

## Daily Air Quality Report September 4 - 5, 2020

### Beaumont

Total Operational Near Real-Time Monitors: 2 for volatile organic compounds (VOCs); 3 for sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>); 3 for particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>).

Air Quality Summary: Measured hourly VOC concentrations, including benzene and 1,3-butadiene, were generally low and in the typical range for the Beaumont area on September 4 - 5, 2020. A single 1-hour concentration of 1,3-butadiene at the Nederland Highschool monitor was somewhat higher than average but was still more than 350-times lower than the health-based comparison level. All measured VOC concentrations remained far below levels of short-term health concern.

Hourly SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations measured in the Beaumont area generally remained low on September 4 - 5, 2020. The peak 1-hour SO<sub>2</sub> concentration measured at the Port Arthur West monitor on September 4 was higher than average but was still 25-times lower than the level of the federal SO<sub>2</sub> standard. Multiple hourly concentrations of SO<sub>2</sub> measured at the Beaumont Downtown monitor on September 5 were higher than average, but the highest was still 8-times lower than the level of the federal SO<sub>2</sub> standard. All hourly SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations were below a level of health concern.

Hourly PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations measured in the Beaumont area on September 4, 2020 were generally within the range of typical concentrations for this area, but concentrations of PM<sub>2.5</sub> during the day on September 5 were somewhat higher than average because of the presence of African dust in the region. All hourly PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations were below a level of health concern.

### Houston

Total Operational Near Real-Time Monitors: 9 for volatile organic compounds (VOCs); 7 for sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>); 7 for particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>).

Air Quality Summary: Measured hourly VOC concentrations, including benzene and 1,3-butadiene, were generally low and in the typical range for the Houston Ship Channel area on September 4 - 5, 2020. Concentrations of benzene at the Galena Park, Lynchburg Ferry, Cesar Chavez, and Milby Park monitors were somewhat higher than average for several hours on September 4, but even the highest concentrations were still more than 15-times lower than the health-based comparison level. On September 5 concentrations of benzene at Houston Deer Park, Channelview, HRM #3 Haden Road, Cesar Chavez, and Milby Park monitors were slightly higher than average, but even the highest concentrations were still more than 80-times lower than the health-based comparison level. Similarly, concentrations of 1,3-butadiene at the Galena Park, Channelview, HRM #3 Haden Road, and Milby Park monitors were somewhat higher than average for multiple hours on September 4 but were still more than 350-times lower than the health-based comparison level. On September 5 concentrations of 1,3-butadiene at Galena Park, Channelview, Clinton, HRM #3 Haden Road, and Milby Park monitors were slightly higher than average for multiple hours but were still more than 500-times lower than the health-based comparison level. All measured VOC concentrations remained far below levels of short-term health concern.

Hourly SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations measured in the Houston Ship Channel area generally remained low on September 4 - 5, 2020. Multiple hourly concentrations of SO<sub>2</sub> measured at the Houston Croquet,

Houston Deer Park, Park Place, and Texas City Ball Park monitors on September 5 were higher than average, but the highest hourly concentration was still more than 6-times lower than the level of the federal SO<sub>2</sub> standard. All hourly SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations were below a level of health concern.

Hourly PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations measured in the Houston Ship Channel area on September 4 - 5, 2020 were generally within the range of typical concentrations for this area and were below concentrations of health concern.