

EPA Hurricane Laura #13

September 8, 2020

INCIDENT OVERVIEW

EPA is working with federal and state partners to respond to the impacts of Hurricane/Tropical Storm Laura. Hurricane Laura made landfall at the southwest Louisiana coast near Cameron, Louisiana at approximately 1 am on August 27, 2020 with maximum sustained winds at 150 miles per hour (mph) and transitioned north over Cameron Parish toward north central Louisiana. According to the National Hurricane Center and Central Pacific Hurricane Center (NHCCPHC), Hurricane Laura downgraded to a Tropical Storm just across the Arkansas state line, transitioned across Arkansas to the northeast and became a Tropical Depression west-northwest of Memphis, Tennessee with storm remnants heading northeast across Kentucky.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- EPA has received 53 National Response Center (NRC) reports in EPA's Area of Responsibility (AOR), related to Hurricane Laura. EPA received 14 calls for this three-day weekend reporting period on incidents in its AOR. As of midnight, on September 7, 2020, all reports have been assessed and appropriate actions are being taken.
- An EPA representative continues to virtually staff the Emergency Support Function #10 (ESF #10) Desk at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Interim Operating Facility (IOF) in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
- The four EPA Drinking Water/Wastewater Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) completed their mission on September 6, 2020 and demobilized.
- In Beaumont, 11 of 13 air monitors are online. The two remaining sites are awaiting power to be restored. Status of air monitors in Texas can be found on the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's (TCEQ) Air Monitoring website. <https://www17.tceq.texas.gov/tamis/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.news¤tOnly=false>
- The Trace Atmosphere Gas Analyzer (TAGA) bus will conduct daily mobile monitoring in the Port Arthur/Orange area through September 11, 2020.
- LDEQ has 3 of the 7 ambient air monitors back online in the Lake Charles area (Southwest & Acadiana Regions). Most of these sites are awaiting power restoration to come online. Status of air monitors in Louisiana can be found on Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ)'s Air Quality website. <https://www.deq.louisiana.gov/page/ambient-air-monitoring-data-reports>.
- LDEQ has two state Mobile Air Monitoring Labs (MAMLs) in Lake Charles and Westlake operating through Friday, September 11, 2020.

SIGNIFICANT ACTIONS

- The EPA Region 7 Mobile Drinking Water Lab is stationed in Lake Charles and supporting State and local officials with analysis of drinking water samples for residual chlorine and bacteria. The Mobile Laboratory analyzed 29 samples on

Sunday and 42 samples Monday, September 8, 2020. Results of the 29 samples completed have been shared with State and local Responders.

- On September 8, 2020, EPA participated in a mosquito abatement contingency planning task force meeting hosted by FEMA. The primary invitees were Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), Louisiana Department Health (LDH), and Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF). EPA received no tasking from the meeting.

FORCE MAJEURE

- On September 4, 2020, the EPA received a Force Majeure notice that the ExxonMobil Beaumont Refinery and the ExxonMobil Colonial Storage Beaumont facility have been impacted by Hurricane Laura, COVID-19 and third-party electrical power supply instability.
- The Motiva facility in Port Arthur, TX, submitted a force majeure notice on August 26, 2020.

COORDINATION WITH STATE AGENCIES

- EPA is coordinating daily through multiple avenues with Louisiana and Texas on response status, needs, and to maintain situational awareness.

EPA RESOURCES

Hurricane Laura - Manpower Resources 9/8/2020						
Personnel	REOC Dallas	Louisiana	FEMA Baton Rouge	Texas	FEMA Denton	Total
R6	20*	3*	1*	3*	0	27
R7	0	2	0	0	0	2
TAGA	0	0	0	1	0	1
ASPECT	0	0	0	0	0	0
START	1*	1*	0	0	0	2
ERRS	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Contractors	0	0	0	2	0	2
Total	21	6	1	6	0	34

*working virtually

Other contractors are part of TAGA crew.

NATIONAL PRIORITY LIST SITES AND FACILITY ASSESSMENTS

As of September 1, 2020, remedial assessments for the 76 National Priority List (NPL) sites within federally declared counties and parishes were completed and no further response related to Tropical Storm Marco or Hurricane Laura is required.

LDEQ completed assessment of the 336 priority facilities* identified as of September 3, 2020. No concerns were reported.

** LDEQ Priority facilities include: Chemical Action Prevention (CAP) facilities, Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) Majors, STP Significant Minors, Radioactive Material Licensees, Toxic or Hazardous Pollutant Air Emission facilities (Title V), STP Industrial Majors, and, Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage & Disposal (HWTS&D) facilities.*

DRINKING WATER /WASTEWATER ASSESSMENTS

All drinking water and wastewater assessments are being conducted and data being reported by the state in which the system is located.

