Message

From: Acevedo, Janie [Acevedo.Janie@epa.gov]
Sent: 3/23/2019 8:51:38 PM
To: Gray, David [gray.david@epa.gov]
CC: Bokun, Lisa [Bokun.Lisa@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Media Inquiry for review and approval

Thank you

From: Gray, David
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2019 3:44 PM
To: Acevedo, Janie <Acevedo.Janie@epa.gov>
Cc: Bokun, Lisa <Bokun.Lisa@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Media Inquiry for review and approval

My suggestions.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 23, 2019, at 3:19 PM, Acevedo, Janie <Acevedo.Janie@epa.gov> wrote:

<image001.gif>

Q: What is EPA doing?

A: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) are working in Unified Command in response to a fire at the Intercontinental Terminals Company (ITC) Deer Park facility near Houston, TX. The Unified Command consists of EPA, TCEQ, U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), Harris County Pollution Control Services (HCPCS) and ITC. Emergency responders have extinguished the fires. EPA has conducted, and continues to conduct, ground level air monitoring with hand held equipment and the Airborne Spectral Photometric Environmental Collection Technology aircraft (ASPECT). The EPA Trace Atmosphere Gas Analyzer (TAGA) has arrived in LaPorte and is operating in the Deer Park area. It is monitoring for organic compounds in the air. EPA, TCEQ and U.S. Coast Guard are also assessing the possible impacts in nearby water bodies.

Q: How many EPA representatives are on the ground?

A. EPA currently has about 20 emergency response personnel supporting the Unified Command. The EPA Emergency Response Center in Dallas has also been activated.

Q. Exactly how long are air quality conditions expected to be hazardous?

A. See TCEQ's news release for an update: https://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/itc-terminal-fire-update

Q: Does the EPA plan on doing long-term monitoring of benzene levels in the population around Deer Park, TX?

A: As part of the long-term ambient air network maintained by the TCEQ, volatile organic compounds, including benzene, are measured. Results are reported on the TCEQ webpage at https://www.tceq.texas.gov/cgi-bin/compliance/monops/agc_monthly_summary.pl

Janie Acevedo-Beauchamp
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