

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to notify Carrizo of possible air quality violation

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The TCEQ conducted investigations in July and August after an Arlington resident made complaints and provided medical records to the agency.

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The Texas Commission of Environmental Quality will notify Carrizo Oil and Gas Inc. of a possible air quality violation, according to an investigation report by the agency.

The TCEQ conducted investigations in July and August after an Arlington resident made complaints to the TCEQ and provided them with medical records. An October 2008 TCEQ Interoffice Memorandum requires complainants substantiate claims of adverse health effects from air contamination with documentation from a health professional.

Sandra DenBraber sent letters signed by her personal physician to the TCEQ and Carrizo stating she has suffered migraines, headaches and respiratory problems which she attributes to the gas wells emissions.

"Carrizo has been making me ill, and my doctor's letter can confirm this," DenBraber said. "I've been going to the doctor since 2008, and the letter was sent to Carrizo and TCEQ in June."

DenBraber lives about 600 feet away from the drilling site which is located on the UTA campus behind the Education Center at the intersection of Pecan and Mitchell streets.

"Carrizo has been making me ill, and my doctor's letter can confirm this,"

Sandra DenBraber,

Arlington resident

Carrizo began drilling in November 2007 and operates 22 gas wells at the facility.

According to an investigation report provided by TCEQ, compounds which include, ethyl benzene, m&p-xylene, 2-methylpentane and 3-methylpentane were detected during an air quality sampling. The TCEQ report cites the same compounds were also found in DenBraber's blood, according to her doctor's report, which was released to the TCEQ with DenBraber's permission.

Because no other compounds were found in the area, the TCEQ attributes the Carrizo UTA facility as the "likely source."

TCEQ will notify Carrizo Oil and Gas later this week about the violation because of failure to prevent discharge of one or more air contaminants that may be injurious to human health.

Carrizo Compliance manager Dan Petri, was informed verbally of the investigation's results on Sept. 30,

according to the report.

Petri could not be reached for comment at 7 p.m. Monday.

Communications Vice President Jerry Lewis said he is looking into the issue and will have further details in the next few days.

Lewis said the university has not received any notices from TCEQ.

The TCEQ penalty process states that after an investigator finds a violation, an "enforcement process" is implemented. A Notice of Violation letter is sent, and it requires the company to reply with a written schedule that shows when and how they plan to correct the alleged violations.

After the company receives the notice, the company must respond in writing by the deadline given in the letter.

Andrea Morrow TCEQ Media Relations spokeswoman said the specific violations could not be released until Carrizo was notified.