FACT SHEET

Ethylene Dichloride

CAS Number: 107-06-2

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 ethylene dichloride (EDC)?

EDC is a manufactured chemical that is not found naturally in the environment. EDC is primarily used in the production of vinyl chloride, which is used to manufacture many other products such as plastic and polyvinyl chloride products, construction materials, furniture and automobile upholstery, wall coverings, housewares, packaging materials, and automobile parts. Another name for EDC is 1,2-dichloroethane.

How is EDC released into ambient air?

EDC is not found naturally in the environment, so EDC is most likely released into the air by industries that make or use EDC.

How can EDC affect my health?

Permitted levels of EDC should not cause adverse health or welfare effects. Laboratory animal studies indicate that breathing high levels of EDC can cause damage to the lining of the nasal tract. Laboratory animal studies also indicate that breathing significantly elevated levels for a sufficient amount of time can lead to more serious effects such as liver, kidney, and central nervous system toxicity, and could increase the risk of certain tumors (e.g., mammary gland).

Is EDC odorous to humans or harmful to plants?

EDC has been described as having a pleasant odor. Adverse effects to plants from EDC in the ambient air have not been documented.

Why does the TCEQ set Regulatory Guidelines for EDC?

The TCEQ has set various air quality guideline levels (ESLs, AMCVs and ReVs) to protect human health and welfare. Please see Definitions of ESLs, ReVs, and AMCVs located on the TCEQ DSD webpage for more information. The air quality guideline levels for EDC 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.