



City of Detroit

Detroit City Council - District 4

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 19, 2023

TO: David Bell, Director of Buildings, Safety, Engineering and Environmental Department (BSEED)
Crystal Gilbert-Rogers, General Manager – Environmental Affairs

FROM: Latisha Johnson 
District 4 Councilmember

THROUGH: CM Gabriela Santiago-Romero, Chair - Public Health & Safety

SUBJECT: SPODs and Canister Monitoring

Greetings,

My office would like answers to the following questions:

1. If we are continuing the use of canister monitors to understand the level of chemicals being emitted from Stellantis's Mack Engine plant, utilizing SPODs that trigger canister monitoring would provide a better quality air sample than the 24-hour random monitoring. How can we partner the two to obtain more accurate data?
2. We're using high reporting limits that may also explain the detection levels in comparison to EGLE's report. For example, two of the chemicals detected in EGLE canister samples taken in the last year show 2-3X lower reporting limits.

Reporting limit comparison:

Chloromethane: EGLE 0.62 ug/m³; Detroit 12.0 ug/m³

Dichlorodifluoromethane: EGLE 1.5 ug/m³; Detroit 15 ug/m³

Why are we using the higher limits?

3. It was indicated that EGLE uses a smell test when inspectors receive complaints and issues citations. Although EGLE has published canister sample data that supports the citation. Why are we capturing data via canister monitors instead of utilizing the data that EGLE captures?

4. How do we plan to utilize the data we're capturing?

Thank you,

If you have any questions, please contact me at 313-224-4841