

Mallory Haffenreffer
Portland

Dear Committee Members:

Thank you for the hard work you all do to keep clean air and water available to the residents of our state. We put our struggle here in Portland and South Portland in your hands, and very much need your eyes on a significant new problem.

We live three blocks from Maine Medical Center and 4 blocks from two schools, directly on Western Promenade Street across from the very public park used by many city residents. We cannot open our windows much of the year because of horrible fumes drifting from the oil tanks across the river at the tank farm. Our western side of Portland joins with South Portland asking for your help.

In over 40 years we have never once been faced with air quality issues like this. These are not just "bad odors". We city dwellers have lived with chicken and fish processing, our wonderful working waterfront, and even SD Warren in Westbrook. This is very different. What we are coping with are fumes. Fumes you can't get away from. They are from a new product brought to the tank farm across the river.

Even with our windows shut and living in a brick house, the fumes cause headaches, nausea and are the constant discussion of this very public neighborhood. Please please call these companies task. We have discovered doing research on their activities in other states that they ignore regulations in New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Massachusetts. Fines and citations mean nothing to them. South Portland and Portland residents need rigorous testing NOT conducted by their industry their timetable, followed by rigorous follow up by our public officials for health and safety of two Maine cities.

We are grateful for your serious attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Peter and Mallory Haffenreffer
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