6/16/2021

Dear Community Member:

State law (Air Toxics "Hot Spots" Information and Assessment Act of 1987) protects your right to know about possible health risks from toxic air contaminants emitted by sources of air pollution in your neighborhood. The San Diego County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) is the local government agency responsible for implementing this requirement in state law.

The following facility is required to notify all community members in the area where there is a potential health risk above thresholds established by APCD Rule 1210.

Facility Name: Otay Landfill
Address: 1700 Maxwell Street, Chula Vista
Type of Business: Landfill

Based on air emission data from 2013 the APCD requested a Health Risk Assessment (HRA) from Otay Landfill. The HRA, which was approved by the APCD in April of 2021, shows that some toxic air contaminants, primarily arsenic, released from operations at Otay Landfill may be increasing the cancer risks for people who live or work in the area to a maximum increase of about 33 chances in one million of getting cancer.

In addition to the cancer risk, the HRA also shows that the level of exposure to some toxic air contaminants, primarily arsenic and crystalline silica, may result in greater potential for noncancer adverse health impacts. Specifically, the HRA shows the Maximum Residential Chronic (long-term) Non-Cancer Health Hazard Index is about 2. The noncancer health hazard index is calculated by dividing the estimated level of exposure to chemicals emitted from a facility to the level of exposure that is not expected to cause any adverse health effects. If the hazard index is less than or equal to one, then the estimated level of exposure is not likely to result in adverse health effects for anyone, including sensitive individuals such as children and the elderly. A hazard index above one indicates that there may be greater potential for adverse health impacts from exposure to the toxic air contaminants of concern. A hazard index is calculated for both acute (short-term) and chronic (long-term) exposures to air toxic contaminants associated with the facility emissions.

APCD Rule 1210 requires public notification when the cancer risk is above 10 in one million or when any of the non-cancer health hazard indices.
The APCD has prepared the enclosed “Program Fact Sheet” regarding its Air Toxic Hot Spots Program and a survey card to provide you with additional information and to obtain your input regarding the information provided in this notice. Please complete and return the enclosed survey card to the APCD via mail, 10124 Old Grove Road, San Diego, 92131, or e-mail at apcdengineering@sdcounty.ca.gov.

For more information regarding the APCD’s Air Toxics Hot Spots program, please contact the APCD at 858-586-2600 or via email at apcdengineering@sdcounty.ca.gov. For more information regarding the facility please contact Marco Cervantes, Environmental Manager, at (619) 332-9021 or MCervantes2@republicservices.com.

Sincerely,

ROBERT C. REIDER
Interim Air Pollution Control Officer