



Brief

409-498-1088

Environmental Impact on Port Arthur TX community
CIDA Inc, Environmental Justice advocates organization

To:

Laurie Gharis Chief Clerk
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
P.O.Box 13087,MC 105
Austin Texas 78711-3087

1. The main objective of our brief is to demonstrate that our organization and individuals within our organization has standing in this case brought forward by the “Community In-power & Development Association Inc.” and Mr. Hilton Kelley Founder & Chief Executive Director.
2. We plan to show cause to the TCEQ for our request of said contested case hearing
3. BASF Totalenergies Petrochemicals in the past and in the present has had major emission events which have negatively impact our citizen here in Port Arthur Texas and neighboring communities and towns for decades, more recently after ‘Hurricane Harvey’.
4. Our Key message is : Major emission releases of known carcinogens into the environment where we live, work and play during hurricane Harvey and after said storm.
5. Issues: During Hurricane Harvey in 2017 the BASF Chemical plant / Totalenergies Petrochemical Refinery went into shutdown mode with their processing unities and due to this fact thousands of pounds of pollution was released into the environment impacting our air quality and interfered with our ability to enjoy our homes and or neighborhood, many of our members and relatives have experienced respiratory issues,

sinus infections and possible long term impact and damage to various part of their bodies, even still today when BASF / Totalenergies ground flare is brightly burning the emissions invade our air and communities once again rendering our community and apartment Complexes unsafe and for many of the residents unbearable to stay in.

6. Residents in the area: Many of the residents within a mile radius of the Facilities mentioned are low income people of color, living in nearby apartment complexes such as Villa Main apts and Rampart apts, southwest from the facilities, many of those harmed by the chemicals released into the air which invade our communities are women, children, babies and the elderly, the apartment complexes near by are low income section 8 renters and they to deserve better protection than what they are receiving from our State regulatory agency. Day in and day out we are being exposed to life threatening chemicals. We feel that BASF/ Totalenergies should do a better job at protecting their neighbors and workers and we also feel that until they take ownership of the harm they cause and find ways to invest in the health and quality of life for said citizen who are being impacted by their refining practices and emissions they should not be granted a permit.

See map below