Texas Environmental Justice Advocacy Services

TEJAS STATEMENT ON THE FIRE AT INTERCONTINENTAL TERMINALS CO. LLC
NAPHTHA AND XYLENE EXPOSURE ALONG HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL

At 3:30 p.m. a fire was reported at Intercontinental Terminals Co. LLC in Deer Park, Texas. An official statement disclosed NAPHTHA a component of gasoline is the chemical being burned and the as of 7 p.m. the fire has spread to another tank containing XYLENE, HAZMAT is evaluating the situation. An evacuation order has not been ordered but a shelter-in-place is in effect until further notice. ITC officials are working with local agencies to keep abreast of the situation as it continues. Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo and Commissioner Precinct 2 Adrian Garcia gave a statement on site and offered support and services as needed. At this time, the cause of the fire is undetermined.

Naphtha can affect you when breathed in and by passing through your skin. Symptoms of acute exposure may include irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, headaches, dizziness, nausea and vomiting. High exposures can cause lightheadedness, fatigue. Repeated exposure may cause damage to the nervous system and kidney damage.

Xylene exposure at high levels can lead to irritation of eyes, nose and throat; cause difficulties breathing; problems with lungs; delayed reaction times; memory difficulties; stomach discomfort and possibly changes in liver and kidneys. It can cause unconsciousness and even death at high levels.

For these and additional concerns Texas Environmental Justice Advocacy Services urges residents inside and outside the area to seek safety with friends and relatives further from the facility. Please remain calm and cautious of current and future road closures and weather events that may complicate the situation. Local officials have not called for a mandatory evacuation. Tejas also urges the surrounding municipalities including but not limited to La Porte, Pasadena, Channelview, Baytown, Jacinto City and communities in the east end of Houston to take precautions and limit outdoor exposure due to unknown substances that the plume may carry. Texas Environmental Justice Advocacy Services is not a government agency or county entity to mandate evacuation. We are a 501(c)3 registered environmental advocacy nonprofit, that seeks to educate and inform communities on the environmental issues of concern.

Harris County officials have stated that the event may spread throughout the night and over the next following days. Due to the concentration of production, storage and other sensitive materials in and around the area we remind the public to stay abreast of the situation as they are out during St. Patrick’s Day holiday.

Due to the frequency of events endangering public health such as this one and the fire at the ExxonMobil facility on March 16, 2019 in Baytown, Texas we remain adamant that local, county and state officials create a regional air toxics plan and support the implementation of the Chemical Disaster Rule to prevent the endangerment of populations sitting on the fenceline of these hazardous facilities and catastrophic events.

Following proper Shelter-in-place protocol remember to store medications and any necessary items/documents near you. Vulnerable populations may be especially susceptible to these events including those with ailments, children and the elderly.

What does Shelter-in-place mean?
Go inside immediately. Close and secure all doors and windows. Turn off all ventilation systems (air conditioning, heating). Bring pets indoors. Listen to the radio or television and watch for visible smoke. It is important to consider the temperature.

Note: All plant information was gathered from the Intercontinental Terminals Company LLC official company website http://www.iterm.com/news/


Texas Environmental Justice Advocacy Services (T.e.j.a.s.) is a 501c3 registered nonprofit, dedicated to providing community members with the tools necessary to create sustainable, environmentally healthy communities by educating individuals on health concerns and implications arising from environmental pollution, empowering individuals with an understanding of applicable environmental laws and regulations and promoting their enforcement, and offering community building skills and resources for effective community action and greater public participation.

TEJAS	STATEMENT	ON	THE	FIRE	AT	INTERCONTINENTAL	TERMINALS	CO.	 LLC	NAPHTHA AND XYLENE EXPOSURE ALONG HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL

At 3:30 p.m. a fire was reported at Intercontinental Terminals Co. LLC in Deer Park, Texas. An official statement disclosed NAPHTHA a component of gasoline is the chemical being burned and the as of 7 p.m. the fire has spread to another tank containing XYLENE, HAZMAT is evaluating the situation. An evacuation order has not been ordered but a shelter-in-place is in effect until further notice. ITC officials are working with local agencies to keep abreast of the situation as it continues. Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo and Commissioner Precinct 2 Adrian Garcia gave a statement on site and offered support and services as needed. At this time, the cause of the fire is undetermined.

Naphtha can affect you when breathed in and by passing through your skin. Symptoms of acute exposure may include irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, headaches, dizziness, nausea and vomiting. High exposures can cause lightheadedness, fatigue. Repeated exposure may cause damage to the nervous system and kidney damage.

Xylene exposure at high levels can lead to irritation of eyes, nose and throat; cause difficulties breathing; problems with lungs; delayed reaction times; memory difficulties; stomach discomfort and possibly changes in liver and kidneys. It can cause unconsciousness and even death at high levels.

For these and additional concerns Texas Environmental Justice Advocacy Services urges residents inside and outside the area to seek safety with friends and relatives further from the facility. Please remain calm and cautious of current and future road closures and weather events that may complicate the situation. Local officials have not called for a mandatory evacuation. Tejas also urges the surrounding municipalities including but not limited to La Porte, Pasadena, Channelview, Baytown, Jacinto City and communities in the east end of Houston to take precautions and limit outdoor exposure due to unknown substances that the plume may carry. Texas Environmental Justice Advocacy Services is not a government agency or county entity to mandate evacuation. We are a 501(c)3 registered environmental advocacy nonprofit, that seeks to educate and inform communities on the environmental issues of concern.

