

December 4, 2012

Via Electronic Filing

Charlotte Horn
MC 205
Office of Legal Services
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

Re: Failure to Attain Fee – TCEQ Rule Project Number 2009-009-101-AI

Dear Ms. Horn:

My name is Jed Anderson. I am providing the following comment as a citizen of the Houston community.

Comment

My comment/question is whether the State of Texas believes that the Federal Section 185 Penalty is a fair and just law to impose on its citizens and businesses? If the State of Texas does not believe this is a fair and just law—why has the State of Texas, in addition to proposing the more equitable TERP/IM Alternative Fee Program, also not challenged the underlying constitutionality and inherent unfairness of this law? Below is a description of the unfairness. First however is a general acknowledgment that Congress can make mistakes and that Congress depends on others like the State of Texas to help hold it accountable when a law is or becomes unjust or unfair.

Congress is Not Perfect

Congress can make mistakes. Congress does not always pass fair and just laws. Our nation's history has several examples. Where mistakes are made, or where circumstances have changed that make what at the time was a just law into an unjust law, such laws must be corrected. It's not a big deal to acknowledge and fix mistakes. It's a much bigger deal to perpetuate them. No one is able to see into the future with absolute clarity. No one is perfect—including Congress. The beauty of our system is that it is designed to correct mistakes. Justice and fairness may stay hidden for a while in our system, but eventually they always carry the day. Think about it. Always.

The Section 185 Penalty is Unjust

The Section 185 Penalty is unjust. The Section 185 Penalty is imposed for failing to achieve attainment. The question is who should be held responsible for this failure? Who should be penalized? The fact is that about 50 to 75% of the ozone in Houston is background pollution, international pollution, or interstate pollution that Houston cannot control or that Congress has

not given the Houston community the legal authority to control. Of the remaining 25%-50% of potentially locally generated ozone, approximately 50-65% of this ozone is generated from federally preempted mobile sources that the Houston area is generally prohibited from controlling (e.g. States other than California cannot adopt engine standards). That leaves the Houston community with the ability to potentially control approximately **9-25%** of the problem . . . yet the Houston community is held **100%** responsible and must pay **100%** of the penalty for failure to attain. This is simply unfair and unjust.

One way to make this rule fair and just is to remove the law. Another way is to give the Houston area the Constitutional authority to regulate emissions in other states, other countries, other parts of the state, and from internationally and federally preempted mobile sources so responsibility would be aligned with authority. The final way would be for Congress to assess a fee against the federal government for the portion of the Houston area emissions the federal government failed to timely control to meet the Houston attainment deadline set by the federal government.

The Houston community should not be penalized and its citizens and businesses assessed a fine for the part of the ozone problem that Congress and the federal government failed to control in a timeframe consistent with that which Congress and the federal government set for achieving the standard. It is simply unjust. Plain and simple.

The highest respect for the law is to ensure that a law is just. The State of Texas should constitutionally and legally challenge this law to demonstrate such respect. The State of Texas should also work politically to help effectuate changes to this law.

We must continue to improve and clean our environment—but we cannot use unjust means to do so. We simply cannot punish Houston citizens for parts of the problem they did not cause. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jed Anderson


Kathe Boothby

From: TRRules
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 8:48 AM
To: Kathy Pendleton; Joyce Spencer-Nelson; Terry Salem
Subject: FW: 2009-009-101-AI

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 09, 2013 8:49 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 2009-009-101-AI

01/09/2013 08:48 PM

This email is a confirmation of the comment that was submitted for the referenced rulemaking.

First Name: Joyce
Last Name: Almaguer-Reisdorf
Company/Organization:
E-mail Address: [REDACTED]
Street Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]
State: [REDACTED]
Zip Code: [REDACTED]
Phone Number: [REDACTED]
Fax Number:

Rule: 2009-009-101-AI

Comments:

Hi, TCEQ, we don't need the EPA to waive the fines (not excessive--only \$90M!) that Houston industry deserves for not doing its part to make sure we are in attainment. Our big industry partners just might need a little incentive to put their awesome engineers to work and make it better!

Disclosure: I'm married to a chemical engineer, a darn good one, and he'd love to work on making our Texas air better for our family. We would love to stay here and not move because of the poor air quality.

December 4, 2012

Via Electronic Filing

Charlotte Horn
MC 205
Office of Legal Services
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

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Comment

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Congress is Not Perfect

Congress can make mistakes. Congress does not always pass fair and just laws. Our nation's history has several examples. Where mistakes are made, or where circumstances have changed that make what at the time was a just law into an unjust law, such laws must be corrected. It's not a big deal to acknowledge and fix mistakes. It's a much bigger deal to perpetuate them. No one is able to see into the future with absolute clarity. No one is perfect—including Congress. The beauty of our system is that it is designed to correct mistakes. Justice and fairness may stay hidden for a while in our system, but eventually they always carry the day. Think about it. Always.

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not given the Houston community the legal authority to control. Of the remaining 25%-50% of potentially locally generated ozone, approximately 50-65% of this ozone is generated from federally preempted mobile sources that the Houston area is generally prohibited from controlling (e.g. States other than California cannot adopt engine standards). That leaves the Houston community with the ability to potentially control approximately 9-25% of the problem . . . yet the Houston community is held **100%** responsible and must pay **100%** of the penalty for failure to attain. This is simply unfair and unjust.

One way to make this rule fair and just is to remove the law. Another way is to give the Houston area the Constitutional authority to regulate emissions in other states, other countries, other parts of the state, and from internationally and federally preempted mobile sources so responsibility would be aligned with authority. The final way would be for Congress to assess a fee against the federal government for the portion of the Houston area emissions the federal government failed to timely control to meet the Houston attainment deadline set by the federal government.

The Houston community should not be penalized and its citizens and businesses assessed a fine for the part of the ozone problem that Congress and the federal government failed to control in a timeframe consistent with that which Congress and the federal government set for achieving the standard. It is simply unjust. Plain and simple.

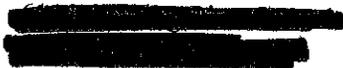
The highest respect for the law is to ensure that a law is just. The State of Texas should constitutionally and legally challenge this law to demonstrate such respect. The State of Texas should also work politically to help effectuate changes to this law.

We must continue to improve and clean our environment—but we cannot use unjust means to do so. We simply cannot punish Houston citizens for parts of the problem they did not cause. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jed Anderson



Kathe Boothby

From: TRRules
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 12:57 PM
To: Kathy Pendleton; Joyce Spencer-Nelson; Terry Salem
Subject: FW: 2009-009-101-AI

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 11:56 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 2009-009-101-AI

01/10/2013 11:56 AM

This email is a confirmation of the comment that was submitted for the referenced rulemaking.

