Air Pollutant Watch List Area Texas Commission on Environmental Quality APWL1202 - Benzene and Hydrogen Sulfide Texas City, Galveston County, Texas



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TCEQ Region: 12 Year Removed: 2014

Area Boundaries:

- South of TX Avenue/State Hwy 348
- East of Hwy 146
- West of Galveston Bay (West Bay)

Why remove this pollutant(s) from the APWL? Benzene

Stationary monitoring data show that annual average benzene concentrations have remained below 1.4 ppbv at each monitoring location in Texas City for two consecutive years. For example, the 2010 and 2011 annual average benzene concentrations were 0.5 ppbv at TCEQ's Texas City Ball Park Monitor; 0.4 ppbv and 0.3 ppbv (respectively) at BP's 31st Street Monitor; 0.6 ppbv and 0.5 ppbv at BP's Logan Street Monitor; and 0.9 ppbv and 0.8 ppbv at Marathon's 11th Street Monitor. The TCEQ determined that monitored concentrations can reasonably be expected to be maintained below levels of potential concern.

Hydrogen Sulfide

Monitored concentrations of hydrogen sulfide in the Texas City APWL area have declined and exceedances of the standard are infrequent and appear to be episodic in nature. Monitoring data from the Texas City Ball Park monitor, BP's Logan Street and 31st Street monitors, and the TCLAMN 2nd Avenue monitor all show significantly fewer exceedances of the standard. At the Texas City Ball Park monitor exceedances occurred on two days in 2009 but there were no exceedances from 2010 to 2012. Similarly, there were no exceedances reported from BP's 31st Street monitor from 2010 to 2012. The Logan Street monitor showed exceedances on one day in 2011. The Texas City /La Marque 2nd Avenue site reported no exceedances in 2009 or 2010 and only two days of exceedances in 2011. No exceedances were monitored in 2008 during mobile monitoring. Because the primary companies in Texas City that emit hydrogen sulfide have installed flare gas recovery systems and other significant equipment improvements to minimize hydrogen sulfide emissions, the likelihood of experiencing extended elevated hydrogen sulfide concentrations has been drastically reduced. As such, the TCEQ has determined that monitored concentrations can reasonably be expected to be maintained below the state standard.

Annual evaluations may be accessed from the Toxicological Evaluations of Ambient Air Monitoring Data web page at www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/tox/regmemo/AirMain.html.