Harris County officials have stated that the event may spread throughout the night and over the next following days. Due to the concentration of production, storage and other sensitive materials in and around the area we remind the public to stay abreast of the situation as they are out during St. Patrick’s Day holiday.

Due to the frequency of events endangering public health such as this one and the fire at the ExxonMobil facility on March 16, 2019 in Baytown, Texas we remain adamant that local, county and state officials create a regional air toxics plan and support the implementation of the Chemical Disaster Rule to prevent the endangerment of populations sitting on the fenceline of these hazardous facilities and catastrophic events.

Following proper Shelter-in-place protocol remember to store medications and any necessary items/documents near you. Vulnerable populations may be especially susceptible to these events including those with ailments, children and the elderly.

What does Shelter-in-place mean?
Go inside immediately. Close and secure all doors and windows. Turn off all ventilation systems (air conditioning, heating). Bring pets indoors. Listen to the radio or television and watch for visible smoke. It is important to consider the temperature.

Note: All plant information was gathered from the Intercontinental Terminals Company LLC official company website http://www.iterm.com/news/


Texas Environmental Justice Advocacy Services (T.e.j.a.s.) is a 501c3 registered nonprofit, dedicated to providing community members with the tools necessary to create sustainable, environmentally healthy communities by educating individuals on health concerns and implications arising from environmental pollution, empowering individuals with an understanding of applicable environmental laws and regulations and promoting their enforcement, and offering community building skills and resources for effective community action and greater public participation.

TEJAS	STATEMENT	ON	THE	FIRE	AT	INTERCONTINENTAL	TERMINALS	CO.	 LLC
NAPHTHA AND XYLENE EXPOSURE ALONG HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL

At 3:30 p.m. a fire was reported at Intercontinental Terminals Co. LLC in Deer Park, Texas. An official statement disclosed NAPHTHA a component of gasoline is the chemical being burned and the as of 7 p.m. the fire has spread to another tank containing XYLENE, HAZMAT is evaluating the situation. An evacuation order has not been ordered but a shelter-in-place is in effect until further notice. ITC officials are working with local agencies to keep abreast of the situation as it continues. Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo and Commissioner Precinct 2 Adrian Garcia gave a statement on site and offered support and services as needed. At this time, the cause of the fire is undetermined.

Naphtha can affect you when breathed in and by passing through your skin. Symptoms of acute exposure may include irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, headaches, dizziness, nausea and vomiting. High exposures can cause lightheadedness, fatigue. Repeated exposure may cause damage to the nervous system and kidney damage.

Xylene exposure at high levels can lead to irritation of eyes, nose and throat; cause difficulties breathing; problems with lungs; delayed reaction times; memory difficulties; stomach discomfort and possibly changes in liver and kidneys. It can cause unconsciousness and even death at high levels.

For these and additional concerns Texas Environmental Justice Advocacy Services urges residents inside and outside the area to seek safety with friends and relatives further from the facility. Please remain calm and cautious of current and future road closures and weather events that may complicate the situation. Local officials have not called for a mandatory evacuation. Tejas also urges the surrounding municipalities including but not limited to La Porte, Pasadena, Channelview, Baytown, Jacinto City and communities in the east end of Houston to take precautions and limit outdoor exposure due to unknown substances that the plume may carry. Texas Environmental Justice Advocacy Services is not a government agency or county entity to mandate evacuation. We are a 501(c)3 registered environmental advocacy nonprofit, that seeks to educate and inform communities on the environmental issues of concern.

Harris County officials have stated that the event may spread throughout the night and over the next following days. Due to the concentration of production, storage and other sensitive materials in and around the area we remind the public to stay abreast of the situation as they are out during St. Patrick’s Day holiday.

Due to the frequency of events endangering public health such as this one and the fire at the ExxonMobil facility on March 16, 2019 in Baytown, Texas we remain adamant that local, county and state officials create a regional air toxics plan and support the implementation of the Chemical Disaster Rule to prevent the endangerment of populations sitting on the fenceline of these hazardous facilities and catastrophic events.

Following proper Shelter-in-place protocol remember to store medications and any necessary items/documents near you. Vulnerable populations may be especially susceptible to these events including those with ailments, children and the elderly.

What does Shelter-in-place mean?
Go inside immediately. Close and secure all doors and windows. Turn off all ventilation systems (air conditioning, heating). Bring pets indoors. Listen to the radio or television and watch for visible smoke. It is important to consider the temperature.

Note: All plant information was gathered from the Intercontinental Terminals Company LLC official company website http://www.iterm.com/news/


Texas Environmental Justice Advocacy Services (T.e.j.a.s.) is a 501c3 registered nonprofit, dedicated to providing community members with the tools necessary to create sustainable, environmentally healthy communities by educating individuals on health concerns and implications arising from environmental pollution, empowering individuals with an understanding of applicable environmental laws and regulations and promoting their enforcement, and offering community building skills and resources for effective community action and greater public participation.