First Name: Frances
Last Name: Barton
Company/Organization:
E-mail Address: [REDACTED]
Street Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]
State: [REDACTED]
Zip Code: [REDACTED]
Phone Number:
Fax Number:

Rule: 2009-009-101-AI

Comments:

I believe that corporations should pay any fine for failure to achieve federal clean-air goals. Businesses should operative in a responsible manner or pay a fine. Waiving these fees does not encourage them to change.

Kathe Boothby

From: TRRules
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 8:51 AM
To: Kathy Pendleton; Joyce Spencer-Nelson; Terry Salem
Subject: FW: 2009-009-101-AI

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 09, 2013 9:35 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 2009-009-101-AI

01/09/2013 09:35 PM

This email is a confirmation of the comment that was submitted for the referenced rulemaking.

First Name: John
Last Name: Blum
Company/Organization:
E-mail Address: [REDACTED]
Street Address: 1 [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]
State: [REDACTED]
Zip Code: 77006
Phone Number: [REDACTED]
Fax Number:

Rule: 2009-009-101-AI

Comments:

I moved to Houston with the intention to make it my home for a thirty year career, but am contemplating moving after three due to the burdensome pollution. At a time when Houston companies are scrambling to obtain top talent, does the city really want Doctors to move do to the excessive pollution?

I moved to Houston excited about the opportunities, but moving in the summer the impacts of the pollution were striking. I always had asthma, but was able to control it and succeeded at sports in the highest level, competing in NCAA Division 1 Cross Country and Track and Field, lettering on a team that finished in the top ten in the country. But upon moving to Houston, a forty minute jog that I would run with my girlfriend without using my inhaler, became impossible to complete with medication. I would have to stop and walk after 15 minutes because my lungs felt like I had inhaled acid.

"If you don't like it, you shouldn't have moved here" I am often told when I complain, but the impacts go beyond discomfort during a hobby. It significantly impacts the quality of my life, my productivity at work, and my participation in the broader economy.

The people who tell me I should just move tend to believe in the freedom embodied by many Texans: that they can do whatever they want and engage in whatever contracts and commercial activities they want, so long as they are not preventing other from doing the same. My participation in the broader Houston economy is directly curtailed by the excessive pollution. On good quality air days, I will ride my bike, run, and walk to numerous businesses. On bad days, I do not engage in the economy. The contracts and commerce I would engage in are objectively curtailed. The result is I am less civically involved in my community, spend less money at local business, have worse health, and lower work productivity. If the actions of others impede my ability to engage in the commercial activities of my choice, my freedoms are impeded. I should be compensated for that intrusion on my freedoms. The tragedy of the commons prevents this, but those responsible should be forced to pay to clean up their pollution. They reduce agent choices, the opposite of a free market which is supposed to maximize agent choice.

Houston possesses tremendous financial and intellectual capital, along with an entrepreneurial spirit and willingness to take risks. But there is nothing risky about creating a healthier environment in which to work and live, particularly when the region already possesses the engineers, managers, and other talent required to make these changes. Make polluters pay. Houston has the technology and human talent to lower pollution. Waiving the fees sends a strong message that Houston industries and residents don't have to adhere to best practices and don't have to invest in their present or future. If that is the case, why would I want to invest a life here?

Kathe Boothby

From: TRRules
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 10:12 AM
To: Kathy Pendleton; Joyce Spencer-Nelson; Terry Salem
Subject: FW: 2009-009-101-AI

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 9:42 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 2009-009-101-AI

01/10/2013 09:41 AM

This email is a confirmation of the comment that was submitted for the referenced rulemaking.

First Name: Michael
Last Name: Brisco
Company/Organization:
E-mail Address: [REDACTED]
Street Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]
State: [REDACTED]
Zip Code: [REDACTED]
Phone Number:
Fax Number:

Rule: 2009-009-101-AI

Comments:

Fines for smog forming pollution should not be waived. Money is the only thing that most of the companies responsible for polluting is concerned with, and these companies should be help liable for the offenses they commit. Only when the expense of fines reduce profits will the violators take necessary measures to limit, or eliminate if possible, releases.

Increased costs of medical care and other damage done by pollution, along with the effects on quality of life, is already paid by the citizens of this area. Continuing to add additional expenses to all citizens through increased fees and taxes without making those responsible for the problem(s) liable for their actions, or lack thereof, is unacceptable.

Kathe Boothby

From: TRRules
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 8:52 AM
To: Kathy Pendleton; Joyce Spencer-Nelson; Terry Salem
Subject: FW: 2009-009-101-AI

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 6:53 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 2009-009-101-AI

01/10/2013 06:52 AM

This email is a confirmation of the comment that was submitted for the referenced rulemaking.

First Name: Dirk
Last Name: Cook
Company/Organization: noneyabusiness
E-mail Address: [REDACTED]
Street Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]
State: [REDACTED]
Zip Code: [REDACTED]
Phone Number: [REDACTED]
Fax Number: [REDACTED]

Rule: 2009-009-101-AI

Comments:

These companies must stop skirting the rules and clean up the air that we breathe! Impose the fines against them! This is not a bad thing or bad economics! There are people working for pollution control companies - so there will still be jobs - if not more jobs!

Or if the power plants need a retro fit the companies performing this work will benefit! Bottom line money and jobs moving through the economy while we get cleaner air!

Kathe Boothby

From: TRRules
Sent: Friday, January 11, 2013 9:14 AM
To: Kathy Pendleton; Terry Salem; Joyce Spencer-Nelson
Subject: FW: 2009-009-101-AI

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 8:57 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 2009-009-101-AI

01/10/2013 08:57 PM

This email is a confirmation of the comment that was submitted for the referenced rulemaking.

First Name: Eliezer
Last Name: Erel
Company/Organization:
E-mail Address: [REDACTED]
Street Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]
State: T
Zip Code: [REDACTED]
Phone Number:
Fax Number:

Rule: 2009-009-101-AI

Comments:

There is no excuse for waiving the penalties relating to the failure of Houston's biggest sources of smog forming pollution for the failure to achieve federal clean air goals.

Kathe Boothby

From: TRRules
Sent: Friday, January 11, 2013 9:16 AM
To: Terry Salem; Kathy Pendleton; Joyce Spencer-Nelson
Subject: FW: 2009-009-101-AI

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 8:56 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 2009-009-101-AI

01/10/2013 08:55 PM

This email is a confirmation of the comment that was submitted for the referenced rulemaking.

First Name: Ruth
Last Name: Erel
Company/Organization:
E-mail Address: [REDACTED]
Street Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]
State: TX
Zip Code: [REDACTED]
Phone Number:
Fax Number:

Rule: 2009-009-101-AI

Comments:

There is no excuse for waiving the penalties relating to the failure of Houston's biggest sources of smog forming pollution for the failure to achieve federal clean air goals.

Kathe Boothby

From: TRRules
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 9:25 AM
To: Kathy Pendleton; Joyce Spencer-Nelson; Terry Salem
Subject: FW: 2009-009-101-AI

-----Original Message-----

From: Linda Foss [mailto:linda.foss@...]
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 9:01 AM
To: Linda Foss [mailto:linda.foss@...]
Subject: 2009-009-101-AI

01/10/2013 09:00 AM

This email is a confirmation of the comment that was submitted for the referenced rulemaking.

