

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Elizabeth Jones](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Private/Before Publication)  
**Date:** Monday, June 27, 2022 8:55:58 PM

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**From:** Texas Sunset Advisory Commission <sunset@sunset.texas.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 27, 2022 4:45 PM  
**To:** Sunset Advisory Commission <Sunset.AdvisoryCommission@sunset.texas.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Private/Before Publication)

Submitted on Mon, 06/27/2022 - 14:38

Submitted by: Visitor

Submitted values are:

**Choose the agency that you would like to provide input about**

[Texas Commission on Environmental Quality](#)

#### **Public Comments**

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#### **First Name**

Hannah

#### **Last Name**

Thalenberg

#### **Email**

#### **City**

Houston

#### **State**

Texas

#### **Your Comments or Concerns**

I live in Houston's East End, and I love my community, but I fear for my and my neighbors' health living only a few miles from the Houston Ship Channel and being exposed to some of the highest levels of carcinogenic air pollution in the entire country from multiple, compounding sources. I have had the sky over my home go dark due to a plume of toxic smoke from the ITC fire. I have heard residents of the frontline (predominantly Black and brown) communities most impacted by environmental racism plead time and time again for TCEQ to not let the industries that already poison them and their children expand production in dense urban areas. But the concerns of Houston's Port communities continue to go unanswered by TCEQ and policymakers. The fact that

children living along the Houston Ship Channel are 56 times more likely to develop leukemia is dismissed as not being "a substantive issue." As industry and freight traffic grows, an increase in shipping, vehicles, rail yards, and industrial operations will further exacerbate air and water pollution as well as chemical disaster risks in our neighborhoods. And the agency tasked with protecting us continues to prioritize corporations' profits over environmental quality and Texans' lives.

### **Your Proposed Solution**

Texas needs and deserves a Commission on Environmental Quality with teeth. We need people with a vested interest in the oil and gas industry out of the agency tasked with curbing the environmental impact of petrochemical production. We need a TCEQ led by people with backgrounds in public health and environmental conservation. TCEQ needs to not only safeguard the health of our communities and our land, but also lead Texas in a transition away from fossil fuels and toward a clean, renewable energy future in order to ensure that we and our younger generations \*have\* future on this earth.

### **My Comments Will Be Made Public**

Yes