Message

From: Crossland, Ronnie [Crossland.Ronnie@epa.gov]
Sent: 9/3/2017 2:58:53 PM
To: Smalley, Bryant [smalley.bryant@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: AP calling: Ozone emissions and monitoring in Houston

This okay to say?

David,

Here is some information for EPA.

Ground air monitoring.

In the process of conducting assessments of orphaned containers in the field, EPA conducts air monitoring mainly for responder protection. This monitoring includes volatile organics, SO2 and H2S. In conducting these assessments in the hurricane impacted area, EPA has not found any levels of concern to date.

ASPECT

ASPECT has been assessing other facilities around the area of Arkema and do the typical analysis in the air of VOCs. They have not identified any levels of concern.

From: Gray, David
Sent: Sunday, September 03, 2017 10:17 AM
To: Edlund, Carl <Edlund.Carl@epa.gov>
Cc: Coleman, Sam <Coleman.Sam@epa.gov>; Peterson, Mary <Peterson.Mary@epa.gov>; Crossland, Ronnie <Crossland.Ronnie@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: AP calling: Ozone emissions and monitoring in Houston

details and need Liz to coord w TX

One of the many preparations for Hurricane Harvey included TCEQ and other monitoring entities temporarily removing approximately 75% of the stationary air monitoring equipment from the greater Houston, Corpus Christi, and Beaumont areas. Of the available air monitoring data collected from August 24-September 2, 2017, all measured concentrations were well below levels of health concern.
More than 70% of the air monitors in Corpus Christi, Houston, and Beaumont have been re-established and are collecting data.
TCEQ is assessing monitoring stations in these areas for damage, and bringing them back online as access allows. All air monitoring stations in these areas that are accessible are expected to be back online by Friday, September 8, 2017.
EPA's surveillance aircraft continues to collect air monitoring information from any smoke clouds from fires at Arkema in Cosby, TX. EPA has also deployed its mobile air laboratory TAGA bus to Houston, Texas.

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 3, 2017, at 10:14 AM, Edlund, Carl <Edlund.Carl@epa.gov> wrote:

> We are working on a response. Discuss at noon or earlier.
>
> Sent from my iPad
>
> On Sep 3, 2017, at 8:11 AM, Coleman, Sam <Coleman.Sam@epa.gov> wrote:
>
> > Who is working on this?
> >
> > Samuel Coleman, P. E.,
> > Deputy Regional Administrator
> >
> > 214.665.2100 Ofc
> > 214.665. 3110 Desk
> > 214.665.2016 Cell
> >
> > Coleman.sam@epa.gov
> >
> > Sent from my iPhone
> >
> > Begin forwarded message:
> >
> > > **From:** "Bowman, Liz" <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
> > > **Date:** September 3, 2017 at 7:00:42 AM CDT
> > > **To:** "Gray, David" <gray.david@epa.gov>
> > > **Cc:** "Grantham, Nancy" <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>, "Abboud, Michael" <abboud.michael@epa.gov>, "Wagner, Kenneth" <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>, "Hewitt, James" <hewitt.james@epa.gov>, "Graham, Amy" <graham.amy@epa.gov>, "Coleman, Sam" <Coleman.Sam@epa.gov>
> > > **Subject: Re: AP calling: Ozone emissions and monitoring in Houston**
> > >
> > > Are you able to pull together some draft responses?
> > >
> > > Sent from my iPhone
> > >
> > > On Sep 3, 2017, at 5:47 AM, Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov> wrote:
> > >
> > > > Liz - questions about air monitoring near the plants in Houston.
> > > > David
> > > >
> > > > Sent from my iPhone
> > > >
> > > > Begin forwarded message:

From: "Bajak, Frank" <FBAJAK@ap.org>
Date: September 3, 2017 at 12:39:05 AM EDT
To: Terry Clawson <terry.clawson@tceq.texas.gov>, "David Gray (gray.david@epa.gov)" <gray.david@epa.gov>, "andrea.morrow@tceq.texas.gov" <andrea.morrow@tceq.texas.gov>, "jones.enesta@epa.gov" <jones.enesta@epa.gov>
Cc: "Weissert, Will" <WWeissert@ap.org>, "Dearen, Jason H." <JDearen@ap.org>
Subject: AP calling: Ozone emissions and monitoring in Houston

Hi Terry and DAvid,

I have some questions regarding emissions in Houston:

1) You are doing air monitoring at the Arkema plant in Crosby. Can you tell me what your monitoring has found? What chemicals in what concentrations? Where are you doing the monitoring exactly?
2) Are EPA/TCEQ monitoring air quality around petrochemical plants and refineries looking for potential problems? Have they deployed any mobile air monitors? (I gather these are EPA crews working in coordination with TCEQ?) If so, what have they found in the last few days near the petrochemical plants around the ship channel? If they haven't been monitoring, why not? The startup and shutdown operations typically produce heavier emissions of airborne contaminants, right?
3) I saw an ozone level of

201 ppb recorded in Houston on Friday on airnow.gov and Andrea Morrow of TCEQ told my colleague Jason Dearen that the reading was recorded as a single hourly max at one monitoring station. Your ozone level for the day (95 ppb) is based on an eight-hour of average, she said. But that does not deny that a single station had that maximum level, correct? What station was it? Can you tell me what hour of the day? Did any other stations Very Unhealty ozon levels on Friday or Saturday?
4) What are the state of Texas and the EPA doing to monitor public health near the petrochemical plants and refineries given the extraordinary shutdown and startup pollution and the possibility of contaminants released into their neighborhoods? Will there be health monitoring? If so, by whom? If not, why not?

Many thanks,
-fb

Frank Bajak, Correspondent
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Houston, Texas, U.S.A

<image002.jpg>

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