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Subject:	Epi-AID Trip Report (EPI AID 2012-077): Community Health Assessment Following Mercaptan Spill Eight Mile, Mobile County, Alabama
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### BACKGROUND

On July 27, 2012, the Alabama Department of Public Health requested CDC epidemiologic assistance to investigate possible health effects resulting from community exposure to mercaptan from contaminated ground and surface water in the Eight Mile community of Prichard, Alabama.

In 2008, a lightning strike was reported to have caused a leak of tert-butyl mercaptan (TBM) from its storage tank at the Gulf South Natural Gas Pumping Station, located at 3350 Suncrest Road, Prichard, Alabama (Figure 1). Residents have reported experiencing possible exposure and health symptoms including nausea, dizziness, headaches, general weakness, and respiratory and mucous membrane symptoms, such as eye, nose, and throat irritation since October 2011.

Mobile Gas identified and repaired one gas leak, but this did not resolve the odor that has been described as resembling putrid green onions. A water sample collected by Mobile Gas Service in January 2012, at a groundwater spring located at a beaver pond (Figure 1), contained 460  $\mu$ g/L butyl-mercaptan, an industrial additive used in natural gas to detect leaks. Another water sample collected in February measured 14,000  $\mu$ g/L butyl-mercaptan.

In April 2012, at the request of the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), the US Environmental Protection Agency (Region 4) collected ambient air samples from the residential neighborhoods surrounding the pumping station. Split grab (1-minute) samples were collected on 3 consecutive days (April 24-26) at 11 locations<sup>1</sup>. Samples were collected in the early morning hours starting at sun rise, when the odors typically concentrate near the ground and are the strongest. The sample was collected in the breathing zone, approximately 5 feet above the ground using a vacuum chamber. All samples contained methane concentrations (0.0002%) similar to a background location approximately 4.7 miles northeast of the spring. These low methane levels indicated that the source of the sulfur containing compounds were not emanating from an active gas line. The highest concentrations of three sulfur compounds were identified at the beaver pond spring: tert-butyl mercaptan, or TBM (230 ppbV), ethyl methyl sulfide, or EMS (72 ppbV), and diethyl sulfide, or DES (33 ppbV).

TBM has a skunk-like odor (odor threshold: 0.1 ppb). Thermal decomposition products include hydrogen sulfide and oxides of sulfur and carbon. Short term exposure may cause dermal and respiratory irritation, lack of sense of smell, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, difficulty breathing, headache, drunk-like symptoms, cyanosis, lung congestion, kidney damage, convulsions, and even coma. TBM is not a carcinogen. There is no available information on adverse health effects associated with long term TBM exposure.

Inhalation and skin contact are expected to be the primary routes of occupational exposure to EMS. Based on single exposure animal tests, it is considered to be practically non-toxic to slightly toxic if swallowed, practically nontoxic if inhaled, no more than slightly toxic if absorbed through skin and moderately irritating to eyes and skin.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4. Eight Mile / Prichard Air Study Prichard, Mobile County, Alabama, April 24-26, 2012. SESD Project Identification Number: 12-0375.

DES has a pungent garlic-like odor. Inhalation may cause headache, nausea, dizziness, drowsiness, and loss of consciousness. Prolonged or repeated exposure can cause allergic skin reactions. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) sets enforceable permissible exposure limits (PELs) to protect worker health. PELs are regulatory limits on the amount or concentration of a substance in the air, based on an 8-hour time weighted average (TWA) exposure. The PEL for most thiols is 500 ppbV.

#### **STUDY OBJECTIVES**

- 1) Assess the self-reported health effects in the community;
- 2) Determine the scope of the reported medical services received; and
- 3) Develop recommendations for prevention and response to future incidents.

#### **METHODS**

Our study consisted of a representative random sampling design survey of households in the Eight Mile community to help answer the requested study objectives. We took specific factors into account with respect to the health outcome and exposure to help develop our study design:

- Outcome assessment;
  - While a comprehensive medical chart review from all hospitals, emergency room departments, and primary care clinics may be useful, susceptible residents with little or no access to healthcare may not be appropriately captured. We therefore surveyed self-reported health outcomes among residents in the Eight Mile community and asked about medical-seeking practices.
- Exposure assessment;
  - Based on the EPA report, there is high temporo-spatial variability in TBM pollutant concentrations. We therefore decided to use self-reported or perceived exposures to assist us in assessing exposures among the residents of the Eight Mile Community.
  - As self-reported exposures can be prone to recall bias, we also included an objective measure of distance to the suspected source, the beaver pond spring (Figure 1). To maintain the confidentiality of residents, we did not collect identifiable information. Instead, we grouped households into zones with respect to their distance from the source.
  - The choice of the number, location, and shape of these zones depended on the following factors:
    - Pollutant characteristics:
      - The chemicals in question typically vaporize, stay close to the ground surface, and do not travel far from the source (assuming there is only one source). We chose one- and two-mile zones from the source to stay in

proximity to the source as well as to meet the sample size required for sufficient statistical power.

- Wind speed and direction:
  - Figure 2 shows the distribution of wind speeds and directions between 2005 2010 at two nearby meteorological stations:
    - Mobile downtown (latitude 30.626; longitude -88.068);
    - Mobile / Bates field (latitude 30.688; longitude -88.246);
  - Mobile / Bates field is more inland, less prone to the prevailing southeasterly Gulf winds, and may be more representative of the conditions in the Eight Mile community. As we are interested in long-term, year-round exposures, all households around the source may be at risk. We therefore generated a circular sampling area, centered at the beaver pond spring.
  - While we considered a control zone in another area, such as the site of the April 2012 EPA background station (EM01 on Figure 1), residents in these areas may be different from the Eight Mile Community with respect to different susceptibilities to health outcomes and different exposures from nearby factories that are unrelated to the pollutants of interest. We therefore centered both zones at the beaver pond spring to control for these extraneous factors.
- Location and density of at-risk households:
  - Assuming 50% prevalence of each health outcome of interest, we determined that we would need to complete surveys for at least 97 households per zone, so that the margin of error around the estimated prevalence was ±10%, assuming a 95% confidence interval. We increased the sample size to 110 per zone (220 total), to account for potential non-response. We sampled two circular zones (1-mile and 2-mile radii), centered at the source (Figure 1).

Ten field study teams, comprising of 2 members, were trained immediately before fieldwork began, covering the background of the event, study objectives and methods. Training included consent ascertainment, interview techniques, safety instructions, and the roles and responsibilities of team members.

To obtain 110 samples from each zone and a block level map with streets, highway and water body information, we applied the  $GIS^2 CASPER^3$  tool (a set of program developed by CDC-GRASP<sup>4</sup> and HSB<sup>5</sup> to enhance the sampling and mapping method) in ESRI<sup>6</sup> ArcMap 10.0 software. The GIS CASPER tool automatically generated the cumulative number of housing units and excluded blocks

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Geographic Information System

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Geospatial Research Analysis and Services Program

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Health Studies Branch, National Center for Environmental Health, CDC

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Environmental Systems Research Institute

with "0" housing units from the sampling frame. Based on the cumulative house number per block (Census 2010 data), 26 and 66 blocks (proportional to the number of housing units per block) were selected from zones 1 and 2, respectively. We used the 2010 Census and randomly selected households with an equal probability of selection. Study teams were each assigned Census blocks within each zone that include selected households (Figure 3). The 220 households were divided equally among the teams. Each team was provided information on the total number of households in each Census block, which was divided by the number of homes to be surveyed. For example, if there were 30 homes in their designated area, of which they were to survey 3, the team would visit 1 in 10 homes. They would each randomly select a first household, and then systematically survey every 10<sup>th</sup> household. The team would continue to visit every 10<sup>th</sup> household within their Census block until they completed 3 interviews. In effect, this was an approximated random sample, with each household having an equal probability of selection. To facilitate navigation, printed street maps (PDF<sup>7</sup> format) of each block showing geographical identifiers were generated. In addition, KMZ<sup>8</sup> files were created in GIS to see aerial views of the selected blocks in Google Earth.

Prior to each interview, the teams completed a tracking form (Appendix A) to record the outcome of every interview attempt. This information served as the basis for calculating the response rates. Interview teams recorded each housing unit that was selected in the field and the interview outcome (e.g., completed interview, no answer). The second page of the tracking form was used by the interview teams to take notes in the field on households that were to be revisited. To maintain confidentiality, there was no way to link addresses to specific questionnaires.

