

Midlothian, TX Air Quality Evaluation

**Agency for Toxic Substances and
Disease Registry (ATSDR)**

and

**Texas Department of State Health
Services (DSHS)**

January 21, 2010



ATSDR
AGENCY FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES
AND DISEASE REGISTRY

Purpose of the Meeting

- What is ATSDR's role and mission?
- Why are we engaged in Midlothian?
- What concerns have been expressed by the community?
- How will ATSDR address these concerns?
- How we will communicate and interact with the Midlothian community?



ATSDR's Mission and Role

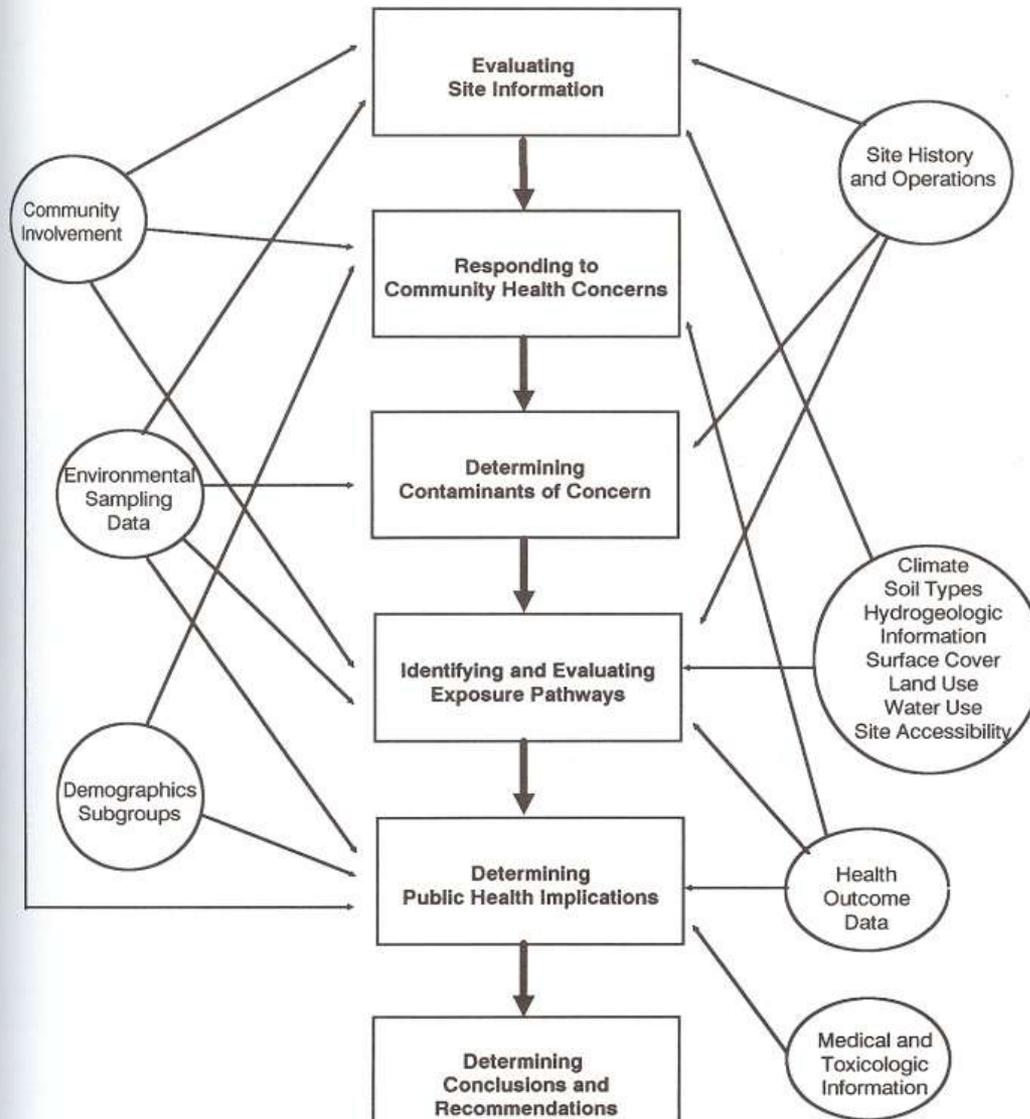
ATSDR's mission is to serve the public by using the best science, taking responsive actions, and providing trusted health information to prevent harmful exposures and diseases related to toxic substances exposure.