Louisiana Water Assessments

Drinking Water Systems in Louisiana

Included Area: Acadia, Ascension, Allen, Avoyelles, Beauregard, Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Calcasieu, Caldwell, Cameron, Catahoula, Claiborne, Concordia, De Soto, Evangeline, Grant, Iberia, Jackson, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, La Salle, Morehouse, Natchitoches, Ouachita, Rapides, Sabine, St. Martin, St. Mary, Union, Vermilion, Vernon, Winn		
Data as of September 7, 2020 at 2:30 pm		
Data provided by LDH	# of systems	Population
Operating with no use restrictions	1140	4687282
Operating with use restrictions	114	382820
Not Operating	48	15,727
Unknown	0	0
Total systems in impacted area	1304	5085879
Boil Water Advisory	93	N/A
Comments:		

Note: use restrictions could include boil water, do not drink, do not use, conservation measures, or other categories

Wastewater Systems in Louisiana

Included Area: Acadia, Ascension, Allen, Avoyelles, Beauregard, Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Calcasieu, Caldwell, Cameron, Catahoula, Claiborne, Concordia, De Soto, Evangeline, Grant, Iberia, Jackson, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, La Salle, Morehouse, Natchitoches, Ouachita, Rapides, Sabine, St. Martin, St. Mary, Union, Vermilion, Vernon, Winn	
Data as of September 8, 2020 10:00 am	
Data provided by LDEQ	# of systems
Operating ¹	88
Partially Operating ²	9
Not Operating ³	5
Unknown	12
Total systems in impacted area	114
Comments:	

Operating is defined as all domestic wastewater is collected, treated, and discharged or land applied at Fed/State required levels and can meet these requirements on a permanent basis in lieu of a temporary basis in response to the incident.

² Partially operating means there are issues in collection and/or treatment, but some functions are occurring. Bypasses, sanitary sewer overflows, partial treatment, unauthorized discharges, and other issues could be occurring.

³ Not operating is defined as collection and/or treatment is not functioning.

Texas Water Assessments
 Drinking Water Systems in
 Texas

Included Area: Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Newton, Orange, Sabine, and St. Augustine Counties		
Data as of September 8, 2020 2:00 pm		
Data provided by TCEQ	# of systems	Population
Operating with no use restrictions	98	346253
Operating with use restrictions	51	103454
Not Operating	15	4030
Unknown	0	0
Total systems in impacted area	164	453737
Boil Water Advisory as of 9/7/2020 2 pm	33	N/A
Comments:		

Note: use restrictions could include boil water, do not drink, do not use, conservation measures, or other categories

Wastewater Systems in Texas

Included Area: Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Newton, Orange, Sabine, and St. Augustine Counties	
Data as of September 8, 2020 2:00pm	
Data provided by TCEQ	# of systems
Operating ¹	57
Partially Operating ²	0
Not Operating ³	1
Unknown	0
Total systems in impacted area	58
Comments:	

¹ Operating is defined as all domestic wastewater is collected, treated, and discharged or land applied at Fed/State required levels and can meet these requirements on a permanent basis in lieu of a temporary basis in response to the incident.

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AIR MONITORING

September 4-6, 2020, TAGA conducted mobile monitoring in the Port Arthur/Orange area for VOCs to include benzene, toluene, xylenes/ethyl benzene, tetrachloroethene, trichloroethene and dichloroethenes. Concentrations of the target compounds, the geographical position, and time were recorded and mapped.

The TAGA air sampling results were compared to the TCEQ short-term Air Monitoring Comparison Values (AMCVs) and no exceedances of the short-term AMCVs were found.

Maps of ASPECT flights and TAGA air monitoring routes are posted on the public website, <https://response.epa.gov/hurricanelaura>.

TAGA will continue to monitor the Port Arthur/Orange/Beaumont Area until September 11, 2020, with a break on September 7. TAGA missions are provided by TCEQ.



TAGA:
 EPA conducted air sampling using the Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA) on September 4, 2020 in the vicinity of Beaumont, Groves, Port Arthur and Port Neches, Texas. The TAGA analyzed the air samples for dichloroethene, trichloroethene, tetrachloroethene, benzene, toluene and xylene. The TAGA air sampling results were compared to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) short-term Air Monitoring Comparison Values (AMCVs) and found no exceedances of the short-term AMCVs.

