FACT SHEET

Decane, All Isomers
CAS Number: n-Decane: 124-18-5;
Other 74 Isomers

This fact sheet provides a summary of the Development Support Document (DSD) created by the TCEQ Toxicology Division (TD) for the development of Regulatory Guidelines (ESLs, AMCVs and ReVs) for ambient exposure to this chemical. For more detailed information, please see the DSD or contact the TD by phone (1-877-992-8370) or e-mail (tox@tceq.texas.gov).

What is decane?

n-Decane and other 74 isomers are colorless liquids all with a gasoline-like odor. Decane is a constituent in the paraffin fraction of petroleum. Decane composes 1.8% by volume of a crude oil sample. Decane is also found in several widely used petroleum distillates such as Stoddard solvent and jet fuel. n-Decane is used as a solvent and to make other chemicals. n-Decane is listed as a High Production Volume chemical with production exceeding 1 million pounds annually in the United States.

How is decane released into ambient air?

Decane is released into the air primarily from evaporative emissions resulting from manufacturing or using products containing decane. Decane released to the environment is expected to volatilize to the atmosphere, where it undergoes photochemical oxidation reactions.

How can decane affect my health?

Decane has a low order of acute and chronic toxicity. Permitted levels of decane should not cause adverse health and welfare effects. Inhalation of high concentrations of decane may cause depression of the central nervous system. There are no human or animal studies indicating decane has a potential to be a carcinogen.

Is decane odorous or harmful to plants?

Decane has a gasoline-like odor at moderate levels. Decane has not been shown to have an adverse effect on plants.

Why does the TCEQ set Regulatory Guidelines for decane?

The TCEQ has set various air quality guideline levels (ESLs, AMCVs and ReVs) to protect human health and welfare. Definitions of ESLs, ReVs, and AMCVs are located on the TCEQ DSD webpage. The air quality guideline levels for decane have been designed to protect the general public from short-term and long-term adverse health and welfare effects. The general public

includes sensitive populations such as children, the elderly, pregnant women and people with preexisting health conditions. If you would like to know more about the specific ESLs, AMCVs, and ReVs developed; what the values are; and what they are used for, please see the DSD.