ATSDR's mandate is to protect the public from hazardous wastes and environmental spills of hazardous substances. Mandated activities include health assessment activities, health surveillance, toxicological information, and health education.

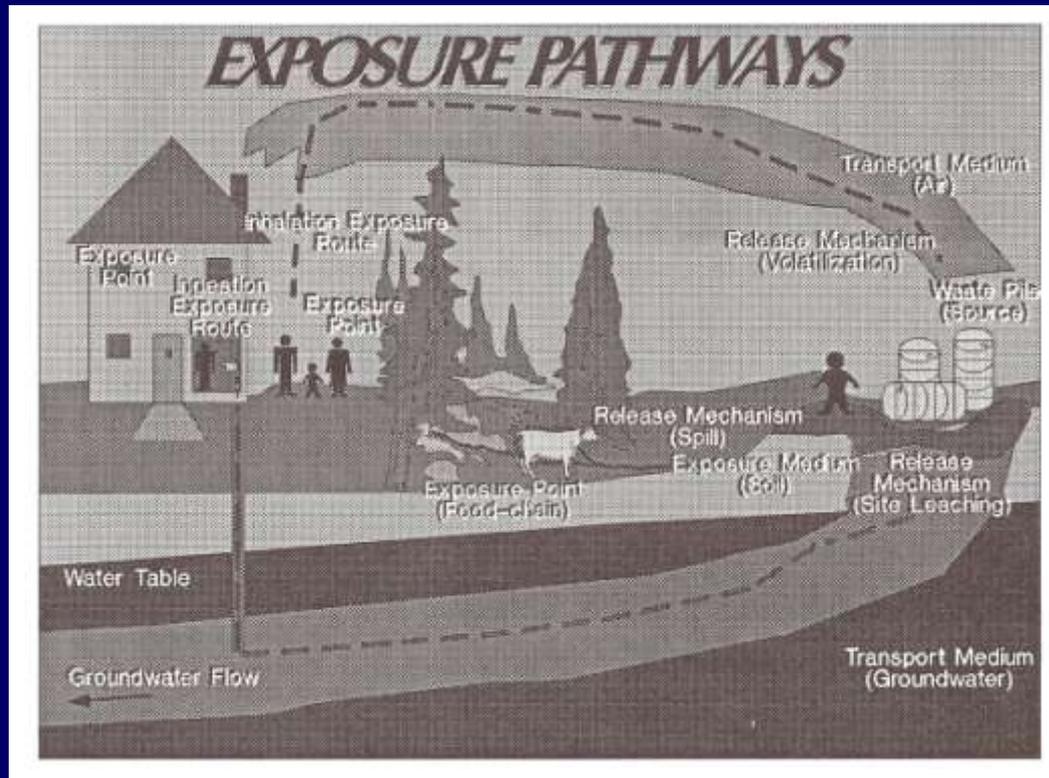


ATSDR's Evaluation of Site Data

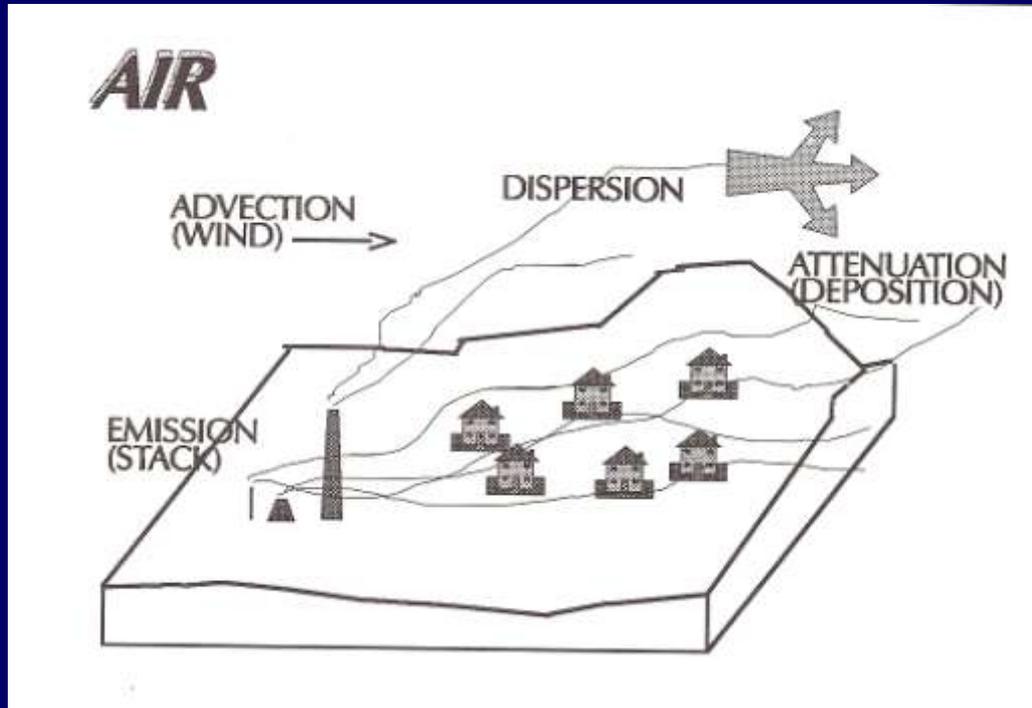
Figure 2.4. Factors Influencing the Health Assessment Process



ATSDR's Evaluation of Site Data



ATSDR's Evaluation of Site Data



Midlothian, TX petition

Received August 2005

Issues/Concerns:

Emitted chemicals not fully characterized – all emissions are not identified

Persistence of emissions, the effects of continuous low level exposure, and the synergistic effects of emitted chemicals

Impact on pregnant women, infants, children, the elderly, the immuno-suppressed

Protectiveness of the regulatory health-based screening guidelines



Petition Issues/Concerns continued

Effectiveness of air monitoring from TCEQs monitoring stations (only run periodically)

DSHS reliance on data collected by other agencies

Rates of health problems, including leukemia, birth defects and childhood total cancer, are higher in Ellis Co. when compared to state-wide values

Rates for birth defects, including hypospadias/epispadias and others, are higher in Ellis Co. when compared to state-wide values



Petition Issues/Concerns continued

A study by DSHS of a Down Syndrome cluster in Ellis Co. was conducted but not designed to consider environmental factors

A higher incidence of respiratory problems has been identified in Midlothian, as stated in a symptom survey conducted by Legator, et al. (1998)



Community concerns

(gathered from community surveys in 2005)

