Message

From: Webster, Susan [webster.susan@epa.gov]
Sent: 12/12/2018 1:45:39 AM
To: Petersen, Chris [petersen.chris@epa.gov]
CC: Smith, Monica [smith.monica@epa.gov]
Subject: Fwd: EPA Update 12/11/2018 Trafalgar Road Fire - New Information

Document Jon and I finished tonight per our discussions. We can discuss sampling details with ADEQ at tomorrow's 9 am call.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Gray, David" <gray.david@epa.gov>
> **Date:** December 11, 2018 at 7:29:54 PM CST
> **To:** "Webster, Susan" <webster.susan@epa.gov>, "Crossland, Ronnie" <Crossland.Ronnie@epa.gov>, "Palich, Christian" <palich.christian@epa.gov>, "Bokun, Lisa" <Bokun.Lisa@epa.gov>, "Martindale, Cary" <martindale.cary@epa.gov>, "Edlund, Carl" <Edlund.Carl@epa.gov>, "Rauscher, Jon" <Rauscher.Jon@epa.gov>, "Levine, Carolyn" <Levine.Carolyn@epa.gov>
> **Subject: EPA Update 12/11/2018 Trafalgar Road Fire - New Information**
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> ---
>
> **From:** Gray, David
> **Sent:** Tuesday, December 11, 2018 7:29 PM
> **To:** 'clapp@bellavistaar.gov' <clapp@bellavistaar.gov>; keogh@adeq.state.ar.us; 'Mackensie_burt@boozman.senate.gov' <Mackensie_burt@boozman.senate.gov>; 'Joe_brown@boozman.senate.gov' <Joe_brown@boozman.senate.gov>; 'Jace_motley@boozman.senate.gov' <Jace_motley@boozman.senate.gov>; 'Chase_emerson@boozman.senate.gov' <Chase_emerson@boozman.senate.gov>; 'jimmy_harris@boozman.senate.gov' <jimmy_harris@boozman.senate.gov>; 'Stacey_mcclure@boozman.senate.gov' <Stacey_mcclure@boozman.senate.gov>; 'Kyle.weaver@mail.house.gov' <Kyle.weaver@mail.house.gov>; 'Jessica.powell@mail.house.gov' <Jessica.powell@mail.house.gov>; 'Peter Christie' <pchristie@bellavistaar.gov>
> **Cc:** Idsal, Anne <idsal.anne@epa.gov>; Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>; Chancellor, Erin <chancellor.erin@epa.gov>
> **Subject:** RE: EPA Update 12/11/2018 Trafalgar Road Fire
>
> Mayor,
>
> As part of our air sampling effort this week, we are also measuring for smoke particulates in the air. As expected our sampling has shown that particulates associate with the fires are measurable at 1 location in the community. We also had a high level of particulates in the smoke on the property. The precautions are pretty much common sense approaches including staying out of the smoke whenever possible (see below). Our teams are continuing to collect air samples and we expect to have quality approved chemical data available on December 21. I also understand the first of our experts will arrive tomorrow and others will join by Friday to help us evaluate conditions at the property.
>
> Best,
> David

Air Quality Index Cautionary Statements:
Moderate – Unusually sensitive people should consider reducing prolonged or heavy exertion
Unhealthy – People with respiratory or heart disease, elderly, and children should limit prolonged exertion

Fires and Your Health (https://www.epa.gov/pm-pollution/fires-and-your-health):

When smoke is present:

- If it looks smoky outside, it is a good idea to limit exertion (running, yardwork, playing) during outside activity.
- If you have asthma or other lung disease, you should follow your doctor's directions or asthma management plan
- Run your Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) system while keeping your air filter clean
- If you have heart or lung disease, if you are an older adult, or if you have a child, talk with your doctor about whether or when you should leave the area

Air Quality Index (AQI) Calculator (concentration to AQI):
https://airnow.gov/index.cfm?action=airnow.calculator

Location	PM2.5 (24 hr average)	AQI	AQI Category
BVF-011 Webb Lane	24 µg/m^3	76	Moderate
BVF—012 Sutherland Lane	62 µg/m^3	154	Unhealthy
BVF-013 Site	86 µg/m^3	167	Unhealthy
BVF-014 Mary Ann Lane	28 µg/m^3	84	Moderate

From: Gray, David
Sent: Tuesday, December 11, 2018 10:40 AM
To: clapp@bellavistaar.gov; keogh@adeq.state.ar.us; Mackensie_burt@boozman.senate.gov; Joe_brown@boozman.senate.gov; Jace_motley@boozman.senate.gov; Chase_emerson@boozman.senate.gov; jimmy_harris@boozman.senate.gov; Stacey_mcclure@boozman.senate.gov; Kyle.weaver@mail.house.gov; Jessica.powell@mail.house.gov; Peter Christie <pchristie@bellavistaar.gov>
Cc: Idsal, Anne <idsal.anne@epa.gov>; Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>; Chancellor, Erin <chancellor.erin@epa.gov>
Subject: EPA Update 12/11/2018 Trafalgar Road Fire

