



Why Parents Are Concerned About the Impacts from Titan Cement:

- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) considers the cement industry to be the 3rd-largest source of industrial pollution, the 3rd-largest industrial emitter of greenhouse gases, and the 4th-largest source of airborne mercury in the US.
- Titan America plans to operate one of the largest coal-burning cement plants in the nation within five miles of schools attended by more than 8,500 students.
- More than 200 local physicians oppose Titan Cement because of the negative health impacts on our community, especially our children.
- The North Carolina Pediatrics Society, the North Carolina Asthma Alliance, and the New Hanover County Board of Education have all passed resolutions expressing serious concerns about the regional health impacts from Titan Cement.
- The American Lung Association, American Medical Association, American Thoracic Society, and American Academy of Pediatrics, have repeatedly called for tightening the annual standard of particulate matter (PM) emissions to protect children, the elderly, and others from the major health risks caused by PM pollution. They estimate that PM pollution is responsible for tens of thousands of premature deaths nationwide every year. It is linked to aggravation of respiratory illnesses such as asthma, bronchitis, emphysema, chronic obstructive lung disease, and pneumonia; it is also linked to premature deaths from other causes, such as lung cancer and heart disease.
- Titan's emissions would increase New Hanover County's total emissions of fine particulates by up to thirty percent. Fine particulates are extremely small soot particles capable of penetrating deep into the lungs, and are a year-round health risk to which children are especially vulnerable.
- A couple years ago, North Carolina made it illegal to smoke in restaurants because of the known risks of second-hand smoke. The particulate matter coming from Titan's smoke stack would be equivalent to burning 24.8 billion cigarettes a year—right next to our area schools, communities and businesses.
- In 2009, the New England Journal of Medicine published a study showing reductions in PM air pollution accounted for as much as 15% of the overall increase in life expectancy in the study areas. An independent health study conducted by ICF International showed that these emissions will be especially concentrated near the plant, potentially increasing particulate levels in excess of recent limits set by the US Environmental Protection Agency.
- Mercury is a known neurotoxin. When mercury is released from smokestacks, it settles in soils and nearby waterways, where it accumulates in fish. Young children and pregnant women are warned against eating mercury-contaminated fish because of the potential for severe neurological impacts. Titan is permitted to emit tens of thousands of pounds of toxic pollution – including mercury – despite New Hanover County already having the most toxic releases of all 100 North Carolina counties, according to the US EPA.
- Titan would more than double the total emissions of benzene for New Hanover County, moving its ranking statewide from 10th to 2nd. Studies have found that pregnant women living in areas with high levels of benzene in the air were more likely to have babies with neural defects. Other studies have linked benzene with increased rates of cancer, along with other developmental problems in newborns.

Our children need many things to stay healthy...more pollution is not one of them.