

Atmospheric pollutants

Carbon Dioxide

colourless and odourless not easily detected

from complete combustion of any fuel containing carbon atoms binds to haemoglobin in red blood cells, to prevent them from carrying oxygen to the cells in the body

Carbon Monoxide

from incomplete combustion of any fuel containing carbon atoms a poisonous gas, no smell and no colour

Particulate carbon

from incomplete combustion of any fuel containing carbon atoms cause global dimming and health problems for humans

when there is not enough oxygen for complete combustion

irritates the lining of the lungs and it can make asthma worse

Unburned hydrocarbons

hydrocarbon fuel molecules which have not been oxidised

Sulfur dioxide

combustion of a fossil fuel which contains sulfur impurities can cause respiratory problems in humans and acid rain

from some diesel fuel burnt in ships and vehicles

from coal burnt in some power stations

damages statues and buildings.

harms and kills plants and animals

a dilute solution of sulfuric acid

Nitrogen Oxides

oxidation of nitrogen from the air inside the engine of vehicles using fossil fuels

NOx gases can cause acid rain

NOx gases react with other pollutants to make photochemical smog smog can have major health effects, causing asthma attacks and even death.