In the event that field teams encountered a household with urgent needs that presented an immediate threat to life or health, they were to encourage or assist the household to call emergency services (911). In the event that calling 911 was not appropriate, the teams would complete a confidential referral form (Appendix B). This form would then be immediately communicated to the study team coordinator for rapid follow-up and communication with health service providers in the area, identified by the ADPH and MCHD.

After gaining verbal consent (Appendix C), one eligible household member ( $\geq$ 18 years of age) from the family was selected to speak for all household members when responding to the questionnaire (Appendix D). There was no specific formula for choosing the eligible individual to interview in selected housing units. The interview teams were instructed to use their judgment to determine the person to be interviewed. In general, any adult, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, or religion, was eligible to participate in the assessment. If more than one adult person was present in the house, either could choose to serve as the respondent or an interviewer may have randomly chosen between them. The selected respondent was advised that he/she would report on the entire household; not just on himself or herself.

At the end of field work, data were entered into Epi-Info and analyzed with SAS statistical software. We have presented unweighted descriptive statistics of the community demographics and the prevalence of reported exposures to mercaptan-like odors, health complaints, and medical services sought or received.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Adobe Portable Document Format

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Zipped / compressed Keyhole Markup Language file

We compared residents living within 1 (zone 1) and 2 miles (zone 2) of the beaver pond spring. The study's results were presented to the ADPH and MCDH on September 19, 2012 in Mobile, AL.

### RESULTS

We completed 97 (88% of the n=110 goal) and 107 (97% of the n= 110 goal) surveys in zones 1 and 2, respectively (Table 1). The two zones did not vary with respect to demographic characteristics, with the exception of employment status (Table 2); there were more unemployed respondents in zone 1 (25.8%) than in zone 2 (12.2%), while there were more retired respondents in zone 2 (50.5%) than in zone 1 (36.1%). Our sample of respondents was representative of the population within the sampling frame, according to the 2010 Census data (Supplementary Table 1).

Table 3 presents the odor characteristics reported by respondents. Ninety-eight percent of respondents in zone 1 and 78% in zone 2 reported experiencing odors in the past 6 months. While 47.4% of residents in zone 1 and 58.9% in zone 2 reported experiencing odors for  $\leq 4$  years, 28.9% in zone 1 and 7.5% in zone 2 reported odors before the start of the mercaptan spill in 2008 ( $\geq 5$  years). Odors were described like gas and rotten eggs in the majority of households in both zones. Of the 22.7% in zone 1 and 13.1% in zone 2 that reported other odor descriptions, most said they experienced "bad" or "chemical" smells (results not shown). Odors were most frequently reported both inside and outside their homes, followed by the beaver pond vicinity. Figure 4 presents the spatial distribution of Census blocks with at least 1 household reporting odor exposure; almost all Census blocks reported exposure within both zones.

Table 4 presents the characteristics of the strongest odors. Odor severity was greater in zone 1 (mean score 9.1/10) relative to zone 2 (mean score 7.8/10). Of households who reported exposures, the majority (89% in zone 1 and 64% in zone 2) reported worst exposures outdoors, around their home, especially in the early morning and evening hours (Figure 5). A variety of weather conditions appeared to affect odor severity in both zones. The majority of respondents reported odor severity not changing since they began. However, among those who reported a change, more subjects reported increased severity in zone 1, whereas more subjects reported decreased severity over time in zone 2.

More respondents in zone 1 reported exposures aggravating their physical and mental health, with decreased time spent outdoors and less frequently able to open their windows at home (Table 5). Specifically, more households complained of nasal congestion, dyspnea, cough, wheezing, loss of appetite, eye irritations, headache, dizziness, agitated behavior, difficulty concentrating, and worsening hypertension in zone 1 than in zone 2 (Table 6; Figure 6). A higher proportion of respondents reported  $\geq$  14 out of the past 30 days as being physically and mentally unhealthy, in addition to being unable to do normal activities (e.g. self-care, work, recreation) due to poor physical / mental health (Supplementary Table 2). These proportions were higher among respondents in both zones overall, as compared to two prior surveys in Mobile County<sup>9</sup> and Alabama State<sup>10</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Buttke D, et al. Mental health needs assessment after the Gulf Coast oil spill—Alabama and Mississippi, 2010. Prehosp Disaster Med. 2012;27(5):1-8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) 2009, state data.

Most households had health insurance, with access to a regular physician and transportation to receive medical care (Table 7). Among those who reported health effects either in the past 30 days or since the odor began, there was no significant difference in the type of medical care sought between the 2 zones.

The main concerns reported by respondents (94.9% in zone 1 and 63.6% in zone 2) were related to health effects and clean-up or remediation of the mercaptan spill (Table 8).

Respondents living in zone 1 were more likely than those in zone 2 to report odors in any location [odds ratio (OR) = 13.74; 95% confidence interval (CI): 3.15 - 59.87; p=0.0005] or specifically in- or outside their home (OR = 4.41; 95% CI: 2.05 - 9.50; p=0.0002). In addition, female respondents were more likely than males to report odors in any location (OR = 3.53; 95% CI: 1.41 - 8.80; p=0.0069) or specifically in- or outside their home (OR = 2.53; 95% CI: 1.27 - 5.04; p=0.0086) (results not shown).

Finally, as an additional assessment of exposure, 10.3% of field team members reported odors in zone 1, whereas only 4.6% reported odors in zone 2.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on our current findings, we propose a few recommendations in preparation for potential future incidents. In addition to your current activities surrounding environmental risk assessment and evaluation of remediation strategies, we suggest that:

- Health care practitioners be provided information on:
  - Potential health effects of mercaptan exposures;
  - Approaches to prevent and manage exacerbations of existing chronic diseases, potentially due to mercaptan exposures (e.g. asthma, hypertension, mental health).
- The Mobile County Health Department prepare public health communication messages in advance to include:
  - Strategies to minimize exposures:
    - Limiting outdoor activity and keep windows closed in the evening and overnight hours (6pm – 8am);
  - Advising those with chronic respiratory (e.g. asthma) and cardiovascular (e.g. hypertension) conditions to have their medications readily available.

#### CONCLUSIONS

We conducted a representative random sampling design survey of households in the Eight Mile community of Prichard, Alabama, between September 12 - 14, 2012. We compared reported exposures

and health effects among 204 households living in two circular zones, located within 1- and 2-miles from the contaminated source. The two zones did not vary with respect to demographic characteristics. Almost all (98%) residents in the 1-mile zone and the majority (78%) of residents in the 2-mile zone reported experiencing odors in the past 6 months. Odor severity was greater in the 1-mile zone. As an additional assessment of exposure, more field team members reported odors in zone 1 than in zone 2. Significantly more subjects in the 1-mile zone reported exposures aggravating their physical and mental health, including shortness of breath, eye irritations and agitated behavior. Overall, over a third of residents sought care for symptoms attributed to the odor, primarily at their family doctor or community health center. The majority of respondents reported  $\geq$  14 out of the past 30 days as being physically and mentally unhealthy, in addition to being unable to do normal activities (e.g. self-care, work, recreation) due to poor physical / mental health. These proportions were higher than those reported in two prior surveys in Mobile County<sup>11</sup> and Alabama State<sup>12</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Buttke D, et al. Mental health needs assessment after the Gulf Coast oil spill—Alabama and Mississippi, 2010. Prehosp Disaster Med. 2012;27(5):1-8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) 2009, state data.



Figure 1. Map depicting the locations of the gas pumping station, beaver pond spring, and one- and two-mile radius study sampling frames in the Eight Mile community, Alabama (Acknowledgment: Prabasaj Paul (CDC/NCCDPHP); Source: Google, 2012)



### Frequency of counts by wind direction (%)

Figure 2. Wind Roses for Met Stations near Eight Mile, AL, 2005 – 2010

(Source: Integrated surface hourly weather observations from US Dept of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Climatic Data Center (NCDC). Available online at <a href="http://ftp.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/noaa">http://ftp.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/noaa</a>)

Created by James Durant (ATSDR), using:

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Figure 3. Census 2010 blocks to be surveyed in zones 1 (green) and 2 (purple), centered at the beaver pond spring. Created by Tesfaye Bayleyegn (CDC/NCEH/EHHE/HSB), using the CASPER GIS Tool in ArcGIS 10.0



Figure 4. Spatial distribution of reported odor exposures, Eight Mile, AL, September 2012. Created by Tesfaye Bayleyegn (CDC/NCEH/EHHE/HSB), using the CASPER GIS Tool in ArcGIS 10.0



Figure 5. Temporal distribution of reported odor exposures, Eight Mile, AL, September 2012.



Figure 6. Household-level health complaints that significantly\* vary by zone, Eight Mile, AL, September 2012.

