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TCEQ Recommendations for Handheld Air Monitoring Data for 1,3-Butadiene

The numbers below are conservative numbers recommended for review and action. This incident is causing the release of a chemical called 1,3-butadiene. Elevated levels of 1,3-butadiene from this facility are odorous. Short-term exposure to high concentrations of 1,3-butadiene can cause eye, nose, and throat irritation, shortness of breath, headaches, and nausea. Sensitivity levels between individuals will vary. If you experience these health effects leave the area until the situation has resolved.

Category	Concentration	Duration	Recommended Action
Odor threshold	0.23 ppm	Instantaneous	Half of population can smell this level; may cause nausea, headaches, and dizziness in some people; monitor for health impacts
Action level	0.5 ppm	5-10 min.	Action level for more monitoring. Deploy strike team to replicate reading. This level may cause nausea, headaches, and dizziness in some people. Monitor for health impacts.
Action level	1 ppm	5-10 min.	Consider shelter in place. Stay indoors.
AMCV	1.7 ppm	1-hour sustained reading	Regulatory Air Monitoring Control Value (AMCV). 1-hour safe level for serious health effects (i.e., birth -defects). Concentrations below this may cause transient health effects such as nausea, headaches.
OSHA short-term exposure level	5 ppm	15 min.	For reference, for healthy occupational workers