EPA Update 12/11/2018
Trafalgar Road Fire

None of EPA's air samples showed elevated concentrations of chemicals of concern in the community. In support of ADEQ, EPA collected 24-hour air samples from 5 locations in the community around the Brown Tree Service property on October 1 and November 10. EPA tested for hundreds of chemicals associated with landfill fires potentially containing construction debris, household waste or tires.

In addition to the community samples, EPA collected samples from 1 location within the Brown Tree Service property, and on November 10 found a Benzene concentration of 0.03 part-per-million (ppm).

Brief exposure (5-10 minutes) to very high levels of benzene in the air (10,000 – 20,000 ppm) can result in death, according to the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. Lower levels (700 to 3,000 ppm) can cause drowsiness, dizziness, rapid heart rat, headaches, tremor, confusion and unconsciousness. In most cases, people will stop feeling these effects when they are no longer exposed and begin to breathe fresh air.

EPA agreed to collect additional air samples, including particulates. This data will help scientists and decision-makers better determine if the stump dump contains dangerous chemicals. EPA began sampling on Monday, December 10th. The sampling will include three days of VOC sampling as well as continuous monitoring for particulate matter. Quality assured sampling data is expected to be received by EPA on December 21, 2018 and will be shared as soon as possible.

EPA has obtained a technical consultant for the site. The technical expert is from the Office of Research and Development (ORD) and has extensive experience in landfill fire remediation. The expert will advise the stakeholders regarding the properties of the current fire and recommendations on preferred options to extinguish the underground fire quickly and with the lowest possible environmental and public health consequences. An EPA, State and ORD conference call and possible site visit are planned this week.

In addition, EPA agreed to provide scientific information to assist ADEQ in determining which benzene-sensing technology is available should the state decide an early warning detection system is needed. The sensing technology research is on-going and will be provided to ADEQ this week.

From: Gray, David
Sent: Thursday, December 6, 2018 3:05 PM
To: clapp@bellavistaar.gov; keogh@adeq.state.ar.us; Mackensie_burt@boozman.senate.gov; Joe_brown@boozman.senate.gov; Jace_motley@boozman.senate.gov; Chase_emerson@boozman.senate.gov; jimmy_harris@boozman.senate.gov; Stacey_mcclure@boozman.senate.gov; Kyle.weaver@mail.house.gov; Jessica.powell@mail.house.gov
Cc: Idsal, Anne <idsal.anne@epa.gov>; Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>; Chancellor, Erin <chancellor.erin@epa.gov>
Subject: EPA Update 12/6/2018 Trafalgar Road Fire

Greetings,
As promised on our telephone call, below is our communication update for your use. We look forward to working with you.
David

David Gray
Deputy Regional Administrator
EPA Region 6 (Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas)

(214) 665-2100 general
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EPA Update 12/6/2018
Trafalgar Road Fire

None of EPA's air samples showed elevated concentrations of chemicals of concern in the community. In support of ADEQ, EPA collected 24-hour air samples from 5 locations in the community around the Brown Tree Service property on October 1 and November 10. EPA tested for hundreds chemicals associated with landfill fires potentially containing construction debris, household waste or tires.

In addition to the community samples, EPA collected samples from 1 location within the Brown Tree Service property, and on November 10 found a Benzene concentration of 0.03 part-per-million (ppm).

Brief exposure (5-10 minutes) to very high levels of benzene in the air (10,000 – 20,000 ppm) can result in death, according to the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. Lower levels (700 to 3,000 ppm) can cause drowsiness, dizziness, rapid heart rat, headaches, tremor, confusion and unconsciousness. In most cases, people will stop feeling these effects when they are no longer exposed and begin to breathe fresh air.

EPA agreed to collect additional air samples, including particulates, in all locations next week. This data will help scientists and decision-makers better determine if the stump dump contains dangerous chemicals. EPA sampling is scheduled to begin on Monday, December 10 and will include three days of sampling. Quality assured sampling data is expected to be received by EPA on December 21, 2018 and will be shared as soon as possible.
EPA agreed to secure an experienced fire expert to advise the state and community regarding the properties of the current fire and recommendations on preferred options to extinguish the underground fire quickly and with the lowest possible environmental and public health consequences.

EPA agreed to provide scientific expertise to assist ADEQ in determining which benzene-sensing technology is available should the state decide an early warning detection system is needed.