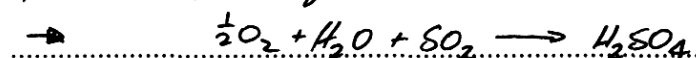


Question 21 (7 marks)

Evaluate the impact of industrial sources of sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides on the environment, making use of appropriate chemical equations.

7

The impact that, sulfur dioxide (SO_2) and nitrogen oxides (NO), from industrial sources, have on the environment is much larger than many would think. SO_2 & NO in the air lead to acid rain as the water combines with the gases as it falls to the ground.



Sulfuric acid and ^{nitric} ~~nitrous~~ acid are both ~~very~~ ^{strong} acids and can lead to many plants being killed by the acid. The acids are also able to leech into streams and waterways, leading to the pH of the waterways lowering, organisms ^{dying} ~~dying~~ and algae blooms forming. This in turn affects the animals around the waterways and has the potential to affect an entire ecosystem in the area.

The impact of sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide in the environment can be very large as it can have a devastating effect on an ~~an~~ area, should the gases become ^{acids} acids.