



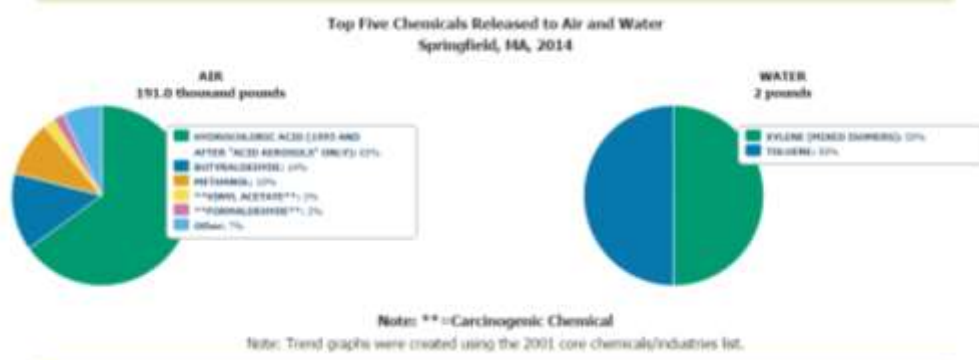
Partners for a Healthier Community, Inc.



Additional Testimony for the Springfield Public Health Council Public Hearing on Proposed Biomass Plant Site Assignment February 2, 2016

Springfield residents are particularly vulnerable to any increase not only in particulate matter (PM 2.5) but in other air pollutants. The attached report from the EPA's Toxics Release Inventory shows that 191,000 pounds of toxic chemicals were released into the air in Springfield in 2014.

http://iaspub.epa.gov/triexplorer/tri_factsheet.factsheet?&pstate=MA&pcity=Springfield&pyear=2014



Both of the major listed TRI air release chemicals – butyraldehyde and hydrochloric acid -- are irritants that may cause occupational asthma and with chronic exposure may cause or exacerbate asthma. <http://www.aocedata.org/expcodelookup.aspx>;
<http://www.aaaai.org/conditions-and-treatments/library/at-a-glance/occupational-asthma.aspx>

We reiterate our support for a health impact assessment process, with an equity lens, as a way of understanding the current research and projections about impacts of biomass plant on Springfield's vulnerable.

We urge the Springfield Public Health Council to institute a site assignment review to protect the health and well-being of all Springfield and its most vulnerable residents.

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