Legend
 TAGA DATA COLLECTION



TAGA MAP
HURRICANE LAURA RESPONSE
JEFFERSON COUNTY, TEXAS

REPORTING PERIOD #6
 9/4/2020



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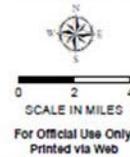


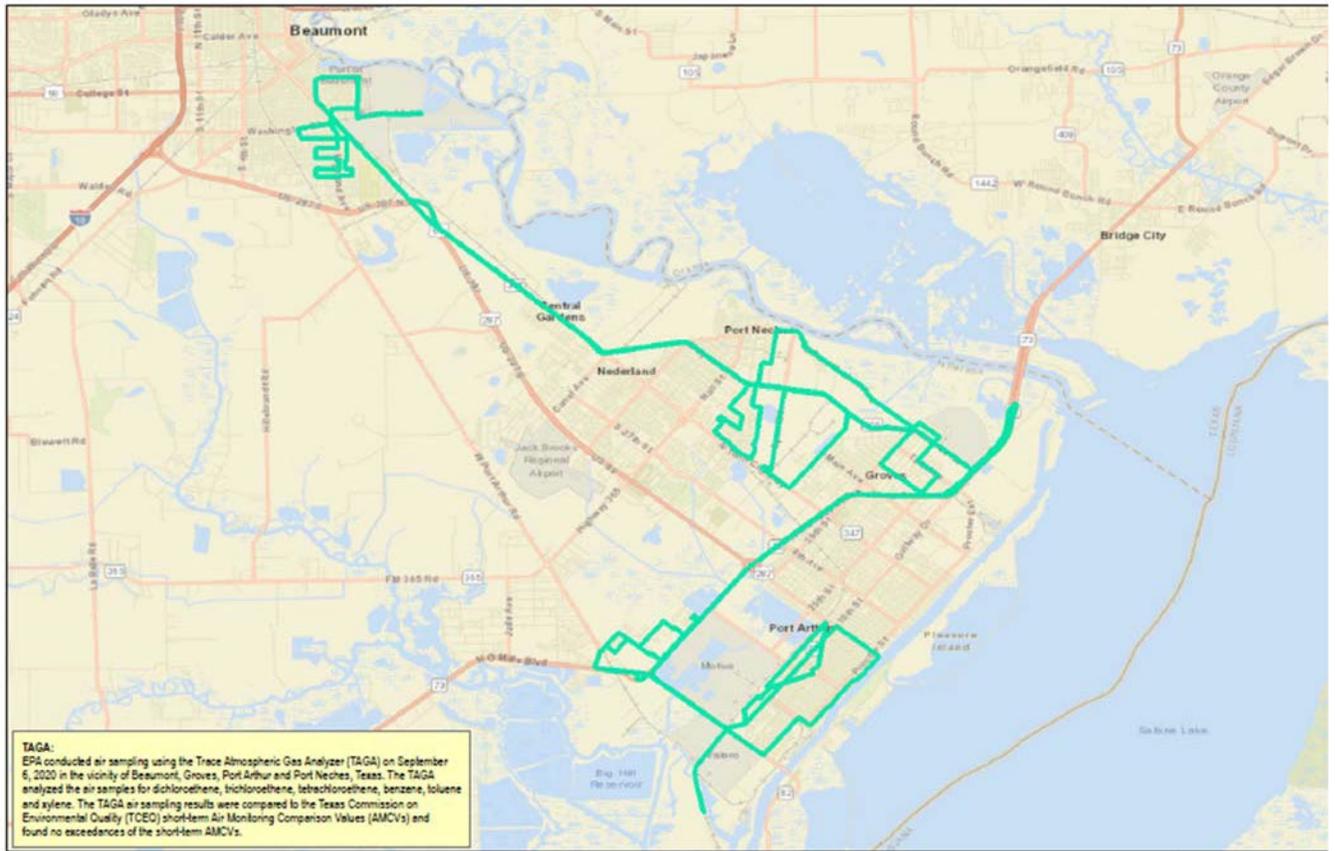
Legend
 TAGA DATA COLLECTION



TAGA MAP
HURRICANE LAURA RESPONSE
JEFFERSON AND ORANGE
COUNTIES, TEXAS

REPORTING PERIOD #7
 9/5/2020





Legend

TAGA DATA COLLECTION

TAGA MAP
HURRICANE LAURA RESPONSE
JEFFERSON AND ORANGE
COUNTIES, TEXAS

REPORTING PERIOD #8
 9/6/2020

SCALE IN MILES

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