Message

From: Susan Sadlowski-Garza [Susan.Sadlowski-Garza@cityofchicago.org]
Sent: 10/23/2021 10:25:09 AM
To: Beckmann, Ronna Erin [beckmann.ronna@epa.gov]
Subject: Re: EPA finalizes the Southeast Chicago Air Quality Report

Thank you so much

Susan Sadlowski Garza
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From: Beckmann, Ronna Erin <beckmann.ronna@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 21, 2021 12:16 PM
To: Byron Sigcho <Byron.Sigcho@cityofchicago.org>; Susan Sadlowski-Garza <Susan.Sadlowski-Garza@cityofchicago.org>; John Heroff <John.Heroff@cityofchicago.org>; George Cardenas <George.Cardenas@cityofchicago.org>; Liliana Escarpita <Liliana.Escarpita@cityofchicago.org>; Carlos Gamboa <Carlos.Gamboa@cityofchicago.org>; Ward11 <Ward11@cityofchicago.org>; info@ward32.org <info@ward32.org>; Michael Rodriguez <Michael.Rodriguez@cityofchicago.org>
Subject: EPA finalizes the Southeast Chicago Air Quality Report

[Warning: External email]

Good afternoon – I'm reaching out to let you know that EPA has finalized the attached air quality report and shared it with the City of Chicago this morning. The desk statement that accompanies the report is below in English and Spanish. Please feel free to share it with anyone you think may be interested.

Thanks,

Ronna Beckmann
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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5
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DESK STATEMENT:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is committed to improving air quality in southeast Chicago and addressing environmental justice concerns about disproportionate and cumulative impacts of air emissions from 250 regulated facilities located there. In April 2021, in response to residents' ongoing concerns about their air quality, EPA initiated an analysis of existing air monitoring data. EPA's *Southeast Chicago Ambient Air Quality Analysis* compiles the data in a format designed to inform the community about air quality where they live, work, learn and play.

EPA shared the report with the City of Chicago to help inform its assessment of the health impact of the Reserve Management Group's pending permit application. EPA's report compiles air monitoring data for several pollutants from two representative monitoring sites: George Washington High School (3535 East 114th Street) and South Water Filtration Plant (3300 East Cheltenham Place). EPA compared this data with data from other sites in and around Chicago.

EPA's report only covers monitored air pollutants, not other pollution indicators, and is not intended to provide a full evaluation of impacts in this community. Additionally, since there are a limited number of monitoring locations, ambient air monitoring networks cannot characterize all the variability that may exist across an urban area.

As EPA Administrator Michael Regan emphasized in his May 2021 letter to Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot, EPA is committed to working collaboratively "to address our shared environmental priorities, advance equity and improve the health of all residents."

La Agencia de Protección Ambiental de EE. UU. se compromete a mejorar la calidad del aire en el sureste de Chicago y a abordar las preocupaciones de justicia ambiental por los impactos desproporcionados y acumulativos de las emisiones al aire de 250 instalaciones reguladas ubicadas allí. En abril del 2021, en respuesta a las preocupaciones constantes de los residentes sobre la calidad del aire, la EPA inició un análisis de los datos de monitoreo del aire existentes. El análisis de la calidad del aire ambiental del sureste de Chicago de la EPA recopila los datos en un formato diseñado para informar a la comunidad sobre la calidad del aire donde viven, trabajan, aprenden y juegan.

La EPA compartió el informe con la ciudad de Chicago para ayudar con su evaluación del impacto en la salud de la solicitud de permiso pendiente de Reserve Management Group. El informe de la EPA compila datos de monitoreo del aire para varios contaminantes de dos sitios de monitoreo representativos: George Washington High School (3535 East 114th Street) y South Water Filtration Plant (3300 East Cheltenham Place). La EPA comparó estos datos con datos de otros sitios en Chicago y sus alrededores.

El informe de la EPA solo cubre los contaminantes del aire monitoreados, no otros indicadores de contaminación, y no tiene la intención de proporcionar una evaluación completa de los impactos en esta comunidad. Además, dado que hay un número limitado de ubicaciones de monitoreo, las redes de monitoreo del aire ambiente no pueden caracterizar toda la variabilidad que puede existir en un área urbana.

Como enfatizó el administrador de la EPA, Michael Regan, en su carta de mayo de 2021 a la alcaldesa de Chicago, Lori Lightfoot, la EPA se compromete a trabajar en colaboración "para abordar nuestras prioridades ambientales compartidas, promover la equidad y mejorar la salud de todos los residentes".