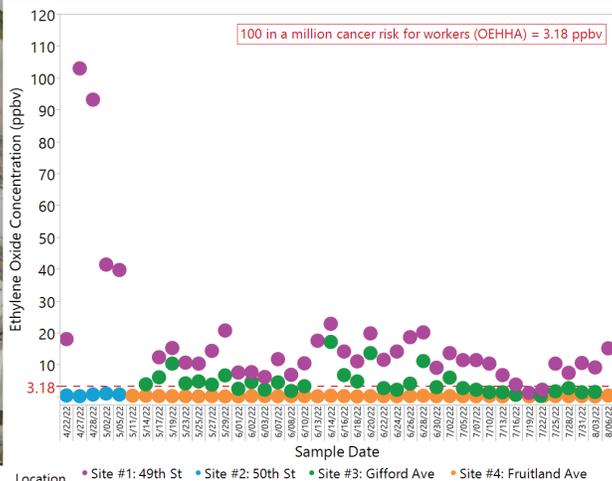


COMMUNITY UPDATE - August 17, 2022

Release of Hazardous Substance at Sterigenics Facility



Figure 3. Map of 24-hour sampling locations.



BACKGROUND:

On May 6, 2022, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) issued a Proposition 65 notice to Public Health that air monitoring detected elevated levels of ethylene oxide near Sterigenics, located at 4900 Gifford Avenue in the City of Vernon. Monitoring data and updates on the investigation are posted on South Coast AQMD's website at www.aqmd.gov/sterigenics.

As of August 12, 2022, South Coast AQMD continues to conduct air monitoring at two locations near the facility and at a location near the residential community. South Coast AQMD continues to report measurements of ethylene oxide in the residential community near Sterigenics that are similar to other parts of the Los Angeles region (see orange dot on chart above). Using health risk analysis methods established by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), ethylene oxide levels at a nearby business are above health risk thresholds established by South Coast AQMD's Rule 1402 (see fuchsia dots). Based on current available data, investigations are still focused on ethylene oxide levels inside and immediately around the facility. The facility is working with South Coast AQMD to identify additional actions to immediately lower emissions. Short-term actions have already been implemented, and the facility has submitted permit applications for additional air pollution control equipment.

The City of Vernon Health & Environmental Control Department (HECD) is also required to regulate the Sterigenics facility in accordance with State and local laws and report the facility is in continued compliance with statewide standards.

Public Health, South Coast AQMD, HECD, and OEHHA continue to work together to keep the community informed and to protect the health of offsite workers. Notifications will be made to the community of any levels of concern or needed actions as appropriate.

TO REPORT CONCERNS

If you live near the Sterigenics facilities and are experiencing bad smells, you can report odors by calling: 800-CUT-SMOG (1-800-288-7664) Or filing a complaint online: www.aqmd.gov/home/air-quality/complaints

If you have questions regarding health concerns
Call: 626-430-9821
Email: tox@ph.lacounty.gov

To obtain more information on SCAQMD investigation visit <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/news-events/community-investigations/sterigenics>

HEALTH FACTS:

Ethylene Oxide is a gas used in the facility to sterilize medical equipment. It has a sweet, but pungent chemical odor. Short-term exposure to ethylene oxide in humans can irritate the eyes, nose, throat, and lungs. Long-term exposure can cause damage to the brain and nervous system. Ethylene oxide has been linked to cancer in humans, including breast and blood cancers.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PROTECT YOURSELF?

At this time, no specific action is required.

For updates on this issue, please visit:
<http://ph.lacounty.gov/eh/safety/local-issues.htm>
or
<http://www.aqmd.gov/home/news-events/community-investigations/sterigenics>