



Arkansas Department of Health

4815 West Markham Street • Little Rock, Arkansas 72205-3867 • Telephone (501) 661-2000

Governor Asa Hutchinson

Nathaniel Smith, MD, MPH, Director and State Health Officer

Arkansas Department of Health Preliminary Review of Surface Water Samples from Trafalgar Road Fire Site 2/5/2019

The Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) has conducted a preliminary review of surface water data from the Trafalgar Road Fire site. At the request of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), EnSafe contractors collected surface water samples at the northern perimeter of the site on January 23, 2019. Samples were analyzed in a laboratory using a gas chromatography–mass spectrometry (GC-MS) method. Surface water samples were analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), anions, metals, and dissolved metals. Most compounds were at background levels and below health screening values. The compound concentrations that exceeded their respective health screening values included: arsenic, manganese, and benzene. These three compounds were further evaluated using public health risk assessment calculations to determine potential risk factor values.

Potential Exposure Pathway

This surface water is not a public drinking water source, and is not considered a possible human drinking water exposure. A potential dermal (skin) exposure pathway exists for on-site workers and/or any individuals near the perimeter of the site. Onsite workers are aware of personal protective equipment (PPE) requirements (boots, gloves, etc.). Onsite authorized personnel have been trained to follow recommended PPE procedures as needed.

Public Health Statement

Based on this preliminary review, ADH has determined that potential exposure, such as from accidental splashing or wading, to surface water by dermal (skin) contact with any of the contaminants detected in the surface water at the perimeter of the Trafalgar Road Fire site poses *no apparent public health hazard*. ADH concludes that dermal contact with surface water from the perimeter of the Trafalgar Road Fire site is not expected to harm people's health because all levels of arsenic, manganese, and benzene were found to be below calculated risk levels related to public health. More detailed results of the surface water data evaluation will be included in an upcoming health consultation document.