

April 1, 2019
12:30 p.m.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Update: Harris County Public Health's Statement
on ITC Chemical Plant Fire**

HOUSTON — As Harris County Public Health (HCPH) continues to work with its response partners to monitor events related to the Intercontinental Terminals Company (ITC) plant fire incident, our public health focus remains on the health and safety of the entire Harris County community.

We will continue to work with response partners until the health and safety of the entire community is no longer a concern. Based on current health-related data from multiple sources, there continues to be an overall **low health risk** for the general public. Our partners continue to report steady progress in the response and recovery efforts with the chemical tanks at the ITC plant, the Houston Ship Channel and surrounding areas.

ITC reported on March 31 that due to changing weather conditions over the weekend, the response team had seen brief periodic fluctuations in Benzene readings within a two-mile radius of the site of the ITC Deer Park incident site. ITC reported that no residential areas have been affected. Since then air monitoring levels have returned within [satisfactory range](#). Harris County response partners will continue to monitor the ongoing situation and are prepared to support response efforts.

HCPH continues to work with its healthcare partners and recommends that any individuals who have health concerns should contact their healthcare provider or if more serious, call 911. If you do not have a healthcare provider, you can find a local health center near you at <https://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov/>, or you can call the Harris Health System's 'Ask My Nurse' helpline – open from 8 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. daily – to help answer basic health questions. The number is (713) 634-1110.

HCPH reminds the public to continue to stay informed on the Deer Park incident. For updated guidance go to: www.readyharris.org/deerparkfire and www.hcphtx.org. Residents can also stay up to date by following ReadyHarris on social media: Twitter [@ReadyHarris](#) and Facebook [ReadyHarris](#). To learn more, please visit: www.hcphtx.org and www.cdc.gov.

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HCPH is the local public health agency for the Harris County, Texas jurisdiction. It provides a wide variety of public health activities and services aimed at improving the health and well-being of the Harris County community.

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