

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Elizabeth Jones](#)
Subject: FW: Comments on TCEQ Sunset
Date: Friday, June 24, 2022 9:09:39 AM

From: Edward Main <doyonmain@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2022 6:28 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission <Sunset.AdvisoryCommission@sunset.texas.gov>
Subject: Comments on TCEQ Sunset

Dear Texas Sunset Commission,

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is not doing enough to protect public health and the environment. Instead, the TCEQ is focused on protecting economic special interests.

Please make the following recommendations for how the TCEQ functions in the future.

- Stop permitting pollution in Black, brown and low-income communities
- Require that violations of permits and pollution laws result in robust corrective action. Increase fines for polluters, as the current fines are treated by many violators as the cost of doing business, not a deterrent.
- Allow TCEQ commissioners to deny permits based on considerations of equity and justice.
- Require improvement of TCEQ monitoring and inspections of industrial facilities so that the burden of alerting the public of pollution incidents doesn't fall on community members.
- In recognition of the diversity of the people in Texas, expand efforts to communicate with vulnerable and impacted communities in a variety of languages
- Require that the TCEQ follow science, not politics or special interests, and end squandering resources opposing EPA science simply for political gain.

Every Texan deserves clean air, land and water. Texans need to have confidence that our state's environmental agency will protect the health of every person in our communities.

Please support those reforms.

Sincerely,
Edward Main

Houston, TX