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At Chevron, we work hard to play a positive role in the community and to be good neighbors. However, recent publications in the news and opinion pages about our interest in resolving whether the recently enacted Measure T violates state and federal law might lead you to think otherwise. As the refinery manager, I'd like to tell you a little about the Chevron Richmond refinery, our relationship with the people of Richmond and why our position on Measure T does not change our commitment to our community.

For more than 100 years, the Richmond refinery has been an integral part of the local community – supporting economic growth, creating jobs, and funding programs that help people living in Richmond. We take pride in our commitment to serving our community, conducting safe operations, protecting the environment, and contributing to the success of the City of Richmond.

In addition to being the city's largest and oldest company, Chevron currently employs about 2700 people, and is the city's largest taxpayer. The taxes Chevron pays and the voluntary contributions we make have helped fund critical city programs and services, including education, health care, and public safety ever since the City incorporated in 1905, which was three years after the refinery began operations.

The economic impact of Chevron, however, goes beyond that. According to a recent study by the Milken Institute, a pre-eminent California public policy center, Chevron's Bay Area operations supported nearly 37,000 jobs and generated more than \$4.4 billion in economic activity in 2007 – which includes jobs and economic benefits going directly to businesses in Richmond and West Contra Costa County.

Because our roots here run deep, we believe that providing community support both through financial assistance and personal involvement is our responsibility as a good neighbor. In 2008, we provided more than \$1.5 million to support about 90 Richmond and West County organizations. Most of these organizations provide education, job training and youth programs that help many Richmond residents improve their quality of life and give hope and inspiration to those most in need of assistance.

We continue to believe that when Chevron is successful, it benefits the City of Richmond in a significant way. But to be successful, we need to operate in a business environment that allows us to be competitive, reliable and economically viable.

Chevron is committed to continuing to build a long-term partnership with Richmond that helps us achieve a goal we all share: building a safer and more prosperous place to live and work. We hope you will continue to join our efforts to improve the quality of life in our community. The City of Richmond and Chevron will both benefit if we work together.

Sincerely,

Mike Coyle General Manager