

Industry Professionals for Clean Air

Founding Principles

1. The Houston-Galveston region has an unacceptable level of air pollution that endangers our health, our economy, and our industry.
2. The refining and petrochemical industry is a vital part of the Houston-Galveston area community.
3. Corporations and individuals, working together with the regulators, can alleviate a significant component of the pollution problem by complying with existing and future emission limits, and can do so at reasonable cost using existing technology.
4. Our group will provide a forum and focus for industry participants committed to real and timely improvement in the area's air quality.
5. We will respect the personal circumstances—including privacy needs—of all persons in our group.

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It's time to be proactive.

As professionals who work in the vicinity of the world's largest petrochemical complex, we are concerned about the slow progress towards clean air in the Houston region. We are enlisting like-minded individuals who can offer their expertise in plant operations, economics, design and environmental controls. Here are several reasons you should join us in serving as catalysts for changing the way industry, regulators and citizens approach our serious air pollution problems.

Standards must be established and enforced.

Over three decades since the US Environmental Protection Agency was tasked with cleaning up Houston's air pollution, progress remains slow, and today our air quality is still unacceptable—by some measures the worst in the nation. Much of this pollution stems from the vast petrochemical complex located around the Houston Ship Channel. We share the concerns of many Houston-area residents that our air quality regulations are inadequately enforced, and, in some instances, insufficient.

Solutions can be found.

We think there are technically and economically feasible improvements that must be implemented by Houston area industry to meet federal air quality standards on time and to address the concerns of nearby residents about toxic air pollutants implicated as carcinogens or other health risks. We also believe that the authorities must implement more stringent—but even-handed—enforcement. We also believe there are areas where existing and planned regulations may be inadequate and should be replaced with well-researched new regulations.

We can play a unique role.

As professionals working in or with the companies that cause the greater part of Houston's pollution, we can champion real communication and cooperation on reducing harmful emissions from industrial plants. We will put our expertise to work in identifying technically sound and economically feasible alternatives, and cost-effective tradeoffs. We will advocate these alternatives through well-reasoned discussion with regulatory and enforcement authorities, as well as with industry management.

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Join Our Experienced Team

“The time is ripe for a change in the paradigm for industry clean air compliance.”

- Bob Levy, consultant and former executive in the refining industry for more than 35 years

“For any business, your obligation to clean air is not just meeting all of the laws and regulations. It’s taking actions to ensure that local air quality is not adversely impacted from operating your business.”

- D. O., Retired Environmental Manager for a major Integrated Oil Company

“The health and well being of Houston’s families and children require that industry, government and the public work together to develop effective strategies for cleaning our air.”

- Lucy Randel, former environmental engineer for MW Kellogg

“We know that economic growth and environmentally-sound manufacturing are fully compatible, and we can do it here.”

- Tom Rommel, consultant on training and management issues to major energy companies

“Enforcement of existing laws would be a giant step toward lower ozone”

- Don Weaver, retired from Shell Development Company

“It’s more than past time to quit talking about getting this done, and get it done.”

- Bruce Stram, energy project developer

“Clean air technology is already feasible. We need to work together to give industry an incentive to put the technology into use.”

- Jeff Van Niel, attorney with experience in power plant regulation

“Some companies have made good progress - it can be done. Identify the problems, and let’s work together to fix them.”

- L.L., former plant manager and environmental superintendent in petrochemical industry

“It’s time to move beyond the politics and rhetoric and focus our considerable skills and knowledge towards resolving a very solvable problem—cleaning Houston’s air.”

- Terry Thorn, Advisor to major energy companies on natural gas issues

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- YES! I'd like to join! I'd like more information.

Membership Type:

- Acknowledged Anonymous

Membership Interests:

- Yes, I endorse IPFCA's principles and signal my support for your efforts.
- Also, I'll join technical workshops (openly or anonymously) and participate in activities such as preparing comments on proposed regulations or analyzing potential emission reduction technologies.
- I agree to serve as a spokesperson for the group, perhaps speaking to professional audiences, writing letters to publications, appearing at public hearings, and reaching out to industry and regulatory audiences in other ways.
- I agree to join your steering committee to help establish strategies and plans.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

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