

No results



Options

[Enforcement Home](#)

[Enforcement Basics](#)

[National Enforcement Initiatives](#)

[Air Enforcement](#)

[Water Enforcement](#)

[Waste, Chemical and Cleanup Enforcement](#)

[Criminal Enforcement](#)

[Enforcement at Federal Facilities](#)

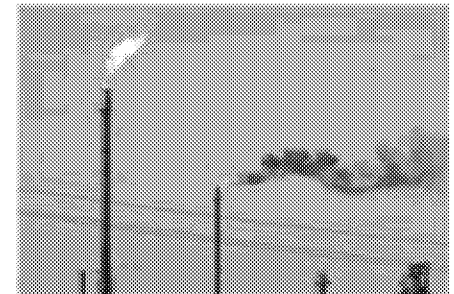
[Data and Results](#)

[Policy, Guidance and Publications](#)

National Enforcement Initiative: Cutting Hazardous Air Pollutants

Problem

Leaks, flares, and excess emissions from refineries, chemical plants and other industries emit hazardous air pollutants (HAPs), or air toxics, that are known or suspected to cause cancer, birth defects, and seriously impact the environment. Recent monitoring shows that facilities typically emit more HAP emissions than they actually report.



Air pollution from an improperly operated flare

Leaking equipment and improperly operated flares are some of the largest sources of HAP emissions from petroleum refineries and chemical manufacturing facilities. Improper operation of an industrial flare can result in hundreds of tons of excess HAP emissions.

Goal

EPA has worked to identify and address illegal and excess emissions of toxic air pollutants from leaks and flares at facilities that have a significant impact on air quality and health in communities since this initiative began in 2004.

EPA will continue to implement this initiative in fiscal years 2017-19, and expand it to include addressing air emissions from large product storage tanks. In doing so, EPA will focus on identifying and addressing violations of leak detection and repair requirements for product storage tanks.