TCEQ 2018 Annual Monitoring Network Plan

RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE HOUSTON–GALVESTON–BRAZORIA AREA

The TCEQ is required to submit an annual monitoring network plan to the EPA by July 1 each year after a 30-day public comment period; the 2018 plan was posted for public comment from May 1 to May 30. The 2018 plan presents the current Texas network and includes completed or proposed network changes from July 1, 2017, through December 31, 2019. Below is a summary of the recommended changes for the Houston-Galveston-Brazoria area. Interested parties can subscribe to TCEQ email or text notifications for Air Monitoring Network Announcements, along with a variety of other TCEQ topics at https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/TXTCEQ/subscriber/new.

Houston Deer Park #2

- Deploy a true nitrogen dioxide (NO2) analyzer, atmospheric pressure, precipitation, and ultraviolet radiation monitors to meet federal Photochemical Assessment Monitoring Stations (PAMS) requirements, by June 1, 2019.
- Change the carbonyl sampling frequency, beginning October 31, 2018, to three eight-hour samples every third day, June through August, to meet PAMS requirements; one 24-hour sample every sixth day during the months of April, May, September, and October; and no sampling November through March.
- Decommission the particulate matter of 10 micrometers or less (PM10) (primary and collocated) monitors, by December 31, 2018.
- The TCEQ will no longer apply for a grant under the voluntary National Air Toxics Trends Stations (NATTS) program. As a result, speciated volatile organic compounds (VOC) by canister (collocated only), semi-volatile organic compounds (primary and collocated), and speciated PM10 metals (primary and collocated) will be decommissioned by July 1, 2018. Although some NATTS parameters will no longer be collected, VOCs (primary monitor), carbonyls, carbon monoxide, NO, and nitrogen oxide, total reactive nitrogen oxides, ozone, particulate matter of 2.5 micrometers or less (PM2.5) (mass and speciation), particulate matter less than or equal to 10 micrometers and greater than 2.5 micrometers, and sulfur dioxide will continue to be collected.

La Porte Airport

- Deploy a ceilometer by June 1, 2019, to meet new PAMS meteorology requirements.

Houston Aldine

- Decommission the PM10 monitor by December 31, 2018.
- Upgrade the PM2.5 non-regulatory continuous monitor to a PM2.5 federal equivalent method (FEM) continuous monitor by December 31, 2019.

Clinton

- Change the carbonyl sampling frequency to one 24-hour carbonyl sample every sixth day only during ozone season, April through October, beginning October 31, 2018.

Houston North Loop

- Upgrade the PM2.5 filter based monitor with a PM2.5 FEM continuous monitor, by December 31, 2019.

Galveston 99th Street

- Upgrade the PM2.5 non-regulatory continuous and PM2.5 filter based monitors with one PM2.5 FEM continuous monitor, by December 31, 2019.