	1-Mile Zone %	2-Mile Zone %	Overall %
Questionnaire response	(n = 97; goal = 110)	(n = 107; goal = 110)	(N = 204; goal = 220)
Completion*	88.2	97.3	92.8
$Contact^{\dagger}$	49.7	51.9	50.8
Cooperation <sup>‡</sup>	80.2	73.8	77.0

# Table 1. Questionnaire response rates from the Eight Mile Community, AL,September 2012

 $\ensuremath{^*}$  Percent of surveys completed in relation to the goal of 110 in each zone

<sup>+</sup> Percent of households randomly selected and completing an interview

‡ Percent of contacted households that were eligible and willing to participate in the survey

### Table 2. Demographics of respondents in the Eight Mile Community, AL, September 2012

	Overall (n=204)	
Age Characteristics	mean	range
Age of adult respondents (years) (Q15)	52.5	(18.0 - 94.0)
Categorical Characteristics	%	95% CI
Age of all household members (years) (Q5)		
≤ 2	5.2	(3.5, 6.9)
3-5	5.2	(3.5, 6.9)
6-9	5.7	(4.0, 7.5)
10-17	10.4	(8.1, 12.7)
18-25	11.3	(8.9, 13.7)
26-40	15.7	(12.9, 18.4)
41-65	32.5	(29.0, 36.0)
66-75	9.8	(7.5, 12.0)
≥76	4.2	(2.7, 5.7)
Gender (Q15)		
Male	36.3	(30.0, 43.1)
Female	58.3	(51.5, 64.9)
Don't know / refused	5.4	(3.0, 9.4)
Race / ethnicity (Q18)		
White, Non-Hispanic	17.7	(13.0, 23.5)
Black, Non-Hispanic	80.9	(74.9 <i>,</i> 85.7)
Other	1.0	(0.3, 3.5)
Don't know / refused	0.5	(0.1, 2.7)
Annual household income (\$) (Q22)		
0 - <5,000	11.8	(8.0, 16.9)
5,000 - <10,000	6.4	(3.8, 10.6)
10,000 - <15,000	5.9	(3.4, 10.0)
15,000 - <20,000	9.3	(6.0, 14.1)
20,000 - <25,000	12.3	(8.4, 17.5)
25,000 - <35,000	7.4	(4.5, 11.8)
35,000 - <50,000	5.9	(3.4, 10.0)
50,000 - <75,000	9.8	(6.4, 14.7)
>75,000	5.4	(3.0, 9.4)
Don't know / refused	26.0	(20.5, 32.4)
Length of time lived in Eight Mile (years) (Q16)		(a = a a)
≤1	4.9	(2.7, 8.8)
2 - 4	9.8	(6.4 <i>,</i> 14.7)
≥5	85.3	(79.8, 89.5)
Employment status (Q23A)	22.0	
Employed	33.8	(27.7, 40.6) (12.0, 24.5)
Unemployed	18.6*	(13.9, 24.5)
Student Retired	3.4 43.6*	(1.7, 6.9) (37.0, 50.5)
Don't know / refused		
Work within Eight Mile (among employed)? (Q2B)	0.5	(0.1, 2.7)
Yes	23.2	(14.8, 34.4)
No	75.4	(64.0, 84.0)
Don't know / refused	1.5	(0.3, 7.8)

\* The two zones did not vary with respect to demographic characteristics, with the exception of employment status; there were more unemployed respondents in zone 1 (25.8%) than in zone 2 (12.2%), while there were more retired respondents in zone 2 (50.5%) than in zone 1 (36.1%).

	1-Mile Zone (n=97)		2-Mile Zone (n=107)		Overall (n=204)	
	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI
Odor smelled in past 6 months (Q24)						
Yes	97.9	(92.8, 99.4)	77.6	(68.8, 84.4)	87.3	(82.0, 91.2)
No	2.1	(0.6, 7.2)	22.4	(15.6, 31.2)	12.8	(8.9, 18.0)
Odor duration (years) (Q25A)						
≤ 1	26.8	(19.0, 36.4)	47.7	(38.5, 57.0)	37.8	(31.4, 44.6)
2 - 4	20.6	(13.8, 29.7)	11.2	(6.5, 18.6)	15.7	(11.3, 21.3)
≥ 5	28.9	(20.8, 38.6)	7.5	(3.8, 14.1)	17.7	(13.0, 23.5)
Don't know / refused	23.7	(16.4, 33.1)	33.6	(25.4, 43.0)	28.9	(23.1, 35.5)
Odor description (Q25B)						
Gas	54.6	(44.7, 64.2)	29.9	(22.1, 39.2)	41.7	(35.1, 48.5)
Skunk	7.2	(3.5, 14.2)	7.5	(3.8, 14.1)	7.4	(4.5, 11.8)
Rotten eggs	19.6	(12.9, 28.6)	30.8	(22.9, 40.1)	25.5	(20.0, 31.9)
Onions	4.1	(1.6, 10.1)	5.6	(2.6, 11.7)	4.9	(2.7, 8.8)
Other Note that the column % may not sum to 100:	22.7	(15.5, 32.0)	13.1	(8.0, 20.8)	14.2	(10.1, 19.7)

# Table 3. Odor characteristics reported by respondents in the Eight Mile Community, AL, September 2012

Note that the column % may not sum to 100; respondents may fall into >1 category.

## Table 3 continued on next page

# Table 3. Odor characteristics reported by respondents in the Eight Mile Community, AL, September 2012 (continued)

	1-Mile	Zone (n=97)	2-Mile	Zone (n=107)	Ove	rall (n=204)
	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI
Odor location & frequency (Q25C)						
Indoors, at home	54.6	(44.7, 64.2)	24.3	(17.2, 33.2)	38.7	(32.3 <i>,</i> 45.6)
Every day	18.6	(12.1, 27.4)	6.5	(3.2, 12.9)	12.3	(8.4, 17.5)
1 – 3 days per week	16.5	(10.4, 25.1)	7.5	(3.8, 14.1)	11.8	(8.0, 16.9)
4 - 6 days per week	8.3	(4.2 <i>,</i> 15.4)	2.8	(1.0, 7.9)	5.4	(3.0, 9.4)
approx. once monthly	2.1	(0.6, 7.2)	3.7	(1.5, 9.2)	2.9	(1.4, 6.3)
less than once monthly	3.1	(1.1, 8.7)	2.8	(1.0, 7.9)	2.9	(1.4, 6.3)
Don't know / refused	51.6	(41.7, 61.2)	76.6	(67.8 <i>,</i> 83.6)	64.7	(57.9, 70.9)
Outdoors, around home	85.6	(77.2, 91.2)	66.4	(57.0, 74.6)	75.5	(69.2, 80.9
Every day	34.0	(25.4, 43.9)	20.6	(14.0, 29.2)	27.0	(21.3, 33.4)
1 – 3 days per week	23.7	(16.4, 33.1)	25.2	(18.0, 34.2)	24.5	(19.1, 30.9)
4 - 6 days per week	21.7	(14.6, 30.9)	7.5	(3.8, 14.1)	14.2	(10.1, 19.7
approx. once monthly	3.1	(1.1, 8.7)	9.4	(5.2, 16.4)	6.4	(3.8, 10.6)
less than once monthly	1.0	(0.2, 5.6)	1.9	(0.5, 6.6)	1.5	(0.5, 4.2)
Don't know / refused	16.5	(10.4, 25.1)	35.5	(27.1, 44.9)	26.5	(20.9, 32.9
Indoors, at work	3.1	(1.1, 8.7)	-	-	1.5	(0.5, 4.2)
Every day	1.1	(0.2, 5.6)	-	-	0.5	(0.1, 2.7)
1 – 3 days per week	1.0	(0.2, 5.6)	-	-	0.5	(0.1, 2.7)
4 - 6 days per week	-	-	-	-	-	-
approx. once monthly	1.0	(0.2, 5.6)	-	-	0.5	(0.1, 2.7)
less than once monthly	-	-	-	-	-	-
Don't know / refused	96.9	(91.3, 98.9)	-	-	98.5	(95.8, 99.5
Outdoors, around work	4.1	(1.6, 10.1)	2.8	(1.0, 7.9)	3.4	(1.7, 6.9)
Every day	1.0	(0.2 <i>,</i> 5.6)	0.9	(0.2, 5.1)	1.0	(0.3, 3.5)
1 – 3 days per week	1.0	(0.2 <i>,</i> 5.6)	0.9	(0.2, 5.1)	1.0	(0.3, 3.5)
4 - 6 days per week	1.0	(0.2 <i>,</i> 5.6)	0.9	(0.2, 5.1)	1.0	(0.3, 3.5)
approx. once monthly	-	-	-	-	-	-
less than once monthly	-	-	-	-	-	-
Don't know / refused	96.9	(91.3 <i>,</i> 98.9)	97.2	(92.1, 99.0)	97.1	(93.7, 98.7
Other: within 1 block from beaver pond	11.3	(6.5, 19.2)	9.4	(5.2, 16.4)	10.3	(6.8, 15.2)
Don't know / refused frequency	100.0	(96.2 <i>,</i> 100.0)	100.0	(96.2, 100.0)	100.0	(98.2, 100.0
Other: general area	2.1	(0.6, 7.2)	1.9	(0.5, 6.6)	2.0	(0.8, 4.9)
Don't know / refused frequency	100.0	(96.2, 100.0)	100.0	(96.2, 100.0)	100.0	(98.2, 100.0
Other: Wolfridge Rd. & Shelton Beach						
Rd.	1.0	(0.2, 5.6)	-	-	0.5	(0.1, 2.7)
Don't know / refused frequency	100.0	(96.2, 100.0)	-	-	100.0	(98.2, 100.0
Don't know / refused location Note that the column % may not sum to 100;	- responden	- ts may fall into >	0.9	(0.2, 5.1)	0.5	(0.1, 2.7)

