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Contact: LDEQ Communications
Phone: 225-219-3964

LDEQ'S REPORT ON COMMUNITY AIR MONITORING

BATON ROUGE, LA — The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) released the final report of the Community Air Monitoring and Notification System Task Force, established by Senate Concurrent Resolution 30 (SCR 30) during the 2024 Regular Legislative Session. Chaired by **LDEQ Secretary Aurelia S. Giacometto**, the Task Force was charged with evaluating the feasibility, cost, and benefits of real-time community air monitoring and notification systems for emission sources in Louisiana.

The Task Force represented a diverse group of experts and stakeholders including members of the Louisiana Legislature, State agencies, industry representatives, and environmental advocates. Over the course of its work, the group examined current air monitoring technologies, assessed implementation costs, reviewed health impacts associated with Title V air pollutants, and offered actionable recommendations for possible legislative and regulatory pathways forward.



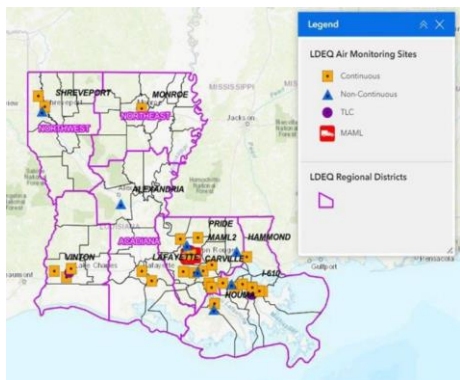
Secretary Giacometto stated, “The work of this Task Force reflects a collaborative and data-driven approach to evaluating how we can enhance transparency and safeguard air quality across the State.”

The Task Force’s was responsible for determining the following as outlined in SCR 30:

- **Assessment of Monitoring Effectiveness:** Real-time monitoring, particularly when using regulatory-grade equipment, can provide accurate and timely data to support public health protections and regulatory compliance.
- **Cost Analysis:** Equipping and maintaining a comprehensive system statewide would require significant investment. Regulatory-grade monitoring sites are estimated to cost over \$790,000 each, with annual operations and maintenance ranging between \$150,000 and \$200,000 per site.
- **Air Pollutant and Public Health Review:** The report identifies common and hazardous air pollutants emitted from Title V facilities and outlines associated health risks, including cancer and respiratory illnesses.
- **Strategic Recommendations:** The Task Force proposed a phased implementation prioritizing the top 10–20% of emitting facilities, integration of lower-cost air sensors as sentinel systems, and a strong emphasis on public involvement in monitor siting decisions.

“The report from the Community Air Monitoring and Notification Task Force is a significant step forward in ensuring the health and safety of Louisiana’s communities, and we are grateful for Secretary Giacometto’s leadership in advancing this important work,” said **Desiree Lemoine, Campaign Manager for Industry Makes**. “It’s crucial that we focus on facts and progress rather than misleading narratives. Labels like ‘Cancer Alley’ ignore the improvements we’re making in environmental protection.”

The SCR 30 Report also highlights the substantial infrastructure LDEQ currently maintains, including a robust network of continuous, non-continuous, and temporary localized air monitoring sites across the State, as well as TO-15 canister sampling and fenceline monitoring at major facilities. These efforts support the agency’s mission to protect the environment through transparency, compliance, and scientific rigor.



“The results of the Task Force’s work are an effective model for the collective efforts of industry, government, and communities,” added **David Cresson, President & CEO of the Louisiana Chemical Association.** “The collaboration showcased in this report is a testament to the commitment we all share in advancing environmental stewardship in our State. We must continue to focus on data-driven solutions that promote a sustainable future for all Louisianans.”

Click [here](#) to learn more about the Community Air Monitoring and Notification System Task Force and read the full SCR 30 report.

For more information about LDEQ’s ongoing environmental initiatives, visit www.deq.louisiana.gov.

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