



# NEWS RELEASE

NY News Contact: Steve Cooper  
516/623-7615  
PPI News Contact: David Fink  
469/499-1046

## TRADE GROUP RELEASES

### PARADISE, CALIFORNIA FIRE

#### BENZENE CONTAMINATION FINDINGS

Plastics Pipe Institute's Report Now Available

IRVING, Texas – October 28, 2020 - The recently completed analysis of benzene contamination found at the site of the 2018 Camp Fire catastrophe near and around Paradise, California has been published by the Plastics Pipe Institute, Inc. (PPI). The 13-page report, PPI Document TR-51 “*Investigation of Benzene in Drinking Water Following the “Camp Fire” in Paradise, CA*”, is available free at the PPI website -- <https://plasticpipe.org/pdf/ppi-tr-51-2020.pdf>.

“This is certainly an important document because it provides an empirical analysis of this situation,” stated David M. Fink, president of PPI, the major North American trade association representing all segments of the plastic pipe industry. “Our staff and members conducted this study in response to claims that the melting of high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipe led to the production of benzene, a carcinogen. These are patently false. There has been no evidence that plastic pipes are responsible for the production of benzene or any other contaminant due to the heating of the pipes during the Camp Fire. It’s clear that the contamination was from the burned-out environment that got sucked into water system. The new document describes the methodology and details the findings of the investigation.”

# # #

#### **About PPI:**

*The Plastics Pipe Institute, Inc. (PPI) is the major North American trade association representing the plastic pipe industry and is dedicated to promoting plastic as the materials of choice for pipe and conduit applications. PPI is the premier technical, engineering and industry knowledge resource publishing data for use in the development and design of plastic pipe and conduit systems. Additionally, PPI collaborates with industry organizations that set standards for manufacturing practices and installation methods.*