

Fact Sheet

Radius Recycling

The metal recycler formerly known as Schnitzer Steel has been polluting West Oakland for too long



Radius Recycling's West Oakland facility shreds vehicles, appliances, and other products in close proximity to an urban residential community. The facility produces toxic pollution that poisons the air, water and soil, putting an already over-burdened neighborhood at even greater risk.

Recently acquired by Toyota, Radius owns nearly 100 recycling and manufacturing facilities across the country. Its West Oakland facility operates within two miles of the following highly vulnerable populations:

- 12+ daycare centers
- 8 schools
- 4 senior housing facilities
- 10 public parks
- 4+ healthcare providers

Sources: radiusrecycling.com; maps.google.com; radiusrecycling.com

Radius' practices expose our community to toxic substances:

Shredding of metal generates high concentrations of Particulate Matter (PM), Black Carbon (BC), Light Fibrous Material (LFM) & heavy metals, all of which increase risk of cancer & other illnesses when released into our air.

Ship, truck, and rail traffic: Transporting materials in and out of the facility, and on-site cargo handling equipment, produce diesel emissions throughout our neighborhood.

Feedstock piles: Piles of scrap vehicles, appliances, machinery & other metals emit pollutants (Volatile Organic Compounds or VOCs, Black Carbon, and toxic fluids like oil and coolant), that end up in our air and water.

Toxic fires happen regularly at Schnitzer when piles ignite, emitting more Black Carbon, Volatile Organic Compounds, and Particulate Matter that poison the air we breathe.

Source: "Background Report: Schnitzer Steel Oakland Operations," Sonoma Technology Inc., Oct. 2022.



West Oakland
Environmental
Indicators
Project

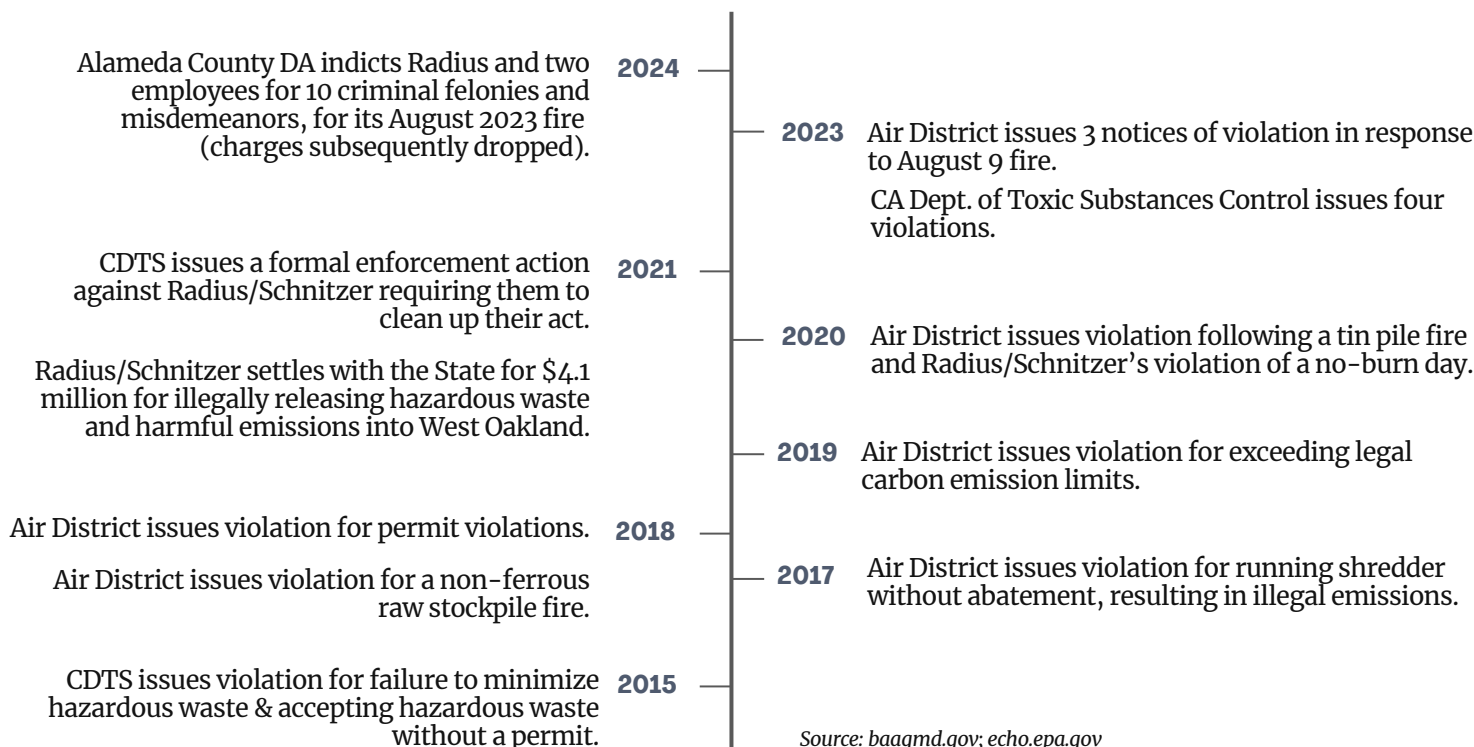
woeip.org/metalshredders

Fact Sheet

Radius Recycling

a.k.a. **Schnitzer Steel**

Just some of Radius' long history of environmental violations...



Source: baaqmd.gov; echo.epa.gov

Who's responsible for enforcement?

FEDERAL AGENCIES

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)
Inspects facility, Federal permits and enforces the Clean Air Act. www.epa.gov

STATE AGENCIES

California Air Resources Board (CARB)
Provides air quality expertise, reviews compliance protocols. ww2.arb.ca.gov

California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)
Regulates hazardous waste facility permits, enforces state hazardous waste control laws. dtsc.ca.gov

California State Attorney General
Brings lawsuits against violators. oag.ca.gov

REGIONAL AGENCIES

Bay Area Air Quality Management District
Issues air permits, sets operational rules, approves annual air testing protocols. www.baaqmd.gov

California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA)
Oversees statewide environmental justice initiatives. calepa.ca.gov

State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)
Requires a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), administers General Permit. waterboards.ca.gov



West Oakland
Environmental
Indicators
Project

woeip.org/metalshredders

Updated June 20, 2025