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Air Quality Status Report July 16, 2010

- Ozone and particle data are consistent with typical values that occur during this time of year and no obvious influence due to the oil spill is evident.
- None of our monitoring data would indicate that they pose a significant health threat. Data from the DEP monitoring network are not showing any abnormal results at this time.

Air Quality Index (AQI)

- The AQI for Thursday, July 15, was **Good** for ozone and **Moderate** for fine particulate concentrations in the panhandle. Wind flow was generally from the south at the coast and from the west in the Gulf.
- The **highest ozone readings** occurred along the northern gulf coast with a maximum 1-hour concentration of 65 ppb and a maximum 8-hour concentration of 58 ppb both in Pensacola as compared to Florida's 1-hour standard of 120 ppb and the federal 8-hour standard of 75 ppb.
- The **highest fine particulate concentration** occurred in Gulf Breeze with a 24-hour reading of 21.9 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ compared to the federal 24-hour standard of 35 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

Additional Monitoring

- The most recently available data (July 8) from EPA's monitors in Pensacola and Panama City showed values of VOC's **well below levels of concern** for public health.
- DEP began monitoring for VOC's on May 18th in Ft. Walton Beach and Apalachicola. The most recent monitoring results (July 9) showed values of VOC's **well below levels of concern** for public health.
- Review of confirmed VOC monitoring data from Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama coastal areas, while more elevated than in Florida, also show **no significant issues** at this time.
- The most recently available semi-volatile data (July 7) from EPA's monitors in Pensacola and Panama City show **no significant issues** at this time.
- Review of confirmed semi-volatile monitoring data from Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama coastal areas also show **no significant issues** at this time.

- One limitation of the VOC and semi-volatile monitoring is the time lag between when the samples are taken and when the data are available due to laboratory time needed to analyze the samples.

Air Quality Forecast

- The air quality for Friday, July 16, is expected to be **Moderate** in Florida and Louisiana for particulate matter and **Good** in along the gulf coast based on ozone forecasts. Winds on the coast will be from the south, and in the gulf, will generally be from the west throughout the day.
- Air quality impacts, if any, could occur given the onshore flow at the coast in Florida. Some thunderstorms are possible in the afternoon in the panhandle.

Odor

- Measurements taken by Pinellas County and DEP during periods of odor have not shown any unusual VOC levels. EPA is currently investigating odor reports, as needed, and performing air monitoring with stationary and mobile teams throughout the northern Gulf coast, including Florida. Air quality measurements taken in locations where odors were detected have not yet identified any compounds that are present above levels of public health concern.