

Ethylene Oxide: Technical Reviews and Outreach to Potentially Affected Communities

Status Report – Third Quarter 2021 Update

July – September 2021

As EPA pursues its mission to protect public health and the environment, addressing ethylene oxide remains a major priority for the Agency. EPA's National Air Toxics Assessment (NATA), released in August 2018, identified a number of areas of the country where risks of cancer were potentially elevated because of ethylene oxide emissions. NATA estimated risk based on emissions from 2014, which were the most recently available at the time.

Because NATA is a screening-level analysis, additional work is needed to better understand emissions in areas NATA identifies as potentially having elevated risk, and to identify opportunities for early reductions at individual facilities, while EPA reviews its regulations for industries. EPA is supporting its state air agency partners in that work.

In January 2021, EPA posted a status report describing the technical analysis and outreach work conducted for Croda in New Castle, Delaware. Since then, updates have been posted for the first and second quarters of 2021. This document summarizes additional work conducted in the third quarter of 2021.

Outreach updates:

The Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) has been the lead in reducing emissions at Croda.

- EPA has had working meetings with DNREC on environmental justice concerns in the various communities along a the 3-mile long, Route 9 corridor, just south of Wilmington, Delaware. Croda is located at the southern end of the 3-mile long Route 9 corridor. There are different communities with different environmental concerns. EPA expects to work with DNREC on developing mitigation activities, listening sessions, and engaging communities in this effort.
- In addition, DNREC has requested EPA support for a public meeting for the communities near Croda in spring 2022.