

Corrections & Clarifications

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California officials have challenged a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency air pollution assessment that identified a neighborhood in Cerritos as facing the nation's highest cancer risk from air emissions. After the EPA released its assessment, which USA TODAY reported on June 24, California's South Coast Air Quality Management District reviewed the data and found "gross overestimation" in Cerritos and several other places because the EPA relied on outdated or incorrect emission data. The AQMD also tested emissions from a facility the EPA report blamed for much of the risk in Cerritos and found its current pollution levels were far lower than those the EPA cited.

The EPA sent a letter July 16 to Cerritos Mayor Bruce Barrows saying emissions from the facility "are now known to be at a safe level." The letter said the EPA would investigate further and promised "to continue to improve the accuracy" of the information it releases.



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