Note that the column % may not sum to 100; respondents may fall into >1 category.

# Table 4. Strongest odor characteristics reported by respondents in the Eight Mile Community,AL, September 2012

	1-Mile Zone (n=97)		2-Mile 2	Zone (n=107)	Overall (n=204)	
	mean	range	mean	range	mean	range
Strongest odor severity score (1-10) (Q25E)	9.1	(3.0 - 10.0)	7.8	(1.0 - 10.0)	8.5	(1.0 - 10.0)
	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI
Location of strongest odor (Q25D)						
Indoors, at home	3.1	(1.1, 8.7)	1.9	(0.5 <i>,</i> 6.6)	2.5	(1.1, 5.6)
Outdoors, around home	88.7	(80.8 <i>,</i> 93.6)	63.6	(54.1, 72.1)	75.5	(69.2, 80.9)
Indoors, at work	-	-	0.9	(0.2, 5.1)	0.5	(0.1, 2.7)
Outdoors, around work	-	-	1.9	(0.5 <i>,</i> 6.6)	1.0	(0.3, 3.5)
Other	5.2	(2.2, 11.5)	9.4	(5.2 <i>,</i> 16.4)	7.4	(4.5, 11.8)
Don't know / refused	3.1	(1.1, 8.7)	22.4	(15.6, 31.2)	13.2	(9.3, 18.6)
Time of strongest odor (Q25G)						
12am - <5:59am	17.5	(11.2, 26.3)	1.9	(0.5 <i>,</i> 6.6)	9.3	(6.0, 14.1)
6am – <7:59am	40.2	(31.0, 50.2)	25.2	(18.0, 34.2)	32.4	(26.3, 39.1)
8am - <9:59am	11.3	(6.5 <i>,</i> 19.2)	7.5	(3.8, 14.1)	9.3	(6.0, 14.1)
10am - <11:59am	5.2	(2.2, 11.5)	5.6	(2.6, 11.7)	5.4	(3.0, 9.4)
12pm - < 1:59pm	5.2	(2.2, 11.5)	10.3	(5.8 <i>,</i> 17.5)	7.8	(4.9, 12.4)
2pm - <3:59pm	8.3	(4.2, 15.4)	7.5	(3.8, 14.1)	7.8	(4.9, 12.4)
4pm - <5:59pm	2.2	(14.6, 30.8)	23.4	(16.4, 32.2)	22.6	(17.4, 28.8)
6pm - <7:59pm	41.2	(32.0, 51.2)	25.2	(18.0, 34.2)	32.8	(26.8, 39.6)
8pm - <9:59pm	32.0	(23.5, 41.8)	15.0	(9.4, 22.9)	23.0	(17.8, 29.3)
10pm - <11:59pm	15.5	(9.6, 24.0)	1.9	(0.5 <i>,</i> 6.6)	8.3	(5.3, 12.9)
Don't know / refused	5.2	(2.2, 11.5)	4.7	(2.0, 10.5)	4.9	(2.7, 8.8)
Weather conditions that worsen odor (Q25H)						
Not affected by weather	25.8	(18.1, 35.3)	13.1	(8.0, 20.8)	19.1	(14.3, 25.1)
Warmer, ≥ 95°F	21.7	(14.6, 30.8)	12.2	(7.2 <i>,</i> 19.7)	16.7	(12.2, 22.4)
High humidity	16.5	(10.4, 25.1)	16.8	(10.9, 25.0)	16.7	(12.2, 22.4)
Rainy	24.7	(17.2, 34.2)	12.2	(7.2 <i>,</i> 19.7)	17.7	(13.0, 23.5)
Sunny	9.3	(5.0, 16.7)	4.7	(2.0, 10.5)	6.9	(4.1, 11.2)
Windy	25.8	(18.1, 35.3)	27.1	(19.6, 36.2)	26.0	(20.5, 32.4)
Other	7.2	(3.5, 14.2)	5.6	(2.6, 11.7)	6.4	(3.8, 10.6)
Change in odor severity since it began (Q25F)						
Decreased	13.4	(8.0, 21.6)	26.2	(18.8, 35.2)	20.1	(15.2, 26.1)
Increased	30.9	(22.6, 40.7)	9.4	(5.2, 16.4)	19.6	(14.7, 25.6)
Varies	2.1	(0.6, 7.2)	1.9	(0.5, 6.6)	2.0	(0.8, 4.9)
No change	48.5	(38.8, 58.3)	37.4	(28.8, 46.8)	42.7	(36.1, 49.5)
Don't know / refused	5.2	(2.2, 11.5)	25.2	(18.0, 34.2)	15.7	(11.3, 21.3)
Note that the column % may not sum to 100; respondents may fall into $>1$ category.						

Note that the column % may not sum to 100; respondents may fall into >1 category.

# Table 5. Impact of odor exposure reported by respondents in the Eight Mile Community, AL, September 2012

September 2012	1-Mile	Zone (n=97)	2-Mile Zone (n=107)		Overall (n=204)	
	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI
Impact on physical health (Q25I)						
Worsen	41.2	(32.0, 51.2)	21.5	(14.8, 30.2)	30.9	(24.9 <i>,</i> 37.5)
Improved	2.1	(0.6, 7.2)	11.2	(6.5, 18.6)	6.9	(4.1, 11.2)
No change	39.2	(30.1, 49.1)	42.1	(33.1, 51.5)	40.7	(34.2 <i>,</i> 47.5)
Other	2.1	(0.6, 7.2)	0.9	(0.2, 5.1)	1.5	(0.5, 4.2)
Don't know / refused	15.5	(9.6, 24.0)	24.3	(17.2, 33.2)	20.1	(15.2, 26.1)
Impact on mental health (Q25J)						
Worsen	17.5	(11.2, 26.3)	12.2	(7.2, 19.7)	14.7	(10.5, 20.2)
Improved	3.1	(1.1, 8.7)	2.8	(1.0, 7.9)	2.9	(1.4, 6.3)
No change	60.8	(50.9 <i>,</i> 70)	55.1	(45.7, 64.2)	57.8	(51.0, 64.4)
Other	1.0	(0.2 <i>,</i> 5.6)	1.9	(0.5, 6.6)	1.5	(0.5, 4.2)
Don't know / refused	17.5	(11.2, 26.3)	28.0	(20.4, 37.2)	23.0	(17.8, 29.3)
Time spent outdoors (Q25K)						
Decreased	59.8	(49.8, 69.0)	39.3	(30.5, 48.7)	49.0	(42.2, 55.8)
Increased	1.0	(0.2, 5.6)	-	-	0.5	(0.1, 2.7)
No change	34.0	(25.4, 43.9)	38.3	(29.7, 47.8)	36.3	(30.0, 43.1)
Don't know / refused	5.2	(2.2, 11.5)	22.4	(15.6, 31.2)	14.2	(10.1, 19.7)
Opening house windows (Q25K)						
Decreased	33.0	(24.4, 42.8)	19.6	(13.2, 28.2)	26.0	(20.5, 32.4)
Increased	1.0	(0.2 <i>,</i> 5.6)	-	-	0.5	(0.1, 2.7)
No change	62.9	(53.0, 71.8)	57.0	(47.6, 66.0)	59.8	(53.0, 66.3)
Don't know / refused	3.1	(1.1, 8.7)	23.4	(16.4, 32.2)	13.7	(9.7, 19.1)
Use of air conditioning (AC) unit at home (Q25K)						
Decreased	4.1	(1.6, 10.1)	1.9	(0.5, 6.6)	2.9	(1.4, 6.3)
Increased	25.8	(18.1, 35.3)	22.4	(15.6, 31.2)	24.0	(18.7, 30.3)
No change	67.0	(57.2, 75.6)	50.5	(41.1, 59.8)	58.3	(51.5, 64.9)
Don't know / refused	3.1	(1.1, 8.7)	25.2	(18.0, 34.2)	14.7	(10.5, 20.2)
Use of air filters, cleaners, purifiers,						
fresheners or deodorizer inside home (Q25K)						
Decreased	2.1	(0.6, 7.2)	1.9	(0.5, 6.6)	2.0	(0.8, 4.9)
Increased	29.9	(21.7, 39.6)	25.2	(18.0, 34.2)	27.5	(21.8, 34.0)
No change	63.9	(54.0, 72.8)	49.5	(40.2, 58.9)	56.4	(49.5, 63.0)
Don't know / refused	4.1	(1.6, 10.1)	23.4	(16.4, 32.2)	14.2	(10.1, 19.7)

