Covering City**



**0930
hrs**

**Ash Report
Internal Notification to employees at City Yard and City Hall due to Ash fall out**

INCIDENT TIMELINE



**0939
hrs**

- **Dispatch Reports Ash and Odor throughout City (West and So Redondo)**
- **IC Schools told to Shelter due to Ash**



**0939
hrs**

- **B91 requests offsite investigation for Ash/ Insulation Handled by recalled TFD Personnel**



**0939
hrs**

- **IC contacted via phone recommended limited shelter notification to NW section of City**

INCIDENT TIMELINE



0945
hrs

Fire's Facebook Post

The City of Torrance Fire Department is responding to an explosion at Exxon Mobil Refinery. At this time, there is no need to shelter in place. More information will be provided as it becomes available.



0952
hrs

Nixle Alert: Title: Torrance PD

Message: 2nd Alarm fire explosion at ExxonMobil. Police and Fire on scene. Del Amo closed between Maple and Crenshaw.

INCIDENT TIMELINE



0952
hrs

**Schools told
to shelter in
place**



1005
hrs

Title: *Torrance PD*
**Message: *Fire explosion
at ExxonMobil. Those in
the affected area
should shelter in place.
Del Amo closed
between Maple and
Crenshaw.***

INCIDENT TIMELINE



1014
hrs

Title: Exxon Mobil Haz Mat Shelter in Place Precaution
Message: (Pre-Recorded Message and Template) This is a message from the Torrance Fire Department. We have responded to an explosion at the Exxon Mobil Refinery. As a precaution those with health issues or those with young children should implement shelter in place procedures. Stay inside a building, shut all doors and windows, turn off air conditioners, and shut down air handling systems. You will be notified when there is a change in status. Please do not call the Fire Department unless you have an emergency.

INCIDENT TIMELINE



1114
hrs

• **0 LEL
flammables
at impact
site**



1129
hrs

**1129 hrs
Update on
ExxonMobil.
Torrance Fire
Department has
advised no
chemical release
and no Citywide
shelter in place
necessary.**



1129
hrs

• **Shelter in
place lifted
for schools**

INCIDENT TIMELINE



**1129
hrs**

Flares reduced down to one with clean burnoff with no smoke



**1130
hrs**

Request notify schools, lifting shelter in place, no readings



**1144
hrs**

Zero radiation readings at the impact area per LA County HazMat/Health

INCIDENT TIMELINE



1144
hrs

**Torrance Alerts
(internal notification)
Title: Exxon Mobil
Information**

**Message: Per TFD all
clear, Shelter-in-Place
for the schools has
been lifted. Units
remain on scene to
continue to monitor.**



