



State of Louisiana
Department of Health and Hospitals
Office of Public Health

September 18, 2012

Mr. Martin S. Triche
4554 Highway 1
Napoleonville, LA 70390

Dear Mr. Triche,

The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals/Office of Public Health (DHH) is reviewing environmental data collected in the vicinity of Bayou Corne to determine the potential for the general public's exposure to contaminants. If a completed exposure pathway is identified, available data will be evaluated to determine if exposure through ingestion, inhalation and/or dermal contact to measured levels could result in health effects.

The DHH has received and reviewed the following data related to the Bayou Corne event:

DATE (S) SAMPLED	DESC.	# of SAMPLES/ READINGS	SAMPLED BY	PARAMETERS ANALYZED	DATE(S) REVIEWED BY OPH
09/5/2012	Water from Wells (industrial)	10	LDEQ	Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene, Xylene, Total Dissolved Solids, Chloride, Tentatively Identified Compounds,	09/14/2012
9/5/2012	Water from Wells (industrial)	10	LDEQ	Butane, Ethane, Ethene, Propane	9/14/2012

To date, no completed exposure pathway for the general public has been identified. The response efforts mounted by state and local officials are ongoing and the situation remains fluid. Other potential hazards may exist (combustion or explosion hazards) that need attention.

DHH encourages local residents to heed evacuation orders issued, avoid restricted areas, and discuss any health concerns they may have with their physician. DHH will continue to monitor the situation for possible impacts on public health and review environmental data as it is made available to the agency. If you have any questions, please call me at 504-458-5428.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raoult Ratard", enclosed within a hand-drawn, irregular rectangular border.

Raoult Ratard, MD, MS, MPH, FACPM
State Epidemiologist
LDHH/Office of Public Health