# Table 6. Household-level health complaints in the past 30 days reported by respondents in the Eight Mile Community, AL, September 2012

community, AL, September 2012			2.0011.7			
	1-Mile 2	Zone (n=97)	2-Mile Z	2one (n=107)	Over	rall (n=204)
Note that the column % may not sum to 100;						
respondents may fall into >1 category.	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI
Respiratory (Q6A)						
Sore throat	53.6	(43.7, 63.2)	40.2	(31.4, 49.7)	46.6	(39.9, 53.4)
Nasal congestion	68.0	(58.2 <i>,</i> 76.5)	28.0	(20.4, 37.2)	54.4	(47.6, 61.1)
Sinus infection	51.6	(41.7, 61.2)	41.1	(32.3 <i>,</i> 50.6)	46.1	(39.4, 52.9)
Shortness of breath / difficulty breathing	48.5	(38.8, 58.3)	28.0	(20.4, 37.2)	37.8	(31.4, 44.6)
Cough	65.0	(55.1, 73.7)	48.6	(39.3, 58.0)	56.4	(49.5, 63.0)
Wheezing	40.2	(31.0, 50.2)	24.3	(17.2, 33.2)	31.9	(25.9 <i>,</i> 38.5)
Worsening of existing asthma	19.6	(12.9, 28.6)	12.2	(7.2, 19.7)	15.7	(11.3, 21.3)
Worsening of existing emphysema / chronic						
obstructive pulmonary disease	11.3	(6.5, 19.2)	5.6	(2.6, 11.7)	8.3	(5.3, 12.9)
Cardiovascular (Q6B)						
Chest pain	28.9	(20.8, 38.6)	26.2	(18.8, 35.2)	27.5	(21.8, 34.0)
Irregular heart beat	25.8	(18.1, 35.3)	21.5	(14.8, 30.2)	23.5	(18.2, 29.8)
Worsening of existing hypertension	36.1	(27.2, 46.0)	22.4	(15.6, 31.2)	28.9	(23.1 <i>,</i> 35.5)
Worsening of any existing chronic cardiovascular						
disease	8.3	(4.2, 15.4)	6.5	(3.2, 12.9)	7.4	(4.5, 11.8)
Worsening of any existing diabetes	15.5	(9.6, 24.0)	11.2	(6.5 <i>,</i> 18.6)	13.2	(9.3, 18.6)
Psychological (Q7)						
Difficulty concentrating	32.0	(23.5, 41.8)	16.8	(10.9, 25.0)	24.0	(18.7, 30.3)
Trouble sleeping/nightmares	52.6	(42.7, 62.2)	51.4	(42.1, 60.7)	52.0	(45.1 <i>,</i> 58.7)
Dizziness	44.3	(34.9, 54.2)	29.9	(22.1, 39.2)	36.8	(30.5, 43.6)
General weakness	34.0	(25.4, 43.9)	22.4	(15.6, 31.2)	27.9	(22.2, 34.5)
Loss of appetite	36.1	(27.2, 46.0)	17.8	(11.7, 26.1)	26.5	(20.9, 32.9)
Agitated behavior	39.2	(30.1, 49.1)	17.8	(11.7, 26.1)	27.9	(22.2, 34.5)
Increased alcohol consumption	1.0	(0.2, 5.6)	3.7	(1.5, 9.2)	2.5	(1.1, 5.6)
Increased drug use	1.0	(0.2 <i>,</i> 5.6)	1.9	(0.5, 6.6)	1.5	(0.5, 4.2)
Other psychological	3.1	(1.1, 8.7)	0.9	(0.2, 5.1)	2.0	(0.8, 4.9)
Other presentations (Q6C)						
Skin irritations including rash	44.3	(34.9 <i>,</i> 54.2)	30.8	(22.9, 40.1)	37.3	(30.9, 44.1)
Any eye conditions or irritations	54.6	(44.7, 64.2)	27.1	(19.6, 36.2)	40.2	(33.7 <i>,</i> 47.1)
Nausea / vomiting	34.0	(25.4, 43.9)	24.3	(17.2, 33.2)	28.9	(23.1, 35.5)
Diarrhea	26.8	(19.0, 36.4)	20.6	(14.0, 29.2)	23.5	(18.2, 29.8)
Headache	70.1	(60.4, 78.3)	57.0	(47.6 <i>,</i> 66.0)	63.2	(56.4 <i>,</i> 69.6)
Heat-related illness (e.g. hyperthermia)	6.2	(2.9, 12.8)	8.4	(4.5, 15.2)	7.4	(4.5, 11.8)
Other	3.1	(1.1 <i>,</i> 8.7)	1.9	(0.5, 6.6)	2.5	(1.1, 5.6)
	mean	range	mean	range	mean	range
# days poor physical health (Q19)	9.9	(0.0 - 30.0)	8.3	(0.0 - 30.0)	9.1	(0.0 - 30.0)
# days poor mental health (Q20)	7.5	(0.0 - 30.0)	5.4	(0.0 - 30.0)	6.4	(0.0 - 30.0)
# days unable to do normal activities						
(e.g. self-care, work, recreation) due to poor						
physical / mental health (Q21)	6.0	(0.0 - 30.0)	4.3	(0.0 - 30.0)	5.1	(0.0 - 30.0)

## Table 7. Household-level healthcare sought by respondents in the Eight Mile Community, AL, September 2012

	1-Mile	Zone (n=97)	2-Mile Zone (n=107)		Overall (n=204)	
	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI
Insured (health) (Q8A)						
Yes	78.4	(69.2, 85.4)	76.6	(67.8, 83.6)	77.5	(71.2, 82.7)
No	20.6	(13.8, 29.7)	23.4	(16.4, 32.2)	22.1	(16.9, 28.2)
Don't know / refused	2.1	(0.6, 7.4)	-	-	0.5	(0.1, 2.7)
Access to regular physician (Q8B)						
Yes	81.4	(72.6, 87.9)	77.6	(68.8, 84.4)	79.4	(73.3 <i>,</i> 84.4)
No	16.5	(10.4, 25.1)	22.4	(15.6, 31.2)	19.6	(14.7, 25.6)
Don't know / refused	2.1	(0.6, 7.2)	-	-	1.0	(0.3, 3.5)
Access to transportation to receive medical care (Q8C)						
Yes	94.9	(88.5 <i>,</i> 97.8)	93.5	(87.1, 96.8)	94.1	(90.0 <i>,</i> 96.6)
No	5.2	(2.2, 11.5)	3.7	(1.5, 9.2)	4.4	(2.3, 8.2)
Don't know / refused	-	-	2.8	(1, 7.9)	1.5	(0.5, 4.2)
Among those with symptoms in past 30 days (Q8D)						
Healthcare sought?				(		
Yes	69.5	(59.6, 77.8)	68.2	(57.9, 77)	68.9	(61.8, 75.1)
No	28.4	(20.3, 38.2)	30.7	(22, 41)	29.5	(23.4, 36.5)
Don't know / refused	2.1	(0.6, 7.4)	1.1	(0.2, 6.2)	1.6	(0.6, 4.7)
Type of healthcare sought						
Community health center	10.5	(5.8, 18.3)	17.1	(10.6, 26.2)	13.7	(9.4, 19.4)
Mental health clinic	-	-	-		-	-
Family doctor	49.5	(39.6, 59.4)	42.1	(32.3, 52.5)	45.9	(38.8, 53.1)
ER	6.3	(2.9, 13.1)	2.3	(0.6, 7.9)	4.4	(2.2, 8.4)
Social Services	-	-	-	-	-	-
Urgent care center	2.1	(0.6, 7.4)	2.3	(0.6, 7.9)	2.2	(0.9, 5.5)
Free clinic	2.1	(0.6, 7.4)	1.1	(0.2, 6.2)	1.6	(0.6, 4.7)
Other	6.3	(2.9, 13.1)	5.7	(2.5, 12.6)	6.0	(3.4, 10.4)
Among those who reported odor at any time (Q26A) Healthcare sought?						
Yes	41.1	(31.7, 51.1)	31.3	(22.4, 41.9)	36.5	(29.8 <i>,</i> 43.8)
No	54.7	(44.7, 64.4)	62.7	(51.9, 72.3)	58.4	(51.1, 65.4)
Don't know / refused	4.2	(1.7, 10.3)	6.0	(2.6, 13.3)	5.1	(2.7, 9.3)
Type of healthcare sought		-				-
Community health center	9.5	(5.1, 17)	7.2	(3.4, 14.9)	8.4	(5.2, 13.4)
Mental health clinic	-	-	-	-	-	-
Family doctor	29.5	(21.3 <i>,</i> 39.3)	20.5	(13.2, 30.4)	25.3	(19.5, 32.1)
ER	4.2	(1.7, 10.3)	1.2	(0.2, 6.5)	2.8	(1.2, 6.4)
Social Services	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1	(a, c, -, v)			1 1	(0 2 4 0)
Urgent care center	2.1	(0.6 <i>,</i> 7.4)	-	-	1.1	(0.3, 4.0)
Urgent care center Free clinic	2.1 3.2	(0.6, 7.4) (1.1, 8.9)	-	-	1.1 1.7	(0.3, 4.0) (0.6, 4.8)

