

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Elizabeth Jones](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Private/Before Publication)
Date: Wednesday, June 22, 2022 7:03:21 AM

From: Texas Sunset Advisory Commission <sunset@sunset.texas.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 9:40 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission <Sunset.AdvisoryCommission@sunset.texas.gov>
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Private/Before Publication)

Submitted on Tue, 06/21/2022 - 19:33

Submitted by: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Choose the agency that you would like to provide input about

[Texas Commission on Environmental Quality](#)

Public Comments

1

First Name

Beki

Last Name

Halpin

Email

City

Pflugerville

State

Texas

Your Comments or Concerns

This agency serves basically as a handmaid to the nuclear storage industry. It has been captured by the corporations it supposedly regulates and acts to give political cover to any and all requests made of it by these corporations regardless of the potential public safety issues or costs to Texas citizens. TCEQ fails to require the waste disposal facilities to prepare effectively for the potential incidents that may unfold as terrorists target facilities like these with drones or shoulder held weapons that are now readily available to persons seeking to damage our state. These waste disposal facilities are

totally unprepared for something like this and TCEQ does not even imagine how to require them to prepare for such attacks. Also, climate change is increasing the average temperatures in west Texas to a point that the storage containers that radioactive wastes are stored in can no longer function properly. TCEQ should certainly be requiring a response to this problem before containment vessels begin to fail, not afterward. TCEQ allows monitoring wells on the WCS site that show unwanted water intrusion to be closed and filled so it seems that there are no red flag water problems at the site. TCEQ endorses lowering of fees and surcharges on radioactive waste brought to the site, mostly from outside Texas, so the site will be more profitable regardless of the fact that these fees and surcharges will be needed in the future to remediate accidents, incidents, leaking containment vessels and pits, repackaging of wastes, and eternal monitoring and policing of the site. It is a sad myth to believe the federal government will be physically and financially responsible for this waste disposal site. Possession is nine tenths of the law and Texas will possess this radioactive waste that is brought here and we will eventually own it. We need every penny we can get to cover the costs of managing and policing this waste. Fees and surcharges should be much higher than those currently charged, not lower.

Your Proposed Solution

- 1) Raise fees and surcharges on waste brought to Texas-
- 2) TCEQ and stop rubber stamping every permit waiver, rule waver, safe practice waver, and corner cutting request made by these waste disposal entities.
- 3) Stand up for the people of Texas and imagine the political, terroristic, and physical threats posed to these facilities so that the site operators are prepared to respond effectively. Right now TCEQ operates from the standpoint that "nothing really bad has ever happened at these sites and likely nothing will." This does not reflect reality. TCEQ needs to require site operators to "hope for the best but prepare for the worst." That is not happening.
- 4) Instead of closing monitoring wells that show problems, find out if there is a problem. Monitoring equipment that shows red flags should not be closed down. Potential problems should be thoroughly investigated not hidden.

My Comments Will Be Made Public

Yes

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Elizabeth Jones](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Private/Before Publication)
Date: Wednesday, June 22, 2022 7:04:47 AM

From: Texas Sunset Advisory Commission <sunset@sunset.texas.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 10:29 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission <Sunset.AdvisoryCommission@sunset.texas.gov>
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Submitted by: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Choose the agency that you would like to provide input about
[Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact Commission](#)

Public Comments

1

First Name

Beki

Last Name

Halpin

Email

City

Pflugerville

State

Texas

Your Comments or Concerns

The Compact Commission will generally take any and all wastes offered to it, even though they are not supposed to take these wastes and has even accepted some high level waste. The Compact Commission was not created to help out radioactive waste disposers who are in a jam and need to dump their waste somewhere. However, their motto seems to be, "Come and bring it!"

Once we have accepted waste to the Texas site, we will never get rid of it. Accepting high level waste

because some waste producer was in a jam and needed somewhere to stash their waste creates a precedent that Texas wants high level waste, which we do not.

Your Proposed Solution

Compact Commission should be stop accepting waste from producers who are not part of the compact. Texas should not be burdened with the long term risks of radioactive waste that the citizens of Texas did not intend to be brought here.

Fees and surcharges for waste brought to Texas need to be increased to cover the long term risks of accidents and incidents that will absolutely occur. Right now radioactive waste producers are dumping on the cheap and leaving Texas citizens holding the bag.

My Comments Will Be Made Public

Yes