



# CASE STUDY

AIR POLLUTION

**BY TOXLEARN4EU**  
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To:  
The National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM)  
The Netherlands

Dear Researcher,

I hope this letter finds you well. My name is Willem Orried, and I have been a resident of the Lobatto street in The Hague for several years. I am writing to express my growing concerns regarding the air quality in our area, specifically the levels of pollution from traffic exhaust.

Living on this busy street, I have witnessed a significant increase in traffic over the years, which has undoubtedly contributed to the deteriorating air quality. On top of that, we experience intense use of the nearby Laak canal. I am afraid that the constant flow of vehicles, boats and ships, many of which are older models that emit higher levels of pollutants, may pose a serious health risk to all residents, particularly children, the elderly and those with pre-existing health conditions.

My concerns are twofold: the direct exposure to exhaust and the overall degradation of air quality. The exhaust fumes are particularly noticeable during peak traffic hours, and there are times when simply opening a window results in an unpleasant and potentially harmful influx of polluted air. Moreover, I have the feeling that the air quality in our neighborhood has worsened over the years, which I suspect is due to the cumulative effect of prolonged exposure to emissions and possibly other sources of pollution.

I am particularly worried about the long-term health implications of living in such an environment. As a community, we are deeply concerned about the potential impact on our health and the well-being of future generations.

Given your expertise and commitment to public health, I kindly request that the RIVM consider conducting a thorough investigation into the air quality in our street and the surrounding area. I think that it would be immensely beneficial to have up-to-date data on the levels of various pollutants, such as nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), particulate matter (PM2.5 and PM10) and maybe other harmful substances. This information could then be used to develop strategies to mitigate the pollution and improve the air quality for all residents.

I understand that addressing air pollution is a complex challenge, but I believe that with your expertise and dedication, meaningful improvements can be achieved. Our community is willing to support and cooperate with any initiatives aimed at enhancing the quality of the air that we breathe.

Thank you for your attention to this pressing issue. I look forward to your response and hope that together we can work towards a healthier and cleaner environment in The Hague.

Yours sincerely,

W.Orried