	1-Mile Zone (n=97)		2-Mile	e Zone (n=107)	Overall (n=204)	
(Q27)	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI
Health concerns	52.6	(42.7, 62.2)	41.1	(32.3, 50.6)	46.6	(39.9, 53.4)
Clean up	42.3	(32.9, 52.2)	22.4	(14.9, 31.5)	31.9	(25.9, 38.5)
Flammability	6.2	(2.9, 12.8)	0.9	(0.2, 5.1)	3.9	(2.0, 7.6)
Odor	5.2	(2.2, 11.5)	2.8	(1.0, 7.9)	3.4	(1.7, 6.9)
Changing activities	5.2	(2.2, 11.5)	4.7	(2.0, 10.5)	4.9	(2.7, 8.8)
Source	4.1	(1.6, 10.1)	5.6	(2.6, 11.7)	4.9	(2.7, 8.8)
Water contamination	3.1	(1.1, 8.7)	0.9	(0.2, 5.1)	2.0	(0.8, 4.9)
Accountability for clean up	2.1	(0.6, 7.2)	0.9	(0.2, 5.1)	1.5	(0.5, 4.2)
Communication	1.0	(0.2, 5.6)	2.8	(1.0, 7.9)	2.0	(0.8, 4.9)
Money	1.0	(0.2, 5.6)	1.9	(0.5, 6.6)	1.5	(0.5, 4.2)
Get worse	0.0	(0, 0)	3.7	(1.5, 9.2)	2.0	(0.8, 4.9)
Other	1.0	(0.2, 5.6)	1.0	(0.2, 5.1)	1.0	(0.3, 3.5)
Don't know / refused	1.0	(0.2, 5.6)	0.9	(0.2, 5.1)	1.0	(0.3, 3.5)
None	12.4	(7.2, 20.4)	23.4	(16.4, 32.2)	18.1	(13.5, 24.0)

### Table 8. Main concerns reported by respondents in the Eight Mile Community, AL, September 2012

Note that the column % may not sum to 100; respondents may fall into >1 category.

	STUDY S	AMPLE	CENSUS	5 2010
	zone 1	zone 2	zone 1	zone 2
Ethnicity	%	%	%	%
Non-Hispanic	100.0	97.2	99.0	99.0
Hispanic	0.0	2.8	1.0	1.0
Race				
White alone	19.6	15.9	10.5	13.7
Black alone	80.4	81.3	87.6	84.6
Other	0.0	1.9	1.9	1.7
Gender				
Male	38.1	34.6	44.4	47.3
Female	59.8	57.0	55.6	52.7
don't know / refused	2.1	8.4	-	-

# Supplementary Table 1. Comparison of respondent characteristics with Census 2010 data for sampling frame

the three surveys. Light whe community, AL, September 2012, Wobile County 2010, Alabama State 2005.										
	1-Mile Zone (n=97)		2-Mile Zone (n=107)			Overall (n=204)	Мо	bile County 2010 <sup>†</sup>	Alabama State 2009 <sup>‡</sup>	
	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI
≥14 physically unhealthy days out of past 30 days (Q19)	35.1	(26.3, 45.0)	25.2	(18.0, 34.2)	29.9	(24.0, 36.5)	19.7	(8.0, 31.4)	13.9	(12.8, 15.2)
≥14 mentally unhealthy days out of past 30 days (Q20)	23.7	(16.4, 33.1)	15.9	(10.2, 24.0)	19.6	(14.7, 25.6)	22.7	(10.9, 34.6)	13.2	(12.0, 14.4)
≥14 activity limitation days out of past 30 days (Q21)	20.6	(13.8, 29.7)	13.1	(8.0, 20.8)	16.7	(12.2, 22.4)	12.9	(5.2, 20.5)	10.2	(9.2, 11.3)

# Supplementary Table 2. Comparison of individual-level health-related quality of life reported by respondents in the three surveys: Eight Mile Community, AL, September 2012; Mobile County 2010; Alabama State 2009.

<sup>+</sup> Buttke D, et al. Mental health needs assessment after the Gulf Coast oil spill—Alabama and Mississippi, 2010. Prehosp Disaster Med. 2012;27(5):1-8.

‡ Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) 2009, state data.

### Appendix A: TRACKING FORM

Date of interview: \_\_\_\_/ (mm/dd/yyyy)
Interviewer's name:

Instructions: Use one tracking form per team's designated area. Mark an 'X' where appropriate, but try to choose only one best option for each of the 3 categories. Go as far down the list as possible for each site you visit.

Sampled Housing Units	s 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1) ACCESS														
House is Accessible	<b>;</b> 🗆													
House is Inaccessible	<b>;</b> •													
2) TYPE OF DWELLING														
No housing structure	<b>;</b> 🗆													
Mobile Home	; □													
Single Family Home	; □													
Apartment or Condo	) 🗆													
Othe	r 🗆													
3) DAMAGE														
None or Minima														
Damage														
Destroyed														
4) ANSWER														
Door was answered														
Appears as though someone is home but no answe														
Appears vacan														
Nobody home 1 <sup>st</sup> visi	-													
after 2 <sup>nd</sup> visi														
3 <sup>rd</sup> visi														
5) INTERVIEW														
Language Barrie	r 🗆													
Refused to Participate														
Interview begun, not finished	-													
Interview Completed	•													
Survey # (i.e., 1-24) from Completed Questionnaire	۱		]											

### Appendix A: SAMPLE TRACKING FORM (reverse side)

Instructions: Use this page to keep notes on which houses may need return visits.

### Sampled Housing Unit:

1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
13.			
14.			

## Appendix A: TRACKING FORM (continued)

Date of interview: \_\_\_\_/ (mm/dd/yyyy)

Interviewer's name:

Instructions: Use one tracking form per team's designated area. Mark an 'X' where appropriate, but try to choose only one best option for each of the 3 categories. Go as far down the list as possible for each site you visit.

Sampled Housing Units	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
1) ACCESS														
House is Accessible														
House is Inaccessible														
2) TYPE OF DWELLING														
No housing structure														
Mobile Home														
Single Family Home														
Apartment or Condo														
Other														
3) DAMAGE														
None or Minimal														
Damaged														
Destroyed														
4) ANSWER														
Door was answered Appears as though someone is														
home but no answer														
Appears vacant														
Nobody home 1 <sup>st</sup> visit after														
2 <sup>nd</sup> visit														
3 <sup>rd</sup> visit														
5) INTERVIEW														
Language Barrier														
Refused to Participate														
Interview begun, not finished														
Interview Completed														
Survey # (i.e., 1-24) from Completed Questionnaire:														

### Appendix A: SAMPLE TRACKING FORM continued (reverse side)

Instructions: Use this page to keep notes on which houses may need return visits.

