

# GIBRALTAR CHRONICLE

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"I WOULD BE PROUD TO LEAD GSLP" - PICARDO See page 3

## FIRE IN THE REFINERY

**• No danger to public, says spokesman**

A spectacular fire broke out in the refinery yesterday shortly before 1pm. The plumes of smoke were clearly visible from Gibraltar as the blaze caused concern to the inhabitants on both sides of the border.

Speaking to the Chronicle yesterday, a spokesman for the refinery said "the small fire" that was classed emergency level 1 was not toxic for the population since it had been caused "by a leak of crude oil" that had been ignited. According to industry regulations level 1 is the lowest classification in a table that goes up to level 2 and level 3

Press article on future joint demonstration

## Gibraltar environmentalists join Spanish to stage protest about pollution in the bay

\*Our communities are being poisoned, they say

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The Gibraltar environmentalist group ESG will joint with their Spanish counterparts in what they see as a major protest in defence of the environment. This will take place at noon on Saturday 23 october, and members of the public are being urged to take part. It is expected this will be from Campamento.

The ESG said yesterday that the theme of the protest will be "In defence of the environment and health of its citizens".

It is hoped that this protest will significantly help the fight against pollution in the Bay. At last Friday night's meeting in San Roque, with participation from environmental groups from all over the Bay including Verdemar, Ecologistas en Acción, Agaden, Cortafuegos, Bay Bucket Brigade, ESG, AAVV Guadarranque, Residents from Puente Mayorga and Guadarranque, Asociación para la Defensa de los niños Prodeni y Plataforma del Hospital de la Linea, it was unanimously decided that we all come together to express the fact that existing pollution levels

safely.

The ESG and Bay Bucket Brigade say they will be co-ordinating the Gibraltar participation in this protest. They expect the meeting point to be confirmed this week and is likely to be in Campamento area.

The ESG says it will be organising transport from Gibraltar and urges everyone here to support this peaceful march for an environment where our children can breathe and grow safely.

Worst

"Let us remember that although the big industries are located in Spain they affect the entire region. This area is listed within the European Pollutant Register as being among the worst in Europe, and carries the highest rates of cancer and other serious illnesses as supported by a nationwide study published recently. TIME TO ACT is NOW," says a Press release.

It says: This is the time to use our feet to march for a future we want for our children. We must do more than just complain!

from the industrial installations in the Campo area are not to be tolerated any longer: that they are poisoning entire communities: and that unless people stand shoulder to shoulder to face up to these industries, nothing of any consequence will ever happen," said a spokesperson.

Petitions

Collection of signatures in the form of petitions will also be carried out on the day. A document stating the demands of the protesters will be drawn up over the next few weeks to be presented to both industries and the relevant authorities for not monitoring the environment