

# CIVIL DEFENSE AGENCY

Date: April 9, 2008

## ***MEDIA UPDATE***

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Update: # 7

### ***Incident: Emergency Health Advisory #7***

This is a civil defense message.

This is an information update for Wednesday evening, April 9, at 6 o'clock.

The Hawaiian Volcano Observatory reports the volcanic emissions of sulfur dioxide fumes from Halema'uma'u and Pu'u 'O'o continues with no change.

The National Weather Service reports that winds are currently out of the northeast (trade winds). This is a change from the last two days when winds were out of the southeast (Kona wind).

Due to the continuing volcanic emissions and the current and forecasted wind conditions, the following are now in effect.

1. Residential areas of Mauna Loa Estates, Ohia Estates, Volcano Village, Keauhou Ranch, and Volcano Golf Course Subdivision are now in Color Code YELLOW status. The return of the trade winds has greatly reduced the threat of dangerous sulfur dioxide levels impacting those subdivisions. Color Code YELLOW indicates only a light level of sulfur dioxide. The health precautions for Color Code YELLOW are for those in the sensitive group to avoid outdoor activity.
2. At this time, also under Color Code YELLOW is Pahala in the Ka`u district. All other districts are in Color Code GREEN. Color Code GREEN indicates at most only a trace of sulfur dioxide.
3. All residents of Hawai'i Island but especially areas close to the Kilauea summit are advised to continue being on the alert and prepared. If your area is informed of high sulfur dioxide levels, remember the safest protection is to limit your exposure.
4. Two important reminders for you to know: First, sulfur dioxide levels are highly based on weather conditions and especially wind direction. Second, sulfur dioxide levels do not necessarily coincide with vog levels.

The sulfur dioxide levels will continue to be monitored and if any area reaches high levels, you will be informed. A standard operating procedure has been established with the National Weather Service to ensure as much advance information possible on forecasted wind conditions. Should information be received of wind conditions that may greatly increase the sulfur dioxide threat to an area, advisories will be issued.

Thank you for listening and have a safe day.

This is your Hawai'i County Civil Defense.