Daily Air Quality Report September 10, 2020

Beaumont

Total Operational Near Real-Time Monitors: 2 for volatile organic compounds (VOCs); 4 for sulfur dioxide (SO_2); 3 for particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$).

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 10, 2020. A single 1-hour concentration of 1,3-butadiene at the Nederland Highschool monitor was slightly higher than average but was 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_2 concentrations measured in the Beaumont area generally remained low on September 10, 2020. All hourly SO_2 concentrations were below a level of health concern.

Hourly $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations measured in the Beaumont area on September 10, 2020 were generally within the range of typical concentrations for this area, although concentrations measured at the SETRPC Mauriceville monitor were slightly higher than average. All hourly $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations were below a level of health concern.

Houston

Total Operational Near Real-Time Monitors: 9 for volatile organic compounds (VOCs); 6 for sulfur dioxide (SO_2); 7 for particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$).

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 10, 2020. Concentrations of benzene at the Galena Park, Houston Deer Park, and Lynchburg Ferry monitors were somewhat higher than average for multiple hours, but even the highest concentrations were still more than 8-times lower than the health-based comparison level. Similarly, concentrations of 1,3-butadiene at the Galena Park monitor were slightly higher than average for several hours but were 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_2 concentrations measured in the Houston Ship Channel and Galveston areas generally remained low on September 10, 2020. Peak one-hour concentrations of SO_2 measured at the Houston Deer Park and Park Place monitors were slightly higher than average, but were still 15-times lower than the level of the federal SO_2 standard. All hourly SO_2 concentrations were below a level of health concern.

Hourly $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations measured in the Houston Ship Channel and Galveston areas on September 10, 2020 were generally within the range of typical concentrations for this area and were below concentrations of health concern. There was a single hourly $PM_{2.5}$ concentration measured at the Houston Deer Park monitor that was higher than normal but the concentrations in the next hour dropped to within the normal range.