# Sampled Housing Unit: 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28.

### Appendix A: TRACKING FORM (continued)

Date of interview: \_\_\_\_/ (mm/dd/yyyy)

Interviewer's name:

Instructions: Use one tracking form per team's designated area. Mark an 'X' where appropriate, but try to choose only one best option for each of the 3 categories. Go as far down the list as possible for each site you visit.

Sampled Housing Units	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42
1) ACCESS														
House is Accessible														
House is Inaccessible														
2) TYPE OF DWELLING														
No housing structure														
Mobile Home														
Single Family Home														
Apartment or Condo														
Other														
3) DAMAGE														
None or Minimal														
Damaged														
Destroyed														
4) ANSWER														
Door was answered Appears as though someone is														
home but no answer														
Appears vacant														
Nobody home 1 <sup>st</sup> visit														
2 <sup>nd</sup> visit														
3 <sup>rd</sup> visit														
5) INTERVIEW														
Language Barrier														
Refused to Participate														
Interview begun, not finished														
Interview Completed														
Survey # (i.e., 1-24) from Completed Questionnaire:														

### Appendix A: SAMPLE TRACKING FORM continued (reverse side)

Instructions: Use this page to keep notes on which houses may need return visits.

# Sampled Housing Unit: 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42.

## Appendix B: CONFIDENTIAL REFERRAL FORM

	Confidential Referral Form	
		Date:// Time::
		Cluster No.:
		Interviewer's Initials:
Name:		
Address:		
Contact Information:		
Home telephone:		
Cell phone:		
E-mail:		
Summary of Need:		
Referral Made: Yes	No	
Referred to:		

#### Appendix C: SCREENING & VERBAL CONSENT

Hello, we are	and	with the Mobile County Health
Department. We	e have some information we would like to leave with you	related to some health concerns.

Also, we are talking to residents in the Eight Mile community about their health in relation to the reported release of odorous gases. Your house is one of many that have been randomly chosen to be in this survey. If you agree to participate in this survey, we will ask you some general questions about your house and the people who live there. The survey should take no more than 15 minutes to complete. We will keep your answers private. You can refuse to be part of the survey or refuse to answer specific questions. Nothing will happen to you or your household if you choose not to be part of the survey.

You may have questions about this survey. If so, you can ask anyone here right now. If you would like to confirm that we were sent by the Mobile County Health Department, you can call the Mobile County Health Department at any of the following numbers: 251-690-8104 / 251-690-8895 / 251-690-8158.

Thank you very much for your time.

#### **Screening Questions**

Before we begin, we would like to ask a few questions to make sure that you are eligible to complete the survey:

- Q1. Are you over 18 years old? Is there someone available who lives in this house and is over 18? If yes, continue
- Q2. Do you currently live here in this house/apartment/condo? If yes, continue

#### Note: The participant is eligible to complete the survey if they answered yes to each question.

**If eligible:** Are you willing to participate in the survey? Thank you. We will now move on to the survey which should take no more than 15 minutes of your time.

If ineligible: Thank you. You are not eligible to complete the survey but we appreciate the time that you have spent speaking with us.

### **Appendix D: HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONNAIRE**

1A) Date of interview:       / (MM/DD/YY)         1B) Time of interview:       (am/pm)         1C) Interviewer's name:		
2A) Zone: □ 1-mile □ 2-mile 2B) Cluster #:		
2C) Household #: (maintain consistency with TRACKING FORM in Append	lix A)	
3) Household type:         □ Apartment       □ Attached house         □ Detached house       □ Other:		
Demographic Questions		
4) How many adults 18 or older live in your household?	$\Box$ DK	Refused
5) Looking at these age categories, how many people in your household fall into each		
41-65yrs66-75yrs≥76yrs		□ Refused

#### **Health Outcomes**

6) In the past 30 days, have you or any household members experienced any of the following: (Please check all that apply.)

Category	You	Household Member	Age(s) of household members with symptoms	Symptoms
6A) Respiratory				Sore throat
symptoms				Nasal congestion
/conditions				Sinus infection
			Shortness of breath / difficulty breathing	
□ DK □ Refused				Cough
				Wheezing
				Worsening of existing asthma symptoms
				Worsening of existing emphysema or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (also known as COPD)
			n/a	None
6B)				Chest pain
Cardiovascular				Irregular heart beat
symptoms				Worsening of existing high blood pressure
/conditions				Worsening of any existing chronic cardiovascular disease
- DV				Worsening of any existing diabetes (e.g. glucose control)
<ul> <li>DK</li> <li>Refused</li> </ul>			n/a	None
6C) Other				Skin irritations including rash
Presentations				Any eye conditions or irritations
DV				Nausea and/or vomiting
□ DK □ Refused				Diarrhea
				Headache
				Heat-related illness such as hyperthermia
				Other (specify):
			n/a	None

Category	You	Household Member	Age(s) of household members with symptoms	l Symptoms				
7) Has anyone				Difficulty concentrat	ing			
in your				Trouble sleeping/nig	htmares			
household				Dizziness				
experienced any				General weakness				
of the following				Loss of appetite				
in the last 30				Agitated behavior				
days?				Increased alcohol con	nsumption			
□ DK				Increased drug use				
□ DK □ Refused				Other (specify):				
			n/a	None				
8A) Do you have □ Yes	□ No				□ DK	□ Refused		
8B) Do you have □ Yes	a regula □ No	r physician?			□ DK	□ Refused		
8C) Do you have □ Yes	transpor □ No	rtation to receiv	ve medical care?		□ DK	□ Refused		
8D) If yes to que	stions 6	A-C or 7: did	you or any member of	your household seek hel	p for any of the	above physical or		
mental health com Community hea Urgent care cer Name of clinic	nditions a alth cent nter	at any of the fo er □ M □ Fr	llowing locations? Plea ental health clinic	use check all that apply: □ Family doctor □ Other (specify):	□ ER	□ Social Services		
$\square$ No					□ DK	□ Refused		
8E) If no, why no □ Symptoms not □ Other (specify)	bad enou		ave no insurance	□ Have no physician	□ Have no tr □ DK	ransportation □ Refused		
9A) Do you, youn □ Yes	9A) Do you, your household members, or any visitors smoke in your home? □ Yes □ No □ DK □ Refused							
9B) How frequen □ Never		· •		visitors smoke in your here $D \ge Once$ monthly	ome? □ DK	□ Refused		
10) Do you use a □ Yes	gas stov □ No	e for cooking i	n your home?		□ DK	□ Refused		

## SURVEY CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

<ul> <li>11A) Is an air cleaner or purifier regularly used inside your home?</li> <li>□ Yes □ No</li> </ul>	□ DK	□ Refused
11B) If YES, looking at the options below, what type is it? (check all th		
<ul> <li>Ionic Breeze or similar device</li> <li>Ozone generator</li> <li>Filter - Is the filter on an: <ul> <li>air conditioning (AC) system</li> <li>other device; please specify:</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	□ DK	□ Refused
Other (please specify):		
12A) Is an air conditioning (AC) system used inside your home? □ Yes □ No	□ DK	□ Refused
<ul> <li>12B) If YES, looking at the options below, what type is it? (check all th</li> <li>□ Central AC system</li> <li>□ Window unit</li> </ul>	at apply) □ DK	□ Refused
□ Other (please specify):		
12C) Do you use natural gas to heat your home or water boiler? □ Yes □ No	□ DK	□ Refused
13) In the last 3 days: today or yesterday or the day before yesterday, ha	we you either breathed fur	mes from or had any of the
<ul> <li>following on your skin (check all that apply)?</li> <li>Air fresheners or room deodorizer</li> <li>Gasoline</li> </ul>	□ DK	□ Refused
<ul> <li>Gasonic</li> <li>Bug or insect spray</li> <li>Paint thinner, brush cleaner, or furniture stripper</li> <li>Varnish, lacquer, wood stain, or wet paint</li> <li>Solid toilet bowl deodorants</li> <li>Mothballs</li> <li>Fingernail polish or remover</li> </ul>		
<ul> <li>Burning candles or incense</li> <li>Other types or sources of fumes (please specify):</li> </ul>	_	
Now I am going to ask you questions about yourself only, not about	other members in the h	ousehold.
14) Are you a current smoker? □ Yes □ No	□ DK	□ Refused
15) What is your age and sex? Age: □ DK □Refused	Male     Female	□ Refused
16) How long have you lived in the Eight Mile community?	(specify days / n	nonths / years) □ Refused

