

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality Provides Update on Current Fire Situation

Westlake, Louisiana – July 2, 2024 - We would like to provide an update on the current fire situation. As of now, the fire at BioLab is 75% under control, and we are actively working to ensure full containment.

Key updates are as follows:

- Chlorine Levels: Plant monitors have reported non-detect chlorine readings, indicating that chlorine levels are within safe limits.
- **Road Closures:** There are no road closures at this time. However, winds are currently coming from the North-northeast, and we will reassess the situation as winds are expected to change.
- Shelter in Place: The Louisiana State Police (LSP) advises that the Golden Nugget and L'Auberge du Lac casinos shelter in place for their safety.
- Air Monitoring: LSP is actively monitoring the air quality at Westlake Chemical. Additionally, the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) is en route to conduct air monitoring along I-210.
- Ship Channel Precautions: The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) has temporarily shut down mile markers 33-36 of the ship channel as a precautionary measure until further updates are available.

We are closely monitoring the situation and will continue to provide updates as necessary. The safety and wellbeing of our community are our top priorities.

For more information, please contact: <u>LDEQcommunications@la.gov</u>.

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