



## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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### **DEQ continually monitoring bubbling sites in Assumption Parish**

**BATON ROUGE** – The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality is testing and monitoring the three new bubble sites on Bayou Corne, Grand Bayou and the Triche Canal.

DEQ staff has already been present throughout the ongoing bubbling and testing is currently being conducted on these new locations. DEQ has monitors on the ground to detect potential accumulation of natural gas. DEQ staged its Mobile Air Monitoring Lab (MAML) at the site which has been continually monitored for more than a month. DEQ is currently taking three canister samples daily and data has reflected no areas of concern. Water monitoring shows no water pollution and area wells are sampled weekly for natural gas in the aquifers. To date, no harmful or abnormal readings have been detected.

“DEQ staff continues to monitor the areas around the sinkhole in Assumption Parish and no harmful readings have been found to date,” said Peggy Hatch, DEQ Secretary. “Our top priority is protecting the environment and human health and we will continue to keep the public informed of all test results.”

DEQ will continue to work with the parish and Texas Brine to monitor the air and water. For more information and to see the results once testing is completed, please go to <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/bayoucorne.aspx>.

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