

PRECAUTIONARY HEALTH ADVISORY

The Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services (Health Department) is providing this Precautionary Health Advisory to inform businesses and residents working or living in the vicinity of 5550 North Paramount Boulevard in the City of Long Beach (Site) that methane gas has been detected in monitoring instruments at the Site. Recent monitoring detected subsurface methane gas at the Site in a monitoring well near the intersection of East 55th Way and North Paramount Boulevard. Methane gas can be flammable and explosive under certain conditions in air.

The Site contains a portion of the former Paramount landfill which has been closed for decades. As the waste in a landfill decays, it may generate landfill gas that contains methane.

To correct the current situation, the owner of the Site is in the process of designing and installing a gas control system. In the meantime, the Health Department will continue to monitor the methane gas levels. The Health Department and the City of Long Beach recommend that businesses and residents working or living immediately adjacent to the Site take the following precautionary steps:

- Do not use ignition sources in confined spaces. Examples of ignition sources are open flames, cutting tools or hammers that create sparks, welding equipment, barbeque pits, and/or fireworks. Confined spaces are non-ventilated area where methane gas could collect, such as storage sheds.
- Do not use fireworks or smoke near storm drains, telephone or utility meters installed at ground level, whether at the street or on residential properties.
- Ventilate any infrequently used storage sheds or similar structures located outside.

Businesses or residents may also install natural and combustible gas detectors for added assurance, if desired. For further information, please contact us at (562) 570-4132.