

SAFETY ALERT

Trakhees – Inspection Department would like to raise awareness for a naturally occurring problem of fugitive emission during the hot summer season of the year.

Records from previous years reveal that air pollution of fuel gas odor perceived in the Jebel Ali Free Zone area occurs starting from the month of May until the end of summer.

While fugitive emissions of fuel gas are normally expected in every mixed-used industrial areas like JAFZ area, odor issues are highly prevalent during the hot weather as a result of the increasing temperature resulting in high decay rate of organic matter and faster evaporation rate of any liquid material among many others.

Moreover, poor wind dynamics may cause poor dispersion of the fume and odour that are likely to concentrate in an area.

Some of the common sources of odour include places such as sewers, sewage treatment plants (Hydrogen sulfide H₂S is often called *sewer gas*). Industrial sources of H₂S include petroleum and natural gas extraction and Petroleum Refining, Chemicals Storage Terminals, Loading-unloading of Petroleum Products & Gases in Ships and Tankers, Pulp and paper manufacturing, chemical manufacturing and waste disposal facilities etc.

Depending on the exposure level and concentration levels it may result in dizziness, allergic reactions to the eyes; nose and throat, or collapse.

The main principle to mitigate the effects of pollutants is to inhibit their entry to the indoor work stations/offices. Other measures that can be considered are as listed below;

Engineering controls:

Check with your Air Conditioning system suppliers/maintenance contractors for the most efficient filtration for your ventilation system. There are various filters that are designed to purify air and extract odors to make sure that what gets into your work stations are free from pollutants.

Safe working practices:

Make it a matter of policy to carry-out regular monitoring of indoor air. Whether by in-house monitoring systems or through a commissioned laboratory, it will be best to know the quality of air that you and your workers are exposed to every working day.

Maintain good house keeping

Some odors may be coming from your own yard and the issue may be resolved by fostering a culture of good housekeeping. Some efforts that you may initiate may include regular pumping out and cleaning of septic tanks and proper storage of chemicals among others.

Please feel free to contact us for further information.