1245
hrs

**Units Clear
from
ExxonMobil**



1340
hrs

**XOM
Command
Dissolved**

PROCESS AREA

Platinum Reforming Unit

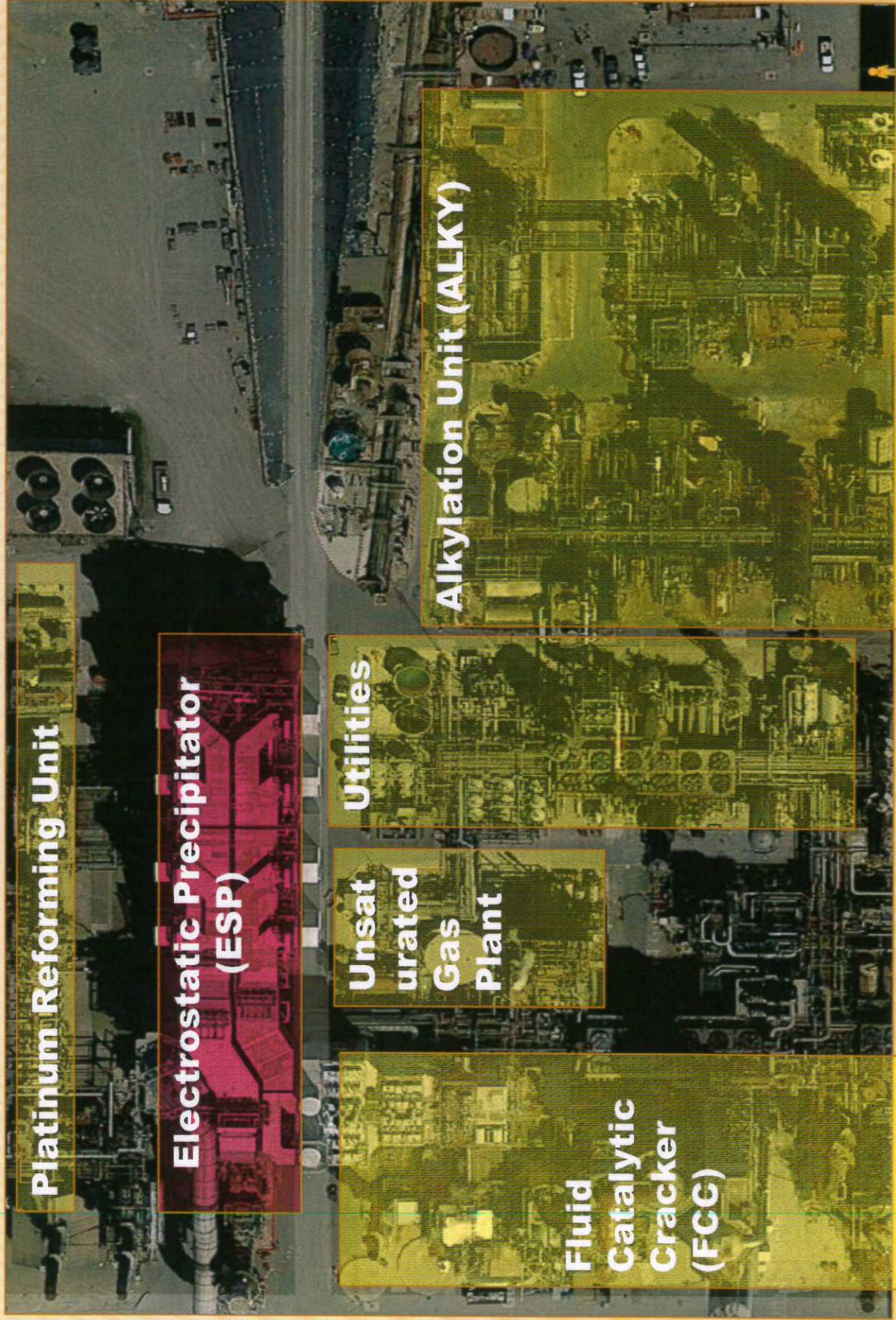
Electrostatic Precipitator (ESP)

