

TCEQ Analysis of ITC Water Quality Sampling Data (Final Lab Results)

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) assessed final water quality data for 117 constituents at one site. Two (2) samples were collected from June 4 through June 5, 2019 by Intercontinental Terminal Company (ITC). The constituents consist of organics, chemical oxygen demand (COD), and oil and grease in water. The sampling site was the following:

- Gate 13 Ditch

This assessment is based on final results received from the laboratory. As 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. The TCEQ used the PCLs listed in the tables below to assess the surface water quality data.

Table 1. Assessment of Final Laboratory Results

	Gate 13 Ditch on June 4, 2019 at 4:00 PM	Gate 13 Ditch on June 5, 2019 at 8:00 AM
Number of Constituents	117	117
Number of constituents analyzed but not detected (not detected above the method detection limit or quantitation limit)	108	112
Number of constituents detected above the method detection limit or quantitation limit	9	5
Number of constituents detected but below their known PCLs	7	5
Number of constituents that exceeded their known PCLs	2	0
Number of constituents that are still pending further TCEQ evaluation	0	0
Number of constituents that do not have a PCL or are assessed with other constituents	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 June 4, 2019 at 4:00 PM Sample

Constituent	Maximum (micrograms/L)	PCL (micrograms/L)
Benzene	1800	581
COD*	340000	150000

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.