In June 2019, South Coast AQMD found higher levels of a toxic air pollutant called hexavalent chromium in an industrial part of West Rancho Dominguez. South Coast AQMD has been investigating where this pollutant might be coming from and working with facilities to reduce those emissions. At the beginning of this investigation, monitors found levels of hexavalent chromium in the industrial area were 50 to 100 times higher than average levels in the Los Angeles area. Since December 2019, average levels at most monitoring locations have decreased substantially, but occasional elevated levels are still seen in the industrialized areas. South Coast AQMD has also been checking hexavalent chromium levels in nearby residential areas. Levels in the residential areas have been close to or slightly above typical levels. Details about the continued work on this investigation can be found at www.aqmd.gov/WestRancho.

There is no immediate threat to health based on available data, and agencies continue to monitor environmental conditions.

Breathing high levels of hexavalent chromium over a long period of time (years to decades) increases the risk of lung and nose cancer. Depending on how much hexavalent chromium is breathed over time, health conditions like allergy symptoms, nose sores, and irritation of the nose, throat, and lungs may develop or become worse.

To prevent health problems, consider these measures:

- Spend less time in the industrial area
- Limit vigorous outdoor activity in the industrial area
- Avoid smoking (cigars, cigarettes, pipes, etc.) and exposure to smoke
- Stay informed by visiting the South Coast AQMD website
- Report odors, health symptoms or other environmental concerns by calling the numbers below

For health-related questions, visit your health provider. If your health care provider has further questions, please call the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Toxicology and Environmental Assessment Branch:

(213) 738-3220

Report air quality complaints (e.g., smoke, dust, odors) to South Coast Air Quality Management District:

1-(800) CUT-SMOG