

# Pasadena Citizens' Advisory Council

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## Summary of Thursday, November 30, 2017 Meeting

### Annual Report of Air Emissions from PCAC Plants

David Lima of Albemarle presented the annual report on PCAC plant emissions. (PCAC plants rotate serving as the presenter.) The annual report derives its data from two annual inventories: the Air Emissions Inventory (EI), which plants submit to the TCEQ, and the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI), which plants submit to the EPA. Highlights of the 2016 data on emissions follow this article.

The TCEQ Emissions Inventory data show a reduction from 2016 to 2015 in volatile organic compounds (VOCs); the portion of VOCs that are highly reactive and contribute to ozone formation; carbon monoxide; and total suspended particulates (TSP). There was a small increase in nitrogen oxides (NOx). There also were increases in emissions of sulfur oxides due primarily to power outages at one facility. PM 2.5, the very fine portion of TSP, increased due to inclusion of cooling tower emissions at a facility. The EPA Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Releases to Air declined 13% from 2016 to 2015. Commonly referred to as "air toxics," these releases have declined 81% since 1995. See the attached *Highlights* file for more information.

The report compared NOx and VOC emissions at PCAC plants to those reported in the Air Emissions Inventory in Harris County and in Texas overall. Data from 2015 are the most current. In 2015, 0.5% of the state's NOx emissions came from PCAC plants; and 9% of the county's NOx emissions did so. In 2015, 3% of the state's VOC emissions came from PCAC plants, and 19% of the county's VOC emissions inventory did so.

The data in the PCAC is publically available, though members may see it sooner than it appears on regulatory agency websites. TRI data may be viewed at [www.epa.gov/triexplorer](http://www.epa.gov/triexplorer). Readers may filter the data by geographic region, company name, chemical, and so on. Air emissions inventory may be found on the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality website at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/airquality/point-source-ei/psei.html>