17A) What year did you move into this home?	_ (yyyy, e.g. 2010)	□ DK	□ Refused
17B) If moved here within the past 12 months, then ask: What month did you move in? (mm, eg 06 for June)		□ DK	□ Refused
<ul> <li>18) What is your race/ethnicity?</li> <li>White, Non-Hispanic</li> <li>Other:</li> </ul>	□ Hispanic	□ Asiar □ DK	□ Refused
19) Now thinking about your physical health, which includes p	hysical illness and injury, f	for how many day	ys during the past
30 days was your physical health not good? Number:		□ DK	□ Refused
20) Now thinking about your mental health, which includes str days during the past 30 days was your mental health not good?		ms with emotion	s, for how many
Number:		□ DK	□ Refused
21) During the past 30 days, for about how many days did poor activities, such as self-care, work, or recreation?			
Number:		□ DK	□ Refused
	al household income in 201 0-<\$15,000 0-<\$35,000	2?	
□ \$15,000-<\$25,000 □ \$25,000 □ \$25,000 □ \$25,000 □ \$75,		□ DK	□ Refused
23A) What is your current employment status?		DU	
<ul> <li>□ Employed</li> <li>□ Under-employed</li> <li>□ Unemployed - student</li> <li>□ Unemployed - retired</li> </ul>	□ Unemployed - s □ Unemployed - h		□ Refused
If employed, ask:			
23B) Do you work <u>within or near</u> the Eight Mile community? □ Yes □ No		□ DK	□ Refused
23C) What type of work do you do?		□ DK	□ Refused
Specify:			

## SURVEY CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

#### **Exposure Questions**

24) In the past <u>six (6) months</u> , have you smelled a suspicio $\Box$ Yes $\Box$ No	us or strange gas odor <u>in or near</u> the E □ DK	ight Mil	e community? □ Refused
IF NO, DK or REFUSED, SKIP TO QUESTION 26			
25) If yes,			
25A) When did you first notice this odor or smell? Month: (mm) Year: (yyyy)	□ DK		□ Refused
25B) How would you describe the smell of the odor?         □ Skunk       □ Rotten Eggs       □ Onions         □ Other (please specify):		□ DK	□ Refused
25C) Where and how often do you smell the odor?		□ DK	□ Refused
<ul> <li>INDOORS, AT HOME <ul> <li>Every day</li> <li>1 – 3 days per week</li> <li>4 - 6 days per week</li> <li>approx. once monthly</li> <li>less than once monthly</li> <li>DK</li> <li>Refused</li> </ul> </li> <li>INDOORS, AT WORK <ul> <li>Every day</li> <li>1 – 3 days per week</li> <li>4 - 6 days per week</li> <li>approx. once monthly</li> <li>less than once monthly</li> <li>less than once monthly</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>OUTDOORS, AROUND HOME         <ul> <li>Every day</li> <li>1 - 3 days per week</li> <li>4 - 6 days per week</li> <li>approx. once monthly</li> <li>less than once monthly</li> <li>DK</li> <li>Refused</li> </ul> </li> <li>OUTDOORS, AROUND WORK         <ul> <li>Every day</li> <li>1 - 3 days per week</li> <li>4 - 6 days per week</li> <li>approx. once monthly</li> <li>less than once monthly</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
<ul> <li>OTHER, PLEASE SPECIFY:</li> <li>Every day</li> <li>1 - 3 days per week</li> <li>4 - 6 days per week</li> <li>approx. once monthly</li> <li>less than once monthly</li> <li>DK</li> </ul>		-	

 $\Box$  Refused

## SURVEY CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Now I am going to ask you a few questions about the strongest odor you smell. 25D) Where do you smell the strongest odor?  $\Box$  Indoors, at home  $\Box$  Outdoors, at home  $\Box$  Indoors. at work  $\Box$  Outdoors. at work  $\Box$  Other (please specify):  $\square DK$ 25E) On a scale of 1 to 10, 1 being ok, to 10 being extremely bad, how severe is the odor or smell at its strongest?  $\square 2$ □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 □ 6 □ 7 □9 □ 10  $\square DK$ □ 1 25F) Has the severity of the odor or smell changed since you first noticed it? □ Increased □ No Change  $\Box$  DK  $\Box$  Decreased  $\Box$  Other (please specify): 25G) Looking at the options below, what times of the day do you smell the odor (check all that apply)? □ 10am - <11:59am □ 8am - <9:59am □ 6am – <7:59am □ 12pm - < 1:59pm □ 2pm - <3:59pm □ 4pm - <5:59pm □ 6pm - <7:59pm □ 8pm - <9:59pm □ 10pm - <11:59pm □ 12am - <5:59am  $\Box DK$ 25H) Is the smell worse during any of the following weather conditions (check all that apply)?  $\Box$  Warmer,  $\geq 95^{\circ}F$  $\Box$  High humidity 🗆 Rainy □ Sunny  $\Box$  Windy □ Not affected by weather  $\Box$  Other (please specify):  $\Box DK$ For the following questions, you can answer "increased", "decreased" or "no change" 25I) How did the odor or smell affect your physical health since you first noticed it? □ Increased □ No Change □ Decreased  $\Box$  DK □ Other (please specify):\_\_\_\_\_ 25J) How did the odor or smell affect your mental health since you first noticed it?  $\Box$  Decreased  $\Box$  Increased  $\square$  No Change  $\Box$  DK  $\Box$  Other (please specify): 25K) Have you or any household members changed any of the following activities since the odor or smell began?  $\Box$  Refused Time outdoors  $\Box$  Decreased □ Increased  $\square$  No Change Opening house windows  $\square$  No Change □ Decreased  $\Box$  Increased Use of air conditioning (AC) unit at home □ Decreased □ Increased  $\square$  No Change

## SURVEY CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

 $\Box$  Decreased

 $\Box$  Increased

deodorizer inside home

Use of air filters, cleaners, purifiers, fresheners or

□ Refused

□ Refused

□ Refused

□ Refused

□ Refused

□ Refused

 $\square$  Refused

 $\Box DK$ 

 $\Box DK$ 

 $\Box DK$ 

 $\Box$  DK

 $\square$  No Change

26A) Did you or any member of from the odor? If so, which of the				possibly resulting
<ul> <li>Community health center</li> <li>Urgent care center</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>□ Mental health clinic</li> <li>□ Free clinic</li> </ul>	□ Family doctor	$\Box$ ER	Social Services
□ Name of clinic □ No			□ DK	□ Refused
26B) If no, why not? □ Symptoms not bad enough □ Other (specify):	□ Have no insurance	□ Have no physician	<ul> <li>□ Have no transportation</li> <li>□ DK □ Refused</li> </ul>	
27) What is/are your main conce	rn(s) at this time?			
□ None			□ DK	□ Refused
Tha	ank you for your time.	Do you have any qu	estions?	
Questions 28A – H are <u>for the i</u> by the household member):	interviewer him/herself at	the end of the household	survey (they are <u>p</u>	<u>not</u> to be answered
28A) Interviewer's age? Age: (years)				
28B) Interviewer's sex? □ Male □ Female				
28C) Interviewer's race/ethnicity □ White, Non-Hispanic □ Bla		anic 🗆 Asian	□ Other:	
28D) Can you personally (intervi □ Yes □ No	iewer) smell any odor outsid	e the <u>current</u> household?		□ DK
28E) If yes, on a scale of 1 to 10, $\Box 1 \Box 2 \Box 3 \Box 4$	, 1 being ok, to 10 being extra $\Box$ 5 $\Box$ 6 $\Box$ 7	-	the odor or smell?	□ DK
28F) How would you describe th □ Skunk □ Rotten Eggs □ Other (please specify):	Onions			□ DK
28G) What are the weather cond: $\Box$ Warm, $\ge 95^{\circ}F$ $\Box$ Hig $\Box$ Other (please specify):	h humidity 🛛 🗆 Rain		□ Windy	□ DK
28H) Are you experiencing any <u>I</u> □ None		e you began this field stu	dy? ( <b>Please check</b> a	all that apply.)
$\Box$ Sore throat	□ Nasal congestion	□ Sinus infection	□ Shortness of br	
□ Cough	□ Wheezing	□ Chest pain	□ Irregular heart beat	
□ Nausea and/or vomiting	□ Diarrhea	□ Headache	□ Dizziness	, . <b>.</b>
General weakness  Slain invitations in shading mash	$\Box$ Loss of appetite	□ Agitated behavior	□ Difficulty conc	
□ Skin irritations including rash	□ Any eye conditions or irr		t-related illness such	• •
□ Worsening of existing asthma syn		ening of existing chronic ob		usease / emphysema
<ul> <li>Worsening of existing high blood</li> <li>Worsening of existing diabetes (e.</li> </ul>		ening of existing chronic can r (specify):		
- worsening of existing diabetes (e.		r (specify):		

**END OF SURVEY**