First Name: Linda
Last Name: Foss
Company/Organization:
E-mail Address: Linda.Foss@...
Street Address: ...
City: ...
State: ...
Zip Code: ...
Phone Number: ...
Fax Number:

Rule: 2009-009-101-AI

Comments:

They broke the rules, which are not strict enough. They need to pay the fines. Which are not high enough to be a deterrent. Obviously. Since the fines aren't deterring them.

Kathe Boothby

From: TRRules
Sent: Monday, January 14, 2013 8:49 AM
To: Joyce Spencer-Nelson; Kathy Pendleton; Terry Salem
Subject: FW: 2009-009-101-AI

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, January 13, 2013 11:32 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 2009-009-101-AI

01/13/2013 11:31 PM

This email is a confirmation of the comment that was submitted for the referenced rulemaking.

First Name: Mark
Last Name: Fryslic
Company/Organization:
E-mail Address: [REDACTED]
Street Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]
State: [REDACTED]
Zip Code: [REDACTED]
Phone Number:
Fax Number:

Rule: 2009-009-101-AI

Comments:

As a resident of Houston I am outraged that any company violating clean air standards affecting the air I breath be allowed to continue to do so. These companies need to upgrade their equipment to reduce these emissions or leave the area. Those who wish to continue employment in these dirty industries can move with them. Other efforts at reducing smog produced by vehicles already in effect is necessary also, but is no reason for industry polluters to be let off the hook. If you want to give breaks to polluters - do it where no one is there to breath it (West Texas?).

Kathe Boothby

From: TRRules
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 8:49 AM
To: Kathy Pendleton; Joyce Spencer-Nelson; Terry Salem
Subject: FW: 2009-009-101-AI

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 09, 2013 9:28 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 2009-009-101-AI

01/09/2013 09:28 PM

This email is a confirmation of the comment that was submitted for the referenced rulemaking.

First Name: michael
Last Name: gadbois
Company/Organization: n/a
E-mail Address: [REDACTED]
Street Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]
State: [REDACTED]
Zip Code: [REDACTED]
Phone Number: [REDACTED]
Fax Number:

Rule: 2009-009-101-AI

Comments:

Enforce the codes. Increase the fines by a factor of at least 10, perhaps by a factor of 100. The fines are nothing but a small, small drop in the bucket for these industrial giants.

Alternate method: offer multiple millions and bragging rights for 5 years to the first one who meets or exceeds the code requirements.

The EPA needs the teeth that the NRC has.

Kathe Boothby

From: TRRules
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 8:46 AM
To: Kathy Pendleton; Joyce Spencer-Nelson; Terry Salem
Subject: FW: 2009-009-101-AI

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 09, 2013 8:45 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 2009-009-101-AI

01/09/2013 08:45 PM

This email is a confirmation of the comment that was submitted for the referenced rulemaking.

First Name: Patrick
Last Name: Kingsbury
Company/Organization:
E-mail Address: [REDACTED]
Street Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]
State: [REDACTED]
Zip Code: [REDACTED]
Phone Number:
Fax Number:

Rule: 2009-009-101-AI

Comments:

Commenting in favor of the TCEQ plan because I believe the EPA's rules are excessively restrictive, arbitrary, and politically motivated. The cost of these fines are only passed on to consumers who ultimately have to pay for all the excesses and pettiness of federal bureaucratic meddling.

Kathe Boothby

From: TRRules
Sent: Monday, January 14, 2013 8:48 AM
To: Joyce Spencer-Nelson; Kathy Pendleton; Terry Salem
Subject: FW: 2009-009-101-AI

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, January 13, 2013 9:34 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 2009-009-101-AI

01/13/2013 09:33 PM

This email is a confirmation of the comment that was submitted for the referenced rulemaking.

First Name: Karen
Last Name: Kleypas
Company/Organization:
E-mail Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]
State: [REDACTED]
Zip Code: [REDACTED]
Phone Number:
Fax Number:

Rule: 2009-009-101-AI

Comments:

Industries SHOULD pay penalties for noncompliance of pollutions laws. Isn't that the point?

Residents pay vehicle inspections fees and sales taxes among other sources for other purposes - not so businesses can pollute without penalties.

AND Residents pay medical bills from pollution-related causes - which is why there are laws.

Enough of Residents paying bills and losing health for businesses. My illness has been attributed to pollution. By the looks of your suggestions - I guess I need to move out of Harris County and Houston.

From: TRRules
To: Kathy Pendleton; Joyce Spencer-Nelson; Terry Salem
Subject: FW: 2009-009-101-AI
Date: Monday, January 14, 2013 10:59:21 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, January 14, 2013 10:52 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 2009-009-101-AI

01/14/2013 10:51 AM

This email is a confirmation of the comment that was submitted for the referenced rulemaking.

First Name: Kenneth
Last Name: Kleypas
Company/Organization:
E-mail Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]
State: [REDACTED]
Zip Code: 57048
Phone Number:
Fax Number:

Rule: 2009-009-101-AI

Comments:

Why should the working, tax paying individual be burdened with paying for cleaning up after corporations that chose to pollute?
Not only do I think they should pay the fines, they should also reimburse all money collected from individuals to clean up their mess.
If they continue to pollute, a mandatory fund should be set up by them to pay medical related issues incurred by the effected area.
If a person lies, steals, cheats, should we make them responsible or just charge others with hidden fees to compensate?

Should I go on?

Kathe Boothby

From: TRRules
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 8:53 AM
To: Kathy Pendleton; Joyce Spencer-Nelson; Terry Salem
Subject: FW: 2009-009-101-AI

This is the last one for now.

-----Original Message-----

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 7:03 AM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: 2009-009-101-AI

01/10/2013 07:02 AM

This email is a confirmation of the comment that was submitted for the referenced rulemaking.

First Name: Holly
Last Name: McDonald
Company/Organization:
E-mail Address: [Redacted]
Street Address: 401 1/2 J. J. Falls
City: [Redacted]
State: [Redacted]
Zip Code: 70277
Phone Number:
Fax Number:

Rule: 2009-009-101-AI

Comments:

Please uphold the fines. This is ultimately an issue of health for our community. I want my children to be able to play outside and enjoy nature. There are too many days with ozone watches and they are not allowed to go out. Please help me give them a healthy childhood.

Kathe Boothby

From: TRRules
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 8:51 AM
To: Kathy Pendleton; Joyce Spencer-Nelson; Terry Salem
Subject: FW: 2009-009-101-AI

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 09, 2013 9:33 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 2009-009-101-AI

01/09/2013 09:33 PM

This email is a confirmation of the comment that was submitted for the referenced rulemaking.

