

Officials Investigating Orange Cloud Over Houston-Area

PASADENA, Texas (AP) — Plant officials are investigating what caused a chemical release at a Houston-area plant that forced neighbors to stay indoors for a couple of hours.

An orange cloud was seen above Pasadena after Tuesday night's release, prompting emergency personnel to order a shelter-in-place.

Air Products and Chemicals Inc. did not immediately return a message Wednesday from The Associated Press.

The company, in a statement Tuesday night, said a pipe leak resulted in the formation and release of a nitric oxide vapor cloud. The statement says there was no fire and nobody was hurt at the unit, which did not suffer significant damage.

Pasadena Fire Department Chief Lanny Armstrong says some motorists who drove through the orange cloud called for help.

Plant manager Jacques Joseph apologized for the inconvenience.

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