



SENATOR WENDY R DAVIS  
District 10

# The Senate of The State of Texas

COMMITTEES  
Education  
International Relations & Trade  
Transportation & Homeland Security  
Veteran Affairs & Military Installations

June 1, 2010

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ...**

Contact: Anthony Spangler  
Communications Director  
State Sen. Wendy Davis – District 10  
817.332.3338 (o); 817.798.3371(c)  
[anthony.spangler@senate.state.tx.us](mailto:anthony.spangler@senate.state.tx.us)

## **Senator Wendy Davis Responds to Recent Revelations of Additional Benzene Exposures in Tarrant County**

FORT WORTH, TX – Under the scrutiny of a 30-part open records request for full disclosure submitted last Friday by Senator Wendy Davis, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) admitted they had additional findings that were not disclosed in last week's revelation. Senator Davis' office was notified today by the agency of three additional benzene exposures in Tarrant County – two locations in Fort Worth and one in an unincorporated part of the county, just west of Benbrook.

The latest levels were apparently detected during mobile monitoring trips conducted by the TCEQ in Tarrant County from Apr. 19-23, 2010.

"It is apparent that the TCEQ will continue to hide data crucial to the public's health," Davis said. "I am going to expect of TCEQ that they will release all information relevant to the safety of our community."

The following is information provided in an email today from TCEQ Executive Director Mark Vickery regarding the Apr. 19-23 mobile monitoring trip:

P.O. Box 12068  
Austin, Texas 78711  
(512) 463-0110  
FAX: (512) 475-3745  
Dial 711 For Relay Calls

2421 W. 7th, Suite 350, Building A  
Fort Worth, Texas 76107  
(817) 332-3338  
FAX: (817) 332-1230

E-Mail: [wendy.davis@senate.state.tx.us](mailto:wendy.davis@senate.state.tx.us)

During this trip, we visited 97 sites, of which 38 were previously sampled and 59 were at new locations. We collected twelve short-term samples, six of which were downwind and six were upwind from oil and gas facilities. Of these twelve samples, three results returned benzene concentrations that warrant further review. These three results are summarized below:

\* Sample FWFS1004-68 resulted in 3.2 ppbv of benzene on April 21, 2010. This 30-minute sample was collected in Fort Worth downwind of the Chesapeake Energy, Texas Midstream Gas Services, S & B Compressor Station off Corbett Business Drive, approximately 0.2 miles south from East Berry Street and 50 yards east of Corbett Business Drive. In addition, grab Sample FWFS1004-84 detected 6.3 ppbv of benzene on April 21, 2010. The sample location remained the same in each of these instances.

\* Sample FWFS1004-75 resulted in 1.9 ppbv of benzene on April 22, 2010. This grab sample was collected downwind of the Ecana Oil & Gas Compressor Station - DAB Well 5H site that lies approximately 130 feet south of Interstate 20 Access Road and 0.25 miles east of Markum Ranch Road.

According to the TCEQ, the Long-Term Air Monitoring Comparison Value (AMCV) for benzene is 1.4 parts per billion by volume (ppbv).

###

**FURTHER INFORMATION:**

For additional information about the issue, including the entire 30-part open records request submitted by Sen. Davis' office to the TCEQ, please see the following link:  
<http://www.davis.senate.state.tx.us/#Press>

For information on Air Monitoring Comparison Values from the TCEQ, see this link:  
<http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/tox/AirToxics.html#amev>