First Name: Sterling
Last Name: Minor
Company/Organization: [REDACTED]
E-mail Address: [REDACTED] Street Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]
State: [REDACTED]
Zip Code: [REDACTED]
Phone Number: [REDACTED]
Fax Number:

Rule: 2009-009-101-AI

Comments:

The target was set 25 years ago. Has the science not been there to accomplish the goal, or is it a matter of spending insufficient funds or waiting too late? Change the law if the science is not there. Otherwise, there is no excuse to have the rest of us cover the cost (which we do, through healthcare costs and other expenses).

Kathe Boothby

From: TRRules
Sent: Friday, January 11, 2013 9:03 AM
To: Kathy Pendleton; Joyce Spencer-Nelson; Terry Salem
Subject: FW: 2009-009-101-AI

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 9:57 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 2009-009-101-AI

01/10/2013 09:56 PM

This email is a confirmation of the comment that was submitted for the referenced rulemaking.

First Name: Robert
Last Name: Noblitt
Company/Organization:
E-mail Address: [REDACTED] St
City: [REDACTED]
State: [REDACTED]
Zip Code: [REDACTED]
Phone Number:
Fax Number:

Rule: 2009-009-101-AI

Comments:

I am opposed to allowing pollution fines to be waived. TCEQ should be on the side of citizens whose health is affected by polluters in the Houston area. Instead, TCEQ often sides with industrial polluters.

Kathe Boothby

From: TRRules
Sent: Monday, January 14, 2013 8:45 AM
To: Kathy Pendleton; Joyce Spencer-Nelson; Terry Salem
Subject: FW: 2009-009-101-AI

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Sunday, January 13, 2013 7:39 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 2009-009-101-AI

01/13/2013 07:38 PM

This email is a confirmation of the comment that was submitted for the referenced rulemaking.

First Name: Lisa
Last Name: Penney
Company/Organization:
E-mail Address: [REDACTED]
Street Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]
State: [REDACTED]
Zip Code: [REDACTED]
Phone Number:
Fax Number:

Rule: 2009-009-101-AI

Comments:

Esteemed members of the TCEQ:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my input on your agency's proposed rule 2009-0090101-AI: Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee. When I first heard about this proposed rule, I was shocked and horribly dismayed. It is my understanding that this rule will ask the EPA to waive fines levied against companies that are the worst sources of smog-forming pollution because of the existence of other sources of anti-smog funding (e.g., vehicle inspection fees, etc.). As both a citizen who suffers from asthma and as a behavioral scientist - I have a Ph.D. in Industrial/Organizational Psychology - I must vehemently protest this rule and ask that you NOT protect the creators of some of the worst air in the entire country, but instead please protect the citizens of the greater Houston area whose health and well-being are literally put at risk every single day by the pollutants that are placed into our air.

I ask you to reconsider this rule because contrary to your mission statement, this rule is based on neither good science nor common sense. As a tenured professor, I teach undergraduates about effective strategies to manage the performance of others. One of the oldest and most robust theories of motivation is the theory of reinforcement developed by B. F. Skinner. Among other things, this theory and decades of empirical research tell us that behavior

(such as that of companies who allow illegal levels of smog-forming chemicals to be expelled into our air) will extinguish if it is followed by a punishment (e.g., fines levied by the EPA and other environmental regulators), but behavior will continue if it is followed by a reward (i.e., having their fines waived by the TCEQ). Put another way, the big polluters not only have no incentive to change their smog-producing ways, but they have every incentive to maintain the status quo and do nothing to protect our air and the health of our citizens.

Now, some may argue that the fines would pose a hardship to companies who may need those funds to retool their facilities to bring them into compliance with environmental laws. However, I submit to you that waiving the fees that these companies earned through their own action or neglect will only serve to create the expectation that they are unlikely to face financial penalties for their smog-producing ways in the future and therefore create little incentive for them to take action to comply with environmental laws any time soon. But, by allowing these companies to incur the financial penalties that their actions earned, these companies are more likely to innovate in order to find ways to bring their facilities into compliance so that they may avoid future penalties.

The argument that the fines for polluters should be waived because the state of Texas is already raising funds to fight smog also makes no sense. It is like saying that the madmen who shot and murdered innocent men, women, and children in Aurora, CO and Newtown, CT should be set free because of existing gun control laws. It is a good and honorable thing that the state of Texas is raising money to fight air pollution, but the existence of those funds and programs does not absolve the violators of air quality standards of their responsibility for the pollution that have already produced.

I currently live in Pasadena, TX in an area that is very close to major petrochemical plants. I moved to the Houston area over 8 years ago from central Florida. I have a history of childhood asthma, but before I came to the Houston area, I had very few breathing issues as an adult. However, shortly after I moved to Houston, I began experiencing mild asthma symptoms on a daily basis, as well as more severe asthma symptoms during certain times of the year and particularly on days when air quality warnings are issued. I found myself requiring a "rescue" inhaler (i.e., albuterol) more and more frequently, and when I moved from central Houston to Pasadena 2 years ago, my symptoms got much worse. My physician now has me taking a daily maintenance inhaler in order to reduce the frequency and severity of my breathing issues. Moreover, after moving to Pasadena I also developed singular premature ventricular contractions. After a litany of tests, my cardiologist could find no reasonable cause for this irregular heart rhythm. However, new research suggests that smog and other particulate matter in the air is associated with heart rhythm irregularities. There is absolutely no doubt in my mind that both my asthma and heart symptoms are a direct result of the abysmal air quality in Pasadena.

The presence of smog in our area also damages the quality of life of everyone in our area. Not only does smog change the color of our air and ambient light (from Houston, the moon does not appear gray, but dingy yellow), but it also smells horrible. While I have enjoyed outdoor activities in the past, I have spent less time enjoying walks, biking, or even gardening since moving to Pasadena not only because of the health threat that air pollution poses for me, but also because it literally stinks. The industrial plants in my area produce horribly noxious odors that have on many occasions driven me back in my home, held prisoner to the stench outside.

In sum, the issue of air quality is very personal for me, as I am sure it is for many people in the greater Houston area. The poor air quality in our area adversely affects our health and quality of life. Contrary to your mission, the rule you propose makes little sense, is not based on good behavioral science, and thus will do little to ensure clean air or protect our citizenry. Therefore, I strongly urge you to reconsider this rule.

Kathe Boothby

From: TRRules
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 8:49 AM
To: Kathy Pendleton; Joyce Spencer-Nelson; Terry Salem
Subject: FW: 2009-009-101-AI

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 09, 2013 9:07 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 2009-009-101-AI

01/09/2013 09:06 PM

This email is a confirmation of the comment that was submitted for the referenced rulemaking.

