

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Elizabeth Jones](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Comments on TCEQ Sunset  
**Date:** Monday, June 27, 2022 10:16:20 AM

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**From:** Joe Samples >  
**Sent:** Monday, June 27, 2022 9:10 AM  
**To:** Sunset Advisory Commission <[Sunset.AdvisoryCommission@sunset.texas.gov](mailto:Sunset.AdvisoryCommission@sunset.texas.gov)>  
**Subject:** Comments on TCEQ Sunset

Dear Texas Sunset Commission,

I'm writing to submit a comment to the Sunset Advisory Commission on the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).

The TCEQ is not doing enough to protect public health and the environment and is instead too focused on protecting economic interests. As this process moves forward, I ask that you make the following recommendations for how the TCEQ should function in the future.

- More violations of pollution laws should result in corrective action. Fines for polluters should also be increased, as the current fines amount to a financial slap on the wrist
- The TCEQ should improve its monitoring and inspections of industrial facilities so that the burden of alerting the public of pollution incidents doesn't fall on community members
- The TCEQ should follow science – not politics – and not spend resources opposing EPA science simply for political gain.

Every Texan should have clear air, land and water. We should be able to trust that our state's environmental agency will protect the health of our communities.

I ask you that you support these reforms and thanks much for all you do.

Sincerely,  
Joe Samples

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