Smell of rotten eggs around sunset

Cars are dusty all the time – thick/white dust

Respiratory infections

Allergies

Asthma – improves when leave area

Sinus problems

Cancer

Auto-Immune diseases (sarcoidosis involving lungs and eye lids)

Dogs with tumors and birth defects

Air quality problems

Graves Disease



ATSDR Involvement continued

March 2009 Congressional Hearing

July 2009 Community Surveys

Sept 2009 Community Assistance Panel



What are ATSDR's planned activities?

Public Health Response Plan

- Our plan for how ATSDR/DSHS will respond to community concerns
- Plan can change as needed (living document)
- Keeps agencies accountable
- Allows community to know what steps agencies will take and where we are in the process



Current activities continued

Ongoing communication with community
(websites will be kept up-to-date)

1- www.atsdr.cdc.gov/sites/midlothian

2 - [www.dshs.state.tx.us/epitox/
midlothian/midlothian.shtml](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/epitox/midlothian/midlothian.shtml)



PHRP Comment Period

60-day comment period

Jan 21, 2010 – Mar 19, 2010

Copies available after meeting

**Reading copies at Midlothian City Hall and
A.H. Meadows Library**

Available on websites



Comments

Send to:

Jennifer Lyke

ATSDR-6

1445 Ross Avenue (6SF-T)

Dallas, TX 75202

jlyke@cdc.gov or

Nancy Ingram

epitox@dshs.state.tx.us



Next meeting

Monday, February 22, 2010

Same Location



ATSDR
AGENCY FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES
AND DISEASE REGISTRY

Contacts

ATSDR

Jennifer Lyke, Team Lead

214/665-8362 or jlyke@cdc.gov

DSHS

Nancy Ingram, Community Involvement

800/588-1248 ext 6572 or

epitox@dshs.state.tx.us