First Name: Matthew
Last Name: Raper
Company/Organization:
E-mail Address: [REDACTED]
Street Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]
State: TX
Zip Code: [REDACTED]
Phone Number:
Fax Number:

Rule: 2009-009-101-AI

Comments:

As a meteorology graduate student at Texas A&M, I've had the opportunity to take a look at the causes and effects of (and debate about) air pollution, and there's little to no argument among scientists that human activities contribute to the poor air quality that areas of Texas endure. As a longtime Houston resident before going back to school, I (and millions of other Houstonians) have been in the city during pollution events that made it hard for me to breathe, and have reportedly sickened many others who live closer to pollution sources than I have. The companies and industries who allow the pollution events to occur and continually try to avoid penalties for it should be held strictly accountable for their actions.

Part of being held accountable for one's actions is enduring reasonable punishment for not meeting publicly stated goals. My understanding of this plan is that it would allow companies and possibly whole industries to avoid penalties for not meeting federal clean-air goals. This would become a disincentive to companies and industries to continue pursuing these goals, since there would be no punishment for failing to achieve them. Ultimately, this would lead to little to no attempts to improve air quality, and further damage to Texas' environment and to local residents' health, as well as a growing disregard for local and federal government guidelines.

Thus, I'm against approval of this plan as is, and believe it should either be shelved or altered to include reasonable penalties for polluting companies and industries when the state doesn't meet federal clean-air goals. Since they do business in Texas, they should do their part to improve the state's air quality; should they fail to do so, they should rightly be penalized for it.

Kathe Boothby

From: TRRules
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 10:48 AM
To: Kathy Pendleton; Joyce Spencer-Nelson; Terry Salem
Subject: FW: 2009-009-101-AI

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 10:37 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 2009-009-101-AI

01/10/2013 10:37 AM

This email is a confirmation of the comment that was submitted for the referenced rulemaking.

First Name: Mary
Last Name: Rivera
Company/Organization:
E-mail Address: [REDACTED]
Street Address: 7 [REDACTED] Bradford
City: [REDACTED]
State: [REDACTED]
Zip Code: [REDACTED]
Phone Number: [REDACTED]
Fax Number:

Rule: 2009-009-101-AI

Comments:

I favor that the biggest air polluters pay the fines due them. It is time they pay for "their share" of the hazardous air we have to breathe in day in and day out.

Kathe Boothby

From: TRRules
Sent: Friday, January 11, 2013 9:11 AM
To: Kathy Pendleton; Joyce Spencer-Nelson; Terry Salem
Subject: FW: 2009-009-101-AI

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 9:02 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 2009-009-101-AI

01/10/2013 09:02 PM

This email is a confirmation of the comment that was submitted for the referenced rulemaking.

First Name: William T.
Last Name: Smith
Company/Organization:
E-mail Address: [REDACTED]
Street Address: 1941 Cypress Creek Dr
City: [REDACTED]
State: [REDACTED]
Zip Code: [REDACTED]
Phone Number: [REDACTED]
Fax Number:

Rule: 2009-009-101-AI

Comments:

According to the Houston Chronicle, January 10, 2013, we can comment on the TCEDQ's proposal to waive fines for failure to achieve EPA pollution goals. The environmental crisis is the primary crisis facing Texas and the planet. The deficit, the economy, whatever, is not going to matter a hill of beans if we lose the battle to save the environment. God is not going to accept greed and stupidity as valid excuses. Either we immediately reverse our environmental assault or God will deal with it. Without any doubt, Homo sapiens will not survive the deal.

Kathe Boothby

From: TRRules
Sent: Monday, January 14, 2013 3:37 PM
To: Kathy Pendleton; Joyce Spencer-Nelson; Terry Salem
Subject: FW: 2009-009-101-AI

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, January 14, 2013 3:35 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 2009-009-101-AI

01/14/2013 03:35 PM

This email is a confirmation of the comment that was submitted for the referenced rulemaking.

First Name: Lisa
Last Name: Swerlik
Company/Organization:
E-mail Address: [REDACTED]
Street Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]
State: [REDACTED]
Zip Code: [REDACTED]
Phone Number:
Fax Number:

Rule: 2009-009-101-AI

Comments:

Industries SHOULD pay penalties for noncompliance of pollutions laws. TCEQ - Do your job.

Residents pay vehicle inspections fees and sales taxes among other sources for other purposes - not so businesses can pollute without penalties. If you have extra money - lower our taxes!!!!!!

AND Residents pay medical bills from pollution-related causes - which is why there are laws and penalties.

Enough of Residents paying bills and losing their health for businesses.

Kathe Boothby

From: TRRules
Sent: Monday, January 14, 2013 9:37 AM
To: Kathy Pendleton; Joyce Spencer-Nelson; Terry Salem
Subject: FW: 2009-009-101-AI

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, January 14, 2013 9:33 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 2009-009-101-AI

01/14/2013 09:32 AM

This email is a confirmation of the comment that was submitted for the referenced rulemaking.

First Name: John
Last Name: Turala
Company/Organization:
E-mail Address: [REDACTED]
Street Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]
State: [REDACTED]
Zip Code: [REDACTED]
Phone Number:
Fax Number:

Rule: 2009-009-101-AI

Comments:

I disagree with the TCEQ plan to replace the penalty fees levied on polluters due to failure to achieve clean air goals mandated by the Fed. gov't.

1. the energy industries are stockpiling enormous profits due to the recent energy boom and energy prices.
2. the fed. regulations are not new, they have been enacted for years. Industry has been avoiding compliance with the co-operation of the state regulating agency.
3. I object to the state using citizen vehicle inspection fees to pay industry penalties. Use any vehicle inspection fee surplus to fund education.

I have worked in the Houston energy field for forty years. I do not think the energy industry should be allowed to pollute without a penalty. Thank you

Kathe Boothby

From: TRRules
Sent: Friday, January 11, 2013 9:05 AM
To: Kathy Pendleton; Joyce Spencer-Nelson; Terry Salem
Subject: FW: 2009-009-101-AI

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2013 9:40 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 2009-009-101-AI

01/10/2013 09:40 PM

This email is a confirmation of the comment that was submitted for the referenced rulemaking.

First Name: Mickey
Last Name: York
Company/Organization:
E-mail Address: mickeyyork19@gmail.com
Street Address: 425 [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]
State: [REDACTED]
Zip Code: [REDACTED]
Phone Number:
Fax Number:

Rule: 2009-009-101-AI

Comments:

Sources of smog forming pollution MUST NOT be allowed to avoid penalties. We must achieve clean air goals for the eight county Houston region.

Laura Jobe
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

EVERYONE deserves clean air.

Sincerely,
Laura Jobe

Harold Albers
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

What is it about global warming that you do not understand? This money should be put into wind generated energy to reduce dependency on petroleum based fuel.

Sincerely,
Harold Albers

Stanley Almoney

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

I do not support TCEQ's plan to allow Texas refiners and chemical plants to benefit from not paying their just penalties for polluting HOuston's air. By waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties you are facilitating these companies in their efforts to gain extra profit while poisoning our air. It is time tha Texas stops subsidizing the polluters in the name of free enterprise.

