

METHYL MERCAPTAN

GENERAL

Methyl mercaptan is a byproduct from kraft pulping, and is generated by reaction of sodium hydrogen sulphide in the cooking liquor with methoxyl groups attached to lignin in the wood chips. The gas escapes into the atmosphere through leaks from digesters, chip steaming vessels, brownstock washers, non-condensable gas handling systems, pulp storage tanks and chests. Concentrations measured by gas chromatography at various sites in seven B.C. kraft mills in 1979-1981 are summarized