

primary pollutant

in atmospheric chemistry

A pollutant emitted directly into the air from identifiable sources (e.g. SO₂, NO, hydrocarbons, etc.). Secondary pollutants, such as ozone, are generated within the atmosphere through chemical changes which occur in primary pollutants.

Source:

PAC, 1990, 62, 2167 (*Glossary of atmospheric chemistry terms (Recommendations 1990)*) on page 2208