Sincerely,
Stanley Almoney

Bo Baggs
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

I work in the Oil industry. It is crucially important that these rules be enforced, and be enforced uniformly, on all enterprises who violate them.

Sincerely,
Bo Baggs

Angela Bagnasco
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 7, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: I care about Texas air quality

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

My name is Angela Bagnasco. I am from Waco. As a Texas resident who suffers from asthma, I know firsthand the result of relaxed air quality standards. It is a terrifying situation to not be able to breathe. I do not think anyone in this great state should have to suffer health problems such as asthma and mercury poisoning. Currently these ills have a direct correlation to oil refineries and coal plants in our state. Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

TCEQ's purpose is to protect Texas citizens. Please prioritize our health in this matter.

Sincerely,
Angela Bagnasco

Cynthia Baker

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Hold the polluters responsible and fine them for this travesty. Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

You are responsible to the people and our future.

Sincerely,
Cynthia Baker

Shirley Ballard
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

So the taxpayers get to pay for their greed and insensibility? That just doesn't make sense.

Sincerely,
Shirley Ballard

John Barnes
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

What are you thinking? You cannot reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Sincerely,
John Barnes

Elizabeth Booth
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Booth

Beth Bowling
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

We need clean air to give us a healthy environment.

Sincerely,
Beth Bowling

Amy Bradfield
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 9, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. Rewarding bad behavior doesn't work in child-rearing or in controlling pollution from big industry polluters!!

Sincerely,
Amy Bradfield

Cindy Brittain

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

MORE THAN EVER WE NEED OUR CLEAN AIR....thank you.

Sincerely,
Cindy Brittain

Karl Buesing

Dec 6, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Please do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

These clean air standards must be met to help ensure clean, healthy air for our Texas citizens to breath. If companies don't meet the standards, they must pay the penalties.

Sincerely,
Karl Buesing

Tracy Callow

10700 Woodway
Houston, Texas 77056-0004
713-791-1109

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

More than 200 petrochemical plants in the Houston area must be punished for not meeting federal clean air standards. Our environment and children's future demand that justice be served now, as this is the only way to exact change.

Sincerely,
Tracy Callow

David Campbell
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. As an old lawyer friend used to say "Law without enforcement is merely advice". If the TCEQ is not going to enforce environmental standards what is the point of its existence? Knuckling under to the big polluters makes you look weak at best, and corrupt at worst.

Sincerely,
David Campbell

Brigitte Catchpole

Dec 6, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Just do the right thing by holding polluters responsible, so we the people, that includes you too, can breath clean air.

Sincerely,
Brigitte Catchpole

Mary Cato

Dec 6, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

It is unbelievable that Texas refuses federal funds to expand & improve health care for Texans, & continually cuts funding for education, while allowing the continuation of dirty industrial practices without penalties.

Sincerely,
Mary Cato

Rita Clarke
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

You are betraying your role as a Public Trust. Texas families are depending on you to use our resources and finances wisely, and to keep our air quality healthy. Is that what you're doing when you let giant, wealthy corporations off the hook?

Sincerely,
Rita Clarke

Tina Collins

4

Dec 6, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

I am sick and tired of big corporations being rewarded for their bad behaviors. Penalties are penalties and the guilty must be punished.

Down with tax breaks, down with allowing big money to hide their profits in other countries to avoid taxes owed to our Nation.

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Sincerely,
Tina Collins

Dave Cortez
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 7, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Asthma is a serious health concern from my cousins and friends in the Houston area. High levels of ozone make it extremely difficult for them to breathe on hot, polluted days.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Sincerely,
Dave Cortez

Linda Cox
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

We have got to do better at cleaning our air. The air around our major cities has turned BROWN.

Sincerely,
Linda Cox

Joanne Day
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 7, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

We have to live here in Texas, Please make it a healthy Texas where we can breathe easier.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Sincerely,
Joanne Day

Sallie Delahoussaye
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 7, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

This air pollution is sickening and killing people and wildlife every day!

Sincerely,
Sallie Delahoussaye

Lessye DeMoss
1600 Westmorefield Rd.
Houston, TX 77033-3326
(510) 251-9719

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Those who are reaping enormous profits through the sale of environmentally destructive products must at least be required to meet legal standards that exist to protect public health. If they can't afford to do that, then perhaps they should not be in business.

Sincerely,
Lessye DeMoss

Rainbow Di Benedetto
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. If penalties are waived, why should they bother to comply with the law? We're the ones who pay the price, with health consequences to ourselves and our children. Please do the right thing for Texas and make the polluters pay what they owe us.

Sincerely,
Rainbow Di Benedetto

Martha Eberle
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. Rewarding bad behavior is something parents learn not to do with their children, and no less should be done to adults, polluting our lungs. As someone in charge, rethink!

Sincerely,
Martha Eberle

Sophia Edwards
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Texas air gets progressively worse while TCEQ does nothing. If they are going to pollute the air for our children they can at least help pay for state expenditures.

Sincerely,
Sophia Edwards

Dale Ermi

Dec 6, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. Non regulation does not hurt jobs, it only hurts people and families.

Sincerely,
Dale Ermi

Betty Ferrero
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Rewards are for good deeds--NOT BAD OR HARMFUL.

Sincerely,
Betty Ferrero

Fortune Flores
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. These big noises have made enough out of the ordinary working person. They should be forced to clean up their act and stop polluting the air. I mean you guys have to live on this planet too you know and so do your descendants..what about them ? Is money all you ever think about, cause if you bring me some green paint and some newspaper, I'll paint you all the money you want, cause it's only ink on paper. Haven't you learned that yet? Well wake up before you destroy the planet dingaling and then what. Let them be damned I'm going to Mars with the wife and kids. Is that it, I mean is that really all it boils down to? Boy y'all are shallow. Go talk to the devil cause you are sending our planet to hell with your corrupt and degenerate lust for money. Don't you think you'll ever have enough? bye psycho money-macho. Have it all and good riddance.

Sincerely,
Fortune Flores

Chris Frandsen
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not let short term economic concerns overcome your responsibility for the health and welfare of current and future generations! Health and welfare issues are why your position exists. Managing economic concerns is not the mission of the TCEQ!

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Sincerely,
Chris Frandsen

Charlene Gagon
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 7, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

No corporation has a right to pollute the air that everyone breathes and get away with it without penalty.

Please do your job, which is to protect Texas residents.

Sincerely,
Charlene Gagon

Gayle Goff
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward bad behavior!

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Sincerely,
Gayle Goff

John Granahan
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 9, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Dear Sirs,

This is to inform you that I oppose the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's proposed plan to waive penalties on chemical plants and refineries in the Houston area for failing to meet EPA standards. I understand that fees are already collected on from motorists and equipment users and I do not oppose this. It is appropriate for individual users to pay a fair share of the burden for their contribution to the smog problem. The refineries and chemical plants, however, must pay their fair share for the cost of eliminating the pollutants they add to the atmosphere. If the TCEQ waives penalties against these industrial polluters, it will have failed in its obligation to help achieve reasonably healthy air quality for the people of Texas. Please do not let this happen.