Unsat
urated
Gas
Plant

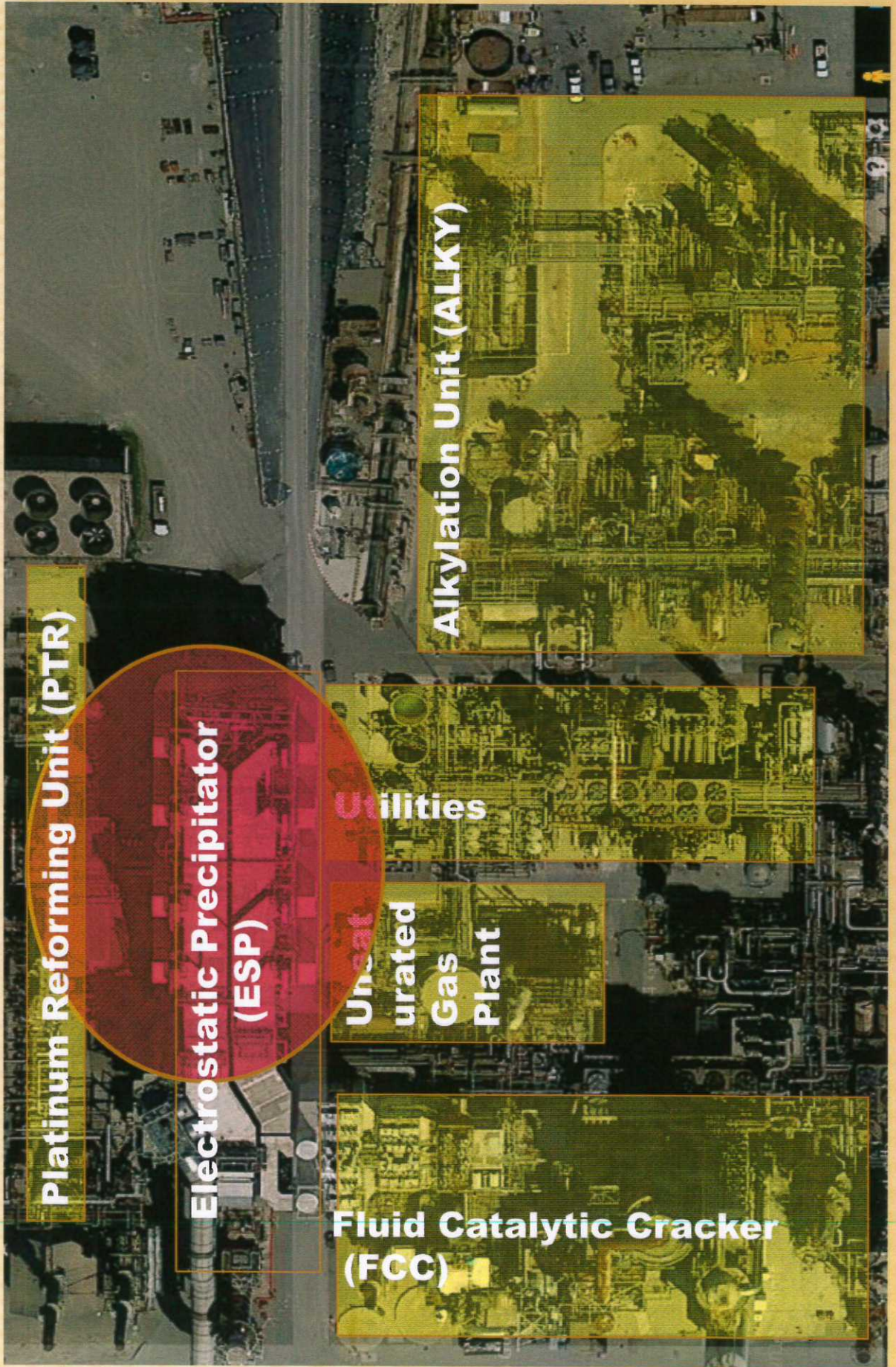
Utilities

Alkylation Unit (ALKY)

Fluid
Catalytic
Cracker
(FCC)



PROCESS AREA DAMAGE



Platinum Reforming Unit (PTR)

Electrostatic Precipitator (ESP)

Fluid Catalytic Cracker (FCC)

Unsat. Saturated Gas Plant

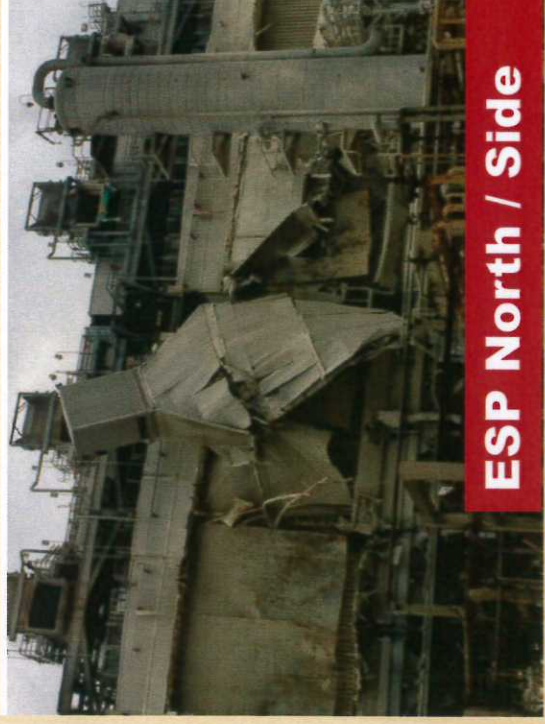
Utilities

Alkylation Unit (ALKY)

Electrostatic Precipitator Damage (ESP)



