Investigation of Air Quality near Egg Production Facilities in Arlington and Tonopah, Arizona

February 2018

ATSDR is a federal public health agency. Our mission is to protect people from exposure to hazardous chemicals in their community. We investigate potential health risks and make recommendations to protect people’s health. ATSDR received a request to investigate air quality from two organizations concerned that air emissions from Hickman’s Family Farms’ egg production facilities might pose health risks to the community.

We are investigating whether breathing contaminants in air near egg production facilities in Arlington or Tonopah could harm people’s health.

We will focus on assessing exposure to hydrogen sulfide and ammonia in air. We might include particulate matter (dust) as well. We don’t have enough data to determine whether these substances are present at levels that could harm people’s health. Additional air measurements in the community will help fill this data gap. The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) is collecting air quality data. ATSDR will review the data ADEQ collects and use it to decide what, if any, additional air monitoring ATSDR will conduct.

ATSDR uses a standard, science-based process to determine health risks.

We will use air monitoring data and information we receive from community members and other stakeholders in our investigation. To determine if there is a health risk, we will compare levels of air contaminants to screening and health effect levels that scientists have determined. We want to learn what community members have observed about local air quality. We are not planning to collect information about peoples’ specific health conditions.

Join our email list to stay up to date about this ATSDR investigation.

We will keep people informed of our progress through regular email updates. Contact Jamie Rayman (jrayman@cdc.gov or 415.947.4318) to join our email list.

Input from community members will help us achieve our goals. If you have questions or concerns, please contact.

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