

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



West Lake Update

April 10, 2015

EPA Releases Summary Report of H₂S, SO₂, and CO Off-Site Air Monitoring



Seagull technician putting up the radiello monitors at the St. Charles Fire station location.

In 2014, EPA Region 7 conducted off-site air monitoring at five locations surrounding the West Lake Landfill with the purpose of establishing baseline air quality conditions to compare with readings collected during any on-site construction. This effort was specifically designed to measure any potential radiological contaminants in the air. The monitors also collected data on volatile organic compounds (VOCs) as well as hydrogen sulfide (H₂S), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), and carbon monoxide (CO).

Region 7 has now released a report summarizing the results for H₂S, SO₂, and CO. That report is available online: www.epa.gov/region7/cleanup/west_lake_landfill/pdf/west-lake-interim-data-summary-rae.pdf The data recorded from this monitoring will only be used as a baseline to compare with any future data collected at those monitoring locations. This data is not suitable to use as a basis for comparison with health-based standards.

EPA's efforts to monitor the air and conduct a thorough scientific analysis are vital to ensuring that future construction activities are protective of public health. Previously, EPA Region 7 released a report summarizing the air monitoring results for radiological contaminants and the VOCs. That report demonstrated that the levels of radiation and VOCs in the air at those monitoring stations were consistent with other midwestern cities.

Since EPA has collected the required baseline data,

four of the five monitoring stations were phased out of operation in March. The Agency will continue to operate the monitor in Spanish Village for radiological contaminants until it has one full year of radiation data from that location. At that time, EPA will reevaluate the need for further monitoring at the Spanish Village location.

While the data demonstrating that levels of radiation and VOCs in the air are similar to other cities may be encouraging for area residents, EPA also recognizes that neighbors of Bridgeton Landfill continue to experience issues with odors from that landfill. The state of Missouri, through the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and the Missouri Attorney General's Office, has taken strong action to require the mitigation of odors emanating from the South Quarry of the Bridgeton Landfill. Those actions include requiring the installation of a vinyl cover to trap fugitive gases escaping from the landfill and the construction of a leachate pre-treatment plant.

Next CAG Meeting

The next Community Advisory Group meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Monday, April 13 at the offices of Operating Engineers Local 513, 3449 Hollenberg Drive, Bridgeton, Mo. EPA Region 7 representatives plan to attend the meeting.



Community Inquiries

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