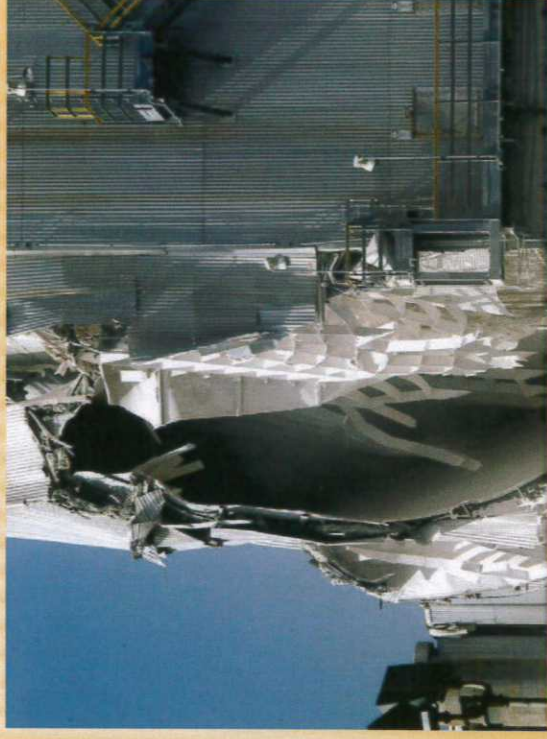
ESP S/Side

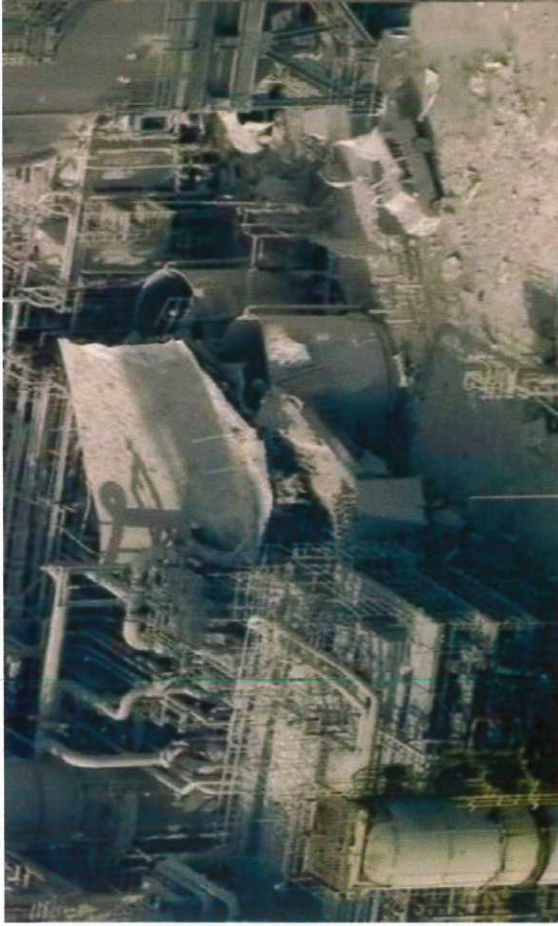


ESP North / Side



ESP South





Southeast Side ESP

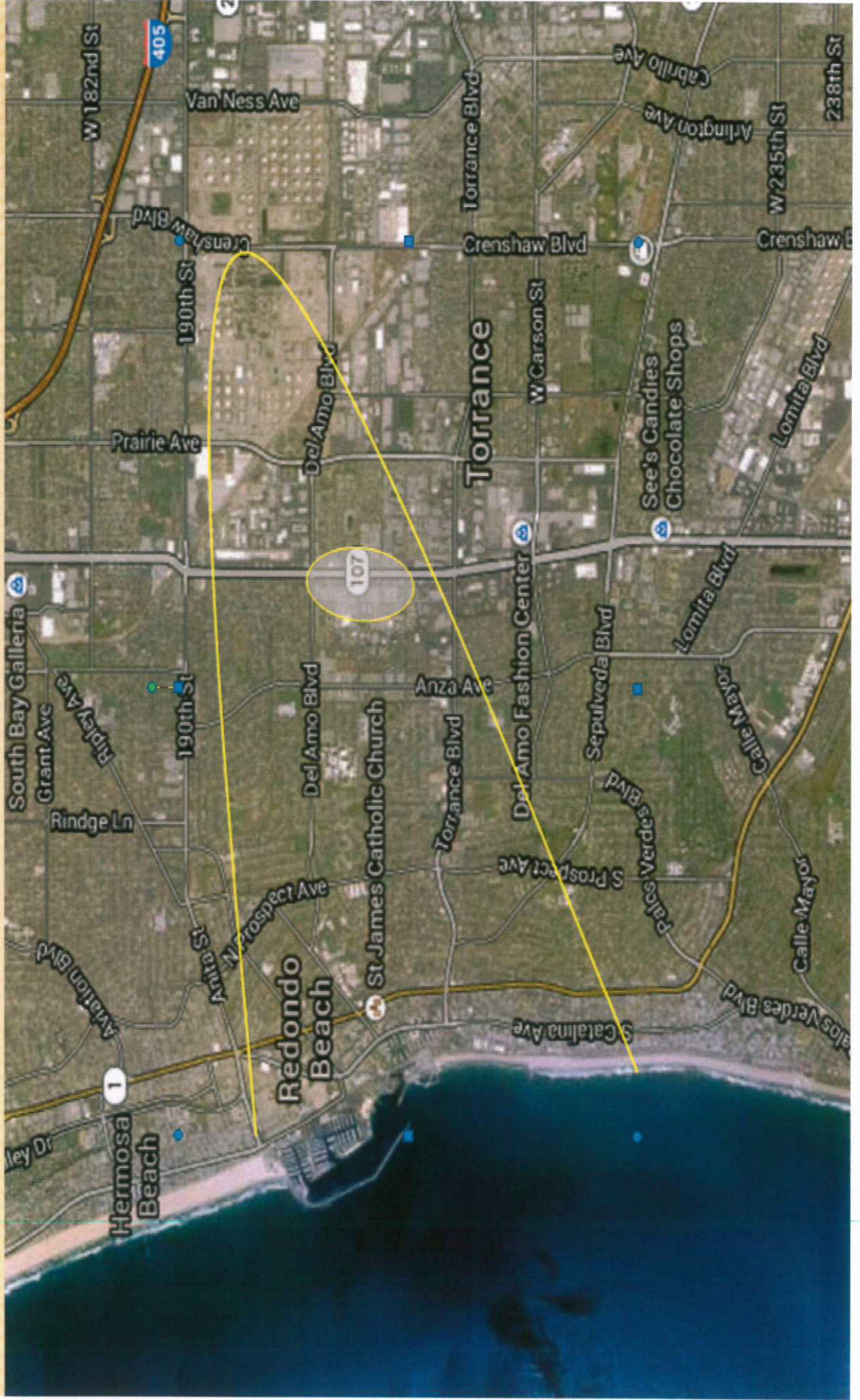


Flaring



Southeast Side ESP

ESTIMATED FALL OUT AREA



FIRE RESPONSE

- 0851 ExxonMobil (XOM) requests a Fire Hazardous Materials (Haz Mat) Response due to explosion at the plant.
- First Alarm response is dispatched as per protocol
- Engine 93 reports smoke over the refinery enroute requests a second alarm

FIRE RESPONSE

- All TFD units to the Refinery
- Engine 93 on scene meets with XOM safety advisor who reports explosion with small fire now extinguished
- Initial Reports of 2 missing workers
- Total of 4 minor injuries were reported all were transported via private vehicles

STABILIZATION

- Fire Controlled quickly by XOM Firefighters
- 2 of 3 Gasoline leak Controlled
- 3rd Gasoline leak Controlled with water monitors into on site drain system while unit was depressurized
- No off site levels of flammable/ Combustible vapors detected

DE-ESCALATION

- Flaring subsided with no visible smoke or plume
- XOM handling small gasoline leak while unit depressurizes
- 1:40 pm TFD units released from the scene and turns the incident over to XOM

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEMS

- **Systems used**
 - Telephone Notification System (TorranceAlerts)
 - Direct phone contact with TUSD Superintendent
- **Systems not utilized**
 - ExxonMobil Siren
 - Radio Alert Network

REVIEW

- **Response**

- Preparation

- **Hazard Mitigation**

- Stabilization

- De-escalation

- **Notifications Systems**

CONTACT

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