Sincerely,
John Granahan

Richard Gray
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. Texas' reputation for flying in the face of science regarding the effects on our state and planet of such corporations' behavior is criminal.

Sincerely,
Richard Gray

Robin Greene
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. May them pay up now!!!

Sincerely,
Robin Greene

Kathleen Gresham
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

We in Houston suffer from air pollution. We pay for it with illness and lost productivity. Polluters should NOT have their fines waived. It is just plain wrong, and it removes any small incentive they might have to change their ways.

Sincerely,
Kathleen Gresham

Emily Gross
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

I'm sick and tired of breathing polluted air in Houston!

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Sincerely,
Emily Gross

Barbara Grove
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Tens of Millions of dollars?? Think what that could mean to funding of public education in Texas!!!

Shame on TCEQ for failing to fine these polluters, but also for passing up the money that could benefit the Texas coffers,

Sincerely,
Barbara Grove

Eulaine Hall

Dec 6, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. Texas really isn't big enough to allow for such disdain for our land.

Sincerely,
Eulaine Hall

Linda Hanratty
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. My grandchildren live in the Houston area so this issue is personal.

Sincerely,
Linda Hanratty

Yvonne Hansen
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Do your job! The level of health of thousands of people depend on the choices TCEQ makes.

Sincerely,
Yvonne Hansen

Sarah Hays

Dec 6, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

As a Texan, I value our air and water and land.

As a driver and someone who lives in a climate requiring heat and air conditioning in my home, depending on the season, I also understand the value of our oil and gas industries.

As a parent, I know the value of not rewarding bad behavior.

Giving in to the demands of industry when what's at stake is air and water and land makes no sense. Not meeting air quality standards puts harmful chemicals into the air we, and our children, breathe; these chemical residues also affect our water and our land through the rain cycle and settlement of particles out of the atmosphere. Yet we in Texas seem determined to overlook our future to please those who are trying to destroy it. You can stop this, here and now; please take the necessary steps to enforce the environmental regulations!

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. Don't give these scofflaws a handout -- and don't further the state and nation's financial woes by letting these penalties go uncollected!

Sincerely,
Sarah Hays

Kathy Henderson

Dec 6, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. What are the standards for if we don't live up to them?

Sincerely,
Kathy Henderson

Cheryl L. Hillman

Dec 6, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Any entity that threatens our health and contributes to global warming should not be encouraged to continue doing so!

Sincerely,
Cheryl L. Hillman

Christopher Hsu
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Regardless of where the EPA and regulatory commissions get their funds, these fees from oil companies remain because they essentially committed a crime. I doubt most enforcement agencies would simply "waive penalties" for such a poorly justified reason. If you committed a crime, you committed a crime. Leave the rest up to legal battles, not bureaucratic bickering.

Sincerely,
Christopher Hsu

Zane Hughes
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 7, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

I have to pay fines when I make mistakes, let my stickers lapse, park in the wrong spot, break the law... why should these folks get away with what they are doing, especially when it is blatantly intentional? Why is there a double standard that protects the folks who are doing the most harm and making the most money? They can afford to pay! Make them pay and maybe they will learn! Spare the rod and you will spoil that child! (I do not support child abuse.)

Sincerely,
Zane Hughes

Heather Hunziker
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

My family is personally affected by this issue--my husband's weak lungs are overly affected by smog. Please help him stay healthy by reducing these harmful emissions as much as federal standards require. When refineries' fines are waived, they see that as a green light to do the same thing again. Don't give them that signal! Make them pay their fines, just like the rest of us have to do when we violate the rules!

Sincerely,
Heather Hunziker

Jan Isbell
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

TCEQ is a misleading name for your org. Shouldn't it be Texas Commission for Facilitating Polluters?

Sincerely,
Jan Isbell

Bridget Jensen

Dec 6, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

The cost of pollution to people's health does not change so why should the cost to the oil refineries and chemical plants?

Sincerely,
Bridget Jensen

Andrew Kemper
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

HELLO ~

OUR INEVITABLE TRANSITION AWAY FROM FOSSIL FUEL RELIANCE "IS VERY DIFFICULT"CHANGING BASIC TECHNOLOGIES IS INHERENTLY AKIN TO SWIMMING UP STREAM AGAINST THE CURRENT. SO, PLEASE ALLOW CONSEQUENCES TO MANIFEST THEIR VALUABLE INFLUENCES....

WHAT OTHER MOTIVATION IS THERE FOR WE HUMANS TO CHANGE.....?

CONSEQUENCES ARE TRUE MOTIVATORS; THE TRUE AND CLARIFYING VALUES OF OUR LIVES COME UP FOR REVIEW DURING SUCH MAJOR CHANGES AS THOSE WE FACE NOW.

IF WE TAKE AWAY THE NEGATIVE REPERCUSSIONS THAT ARE AN INHERENT PART OF BAD BEHAVIOR WE NO LONGER SPONSOR THE BEST IN OURSELVES...!

A DRIVING & FORCEFUL REASON TO WORK CAN BE A GEM IN LIFE. WHAT DRIVE AND FORCE WILL YOU SPONSOR FOR THE OIL INDUSTRY?

WHAT TECHNIQUES SEEM WISE TO DEAL WITH THAT UNUSUALLY IMMENSE GUN POINTED AT OUR CIVILIZATION, NOW THAT THE OIL INDUSTRY "CONTINUES" TO DEFILE OUR ENVIRONMENT WHILE KNOWING OF ITS CONSEQUENCES?

ALL OF US HAVE A TOUGH ROW TO HOE AHEAD, AND I WISH US ALL GOOD THINGS DURING OUR ADAPTATION TO THIS BIG CHANGE IN TECHNOLOGY. AND I WISH YOU WELL IN THESE CHALLENGES THAT GRIP YOUR COMMISSION. TRULY, I WISH YOU WELL. I INCLUDE MY PHONE NUMBER, AND AN INVITATION TO CONNECT, PERSONALLY... [REDACTED]

PLEASE REMEMBER ABOUT OUR SPECIES:

WE ARE AS CAPABLE OF THE WORST OF ACTS JUST AS WE ARE OF THE MOST MARVELOUS OF ACTS. WITH A GUN TO MY FAMILY'S HEAD I WOULD WORK HARDER THAN EVER TO SAVE THEM.

WITHOUT A GUN TO THEIR HEADS WHY DO ANYTHING? "WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL!"

I ASK YOU TO REINFORCE THOSE VALUABLE "CAUSE AND EFFECT" ACTIVATORS....PLEASE HELP

OUR BIGGER PICTURE; OUR FUTURE.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Sincerely,
Andrew Kemper

Theresa Knapp

Dec 6, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

I live in Pennsylvania, but the quality of the air I breathe is affected by conditions world-wide.

