

TCEQ Analysis of ITC Water Quality Sampling Data (preliminary lab results)

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) assessed preliminary water quality data for 51 constituents at one site. Four (4) samples were collected on April 1, 2019 by Intercontinental Terminal Company (ITC). The constituents consist of organics and chemical oxygen demand (COD). The sampling site was the following:

- Gate 13 Ditch

This assessment is based on preliminary results received from the laboratory. These laboratory results are subject to change once the final report is issued. The TCEQ is providing the assessment of preliminary results in abundance of caution to make this information publicly available as quickly as possible. As sample results are received, or additional water quality sampling is completed, the data will be assessed, and results made available.

The TCEQ used the Texas Water Quality Standards and the Texas Risk Reduction Program as references for determining the known health protective concentration levels (PCLs) in surface water. PCLs are very conservative and below levels where we would expect any health impacts. The TCEQ is using these PCLs to evaluate impacts to aquatic life and human health. No public drinking water system draws its source water from the Houston Ship Channel. This methodology was also used for previously reviewed data from samples collected by ITC and will be used to review samples from the TCEQ contractor. The TCEQ used the PCLs listed in the tables below to assess the surface water quality data

Table 1. Assessment of Preliminary Laboratory Results

	Gate 13 Ditch on April 1, 2019 at 10:00 AM	Gate 13 Ditch on April 1, 2019 at 12:00 PM	Gate 13 Ditch on April 1, 2019 at 2:00 PM	Gate 13 Ditch on April 1, 2019 at 4:00 PM
Number of Constituents	51	51	51	51
Number of constituents analyzed but not detected (not detected above the method detection limit or quantitation limit)	47	47	47	47
Number of constituents detected above the method detection limit or quantitation limit	4	4	4	4
Number of constituents detected but below their known PCLs	0	0	0	0
Number of constituents that exceeded their known PCLs	4	4	4	4
Number of constituents that are still pending further TCEQ evaluation	0	0	0	0
Number of constituents that do not have a PCL or are assessed with other constituents	0	0	0	0

Below are tables of constituents that exceeded their known PCLs at each of the sampling times.

Table 2. Summary of Constituents Exceeding PCLs for April 1, 2019 at 10:00 AM Sample

Constituent	Maximum (micrograms/L)	PCL (micrograms/L)
Benzene	120000	581
COD	4000000	150000*
Toluene	24000	1000
Xylenes, Total	6000	850

Table 3. Summary of Constituents Exceeding PCLs for April 1, 2019 at 12:00 PM Sample

Constituent	Maximum (micrograms/L)	PCL (micrograms/L)
Benzene	130000	581
COD	3900000	150000*
Toluene	26000	1000
Xylenes, Total	6500	850

Table 4. Summary of Constituents Exceeding PCLs for April 1, 2019 at 2:00 PM Sample

Constituent	Maximum (micrograms/L)	PCL (micrograms/L)
Benzene	130000	581
COD	3500000	150000*
Toluene	27000	1000
Xylenes, Total	6500	850

Table 5. Summary of Constituents Exceeding PCLs for April 1, 2019 at 4:00 PM Sample

Constituent	Maximum (micrograms/L)	PCL (micrograms/L)
Benzene	120000	581
COD	4000000	150000*
Toluene	25000	1000
Xylenes, Total	6100	850

Footnote:

*COD is a measure of the oxygen demand exerted by chemical constituents in water. There was not a known PCL for COD, therefore the permitted technology-based limit was used for comparison purposes. Although COD levels for treated process wastewater vary 150000 micrograms/L for noncontact stormwater was provided for comparison purposes.