



**THE ROLE OF HUMAN PERSONAL
EXPOSURE ASSESSMENT IN
DETERMINING HEALTH IMPACTS
OF URBAN AIR TOXICS**

A SUMMARY REPORT

ORGANIZED BY

The Mickey Leland National Urban
Air Toxics Research Center (NUATRC)
March 6-7, 2000
Houston, Texas

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American Chemistry Council (ACC)
American Petroleum Institute (API)
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
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INTRODUCTION

Traditionally, the extent to which the general population is exposed to toxic pollutants in the air has been determined by monitoring programs that utilize concentrations of the pollutants determined by fixed site ambient air quality monitors. Epidemiological studies have used this information to assess the risk of health impacts of air toxics exposures on the general population. However, a number of studies involving measurements of personal exposures to air toxic pollutants have suggested that personal exposures to these pollutants may not be adequately determined by centrally located fixed site monitors.

The Mickey Leland National Urban Air Toxics Research Center (NUATRC) organized this workshop to share current knowledge of the role of personal

exposure measurements in determining the health effects of air toxics in urban environments. Speakers from academia, EPA, and industry were invited to review what is known about personal exposures to air toxics, and to evaluate the importance of personal exposures in determining the health effects of air toxics in urban areas. Speakers reviewed results of the most recent studies, evaluated data gaps and uncertainties specific to this field, and discussed future research directions. Workshop participants included academic researchers, risk assessors, and policy makers from universities, federal agencies, industry, trade organizations, and public advocacy and community groups. Major conclusions from these workshop presentations are summarized in this report.

