



Dangers of Hydrogen Sulfide at Pump Stations

Louisiana DEQ



Hydrogen Sulfide (H_2S , Sewer gas)

- **Hydrogen Sulfide is a colorless gas with a strong odor of rotten eggs. Note: A person's sense of smell becomes rapidly fatigued and can NOT be relied upon to warn of the continuous presence of H_2S .**
- **Immediate Dangers to Life and Health is 100 parts per million**
- **For protection, wearing a charcoal canister for levels up to 100 ppm is sufficient. For concentration levels at or above 100 ppm personnel must wear some type of supplied air either by hose or some type of Supplied Contain Breathing Apparatus.**
- **If workers are going to wear respirators, they need to be fit tested for the correct respirator. It is important, that workers receive instructions on when to leave an area when H_2S is detected at the level of training and at the capacity of the equipment provided to them.**



Safety Precautions at Storm Water Pumping Locations

- **Measure the current atmospheric air conditions to be sure that conditions are in the normal range. Take the measurements at or near the pumping station or around a large pump to check to O₂ and H₂S.**
- **When the pump begins to stir up stagnant water and decaying matter, it begins to release H₂S into the atmosphere. This can become a dangerous situation for untrained personnel.**
- **When starting up or working around pumps, it is important to be aware of and constantly check atmospheric conditions.**



Questions?

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