Sincerely,
Theresa Knapp

Felicia Kongable
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

You work for all Texas citizens, for our health and safety as well as the health and safety of the environment around us. Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. Prove that you are not in the pocket of industry.

Sincerely,
Felicia Kongable

Dorothy Kraemer

Dec 6, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Please take action that will lessen the pollution that is dangerous for Texans, Americans, and the world and do not waive millions of dollars in penalties for more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area for failing to meet federal clean air standards. Do not reward pollution. We cannot afford it.

Sincerely,
Dorothy Kraemer

Peggy La Point

1009 High School Drive
Houston, TX 77055

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

I strongly urge you not to waive penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. The 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area must be held accountable for the massive amounts of pollution they are producing.

Sincerely,
Peggy La Point

Pat Lambert
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

I seem to recall that a few years ago the Commission made an effort to evaluate their fines and penalties to determine if they were actually discouraging polluters rather than letting them get off easy and just pay to pollute. This seems to be just such a case.

Sincerely,
Pat Lambert

Susan Lefler
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

It is their behavior that earned them the penalties. If you waive them, they will do it again - and again - and again.

Also, they have plenty of money!

Sincerely,
Susan Lefler

Pamela Leighton-Burwell
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. The staggering health care costs as a direct result of air pollution are ruining our workers lives and productivity. Make the polluters pay for their intentional poor adherence to Federal clean air standards.

Sincerely,
Pamela Leighton-Burwell

Cindy Leyendecker

Dec 6, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Do the RIGHT thing for the inhabitants of this planet! Protect the air we all breathe.

Sincerely,
Cindy Leyendecker

Lis Libengood
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

In fact, I was appalled that you'd even consider it. People's health should come before profits!

Sincerely,
Lis Libengood

Ben Liles, Ph. D.

11116 E. Foothills Springs Cir
Greenville, SC 29615-1064

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. Waiving those penalties will just encourage bad behavior and more pollution.

Sincerely,
Ben Liles, Ph. D.

Craig Linder

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

They knew the rules when they violated them, so they need to pay for their choice. Period.

Sincerely,
Craig Linder

Joby McClendon
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Parents teach their kids the general rule: "If you mess it up, you clean it up."

This rule can't work for industrial mess, however, because it goes into our air, our water, our land, and can't be cleaned up. For these polluters, the rule needs to be "Don't make a mess".

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Sincerely,
Joby McClendon

Marc McCord
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

As the state environmental protection agency it is the duty of TCEQ to enforce laws written to protect the health and safety of citizens. It is not an option - it is your DUTY to citizens. It is your ONLY reason for being!

I demand that you immediately cease the insanity of considering waiving penalties for environmental pollution and enforce the law. I demand that you collect every penny that is due to the citizens of Texas for the damages done by the oil and gas industry in the Houston area as you are required by law to do.

It is not your choice as to whether or not to enforce the law and collect fines. It is a requirement on behalf of citizens. If you do not understand that fact, or if you refuse to do your duty, then it is time for you to vacate your offices on the staff of TCEQ and be replaced by those who do understand the law and who will enforce it.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Sincerely,
Marc McCord

Kay McMurry
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 10, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

These refineries and chemical plants produce a significant amount of air pollution. They have had time to reduce their emissions and have not lowered them to the air standards. Now they need to pay the penalties. As a taxpayer and citizen, I have to pay any penalties I incur for not following the law. Why aren't the refineries and chemical plants? Their actions have a huge effect on air quality and quality of life for the people living near them, as well as the larger U.S. It's time to stand up to them and enforce the law.

Sincerely,
Kay McMurry

Tyler Miloy
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Your function is simple. Complete it and do right by the citizens of Texas. The agency should be a line of defense for our environment, not a political rubber stamping green lighter for these global corporations. Lets get our priorities straight in Texas

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Sincerely,
Tyler Miloy

Roy Morey
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Their pollution costs me and every American -- it should cost them!

Sincerely,
Roy Morey

Craig Nazor
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. Air pollution KILLS. When the TCEQ weighs financial loss against human life and human suffering, what dollar value do you assign to human life and human suffering? If you can't answer that question, you have NO BUSINESS letting corporations off the hook for polluting the air that we ALL have to breathe to live.

I support the Clean Air Act. I support the EPA. I don't believe that corporations should be able to make private profit while shortening the lives and ruining the health of the American citizens who just happen to be in the way of their waste streams. NO AMOUNT of "jobs" are worth such a pact with the devil.

Please protect the health of American PEOPLE over profits for private corporations. If you make a dangerous mess, YOU HAVE TO PAY TO CLEAN IT UP!

Sincerely,
Craig Nazor

Rael Nidess, M.D.
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Spare the rod, spoil the child!

Sincerely,
Rael Nidess, M.D.

Jennifer Peal
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Dear Ms. Horn

Thank you for the work you and your department do every day to protect the health of Texans and those in our neighbor states.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Peal

Hope Phillips
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

When will TCEQ step up and do its job to protect our air and water from polluters? Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Sincerely,
Hope Phillips

Barbara Railey
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 7, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

PLEASE!!! Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Sincerely,
Barbara Railey

Sharyn Reynolds
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

It is not fair for the public to pay for the failures of these companies. Please do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Sincerely,
Sharyn Reynolds

Elizabeth Riebschlaeger

Dec 6, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

In these times of frantic and furious activities to harvest the "black gold" of the Eagle Ford, Barnett and other shale areas of Texas, we need to make even stronger efforts to protect our environment for the Common Good.

State and national health costs hinge on requiring accountability and "clean" behavior from the oil and gas industries and their related contractors. Therefore, the TCEQ has an even greater moral and ethical responsibility to serve as the protector of Texan's health and that of the nation, since pollution and its harmful effects know no state boundaries.

It makes no sense, in fact, borders on criminal neglect and conspiracy for the TCEQ to abandon its responsibilities with regard to enforcement and penalties for those producers and contractors who show contempt for the law, or carelessness and irresponsibility in their operations in the rush to get ahead of competitors and of pending tighter regulations. If they are not penalized appropriately for current violations, how can we expect them to respect either the new laws and regulations, or the TCEQ itself. TCEQ will be perceived by the industry and by citizens as a mere lapdog for those showing contempt for regulatory actions.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. This is certainly crass abandonment of your responsibility. As a Texan and American citizen, I think we all have a right to expect much more from the TCEQ.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Riebschlaeger

Kevin Riley
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 8, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

My name is Kevin Riley, I live in Austin and am very concerned about rising oil and chemical plant pollution in Texas. This has got to stop.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Sincerely,
Kevin Riley

Sandra Rogers

Dec 6, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Unbelievable. I along with my students and friends will be watching. It is so difficult to pass on solid moral values as parents and teachers when the powers that be continue to undermine us. Please do the right thing. The only thing. Do not reward those who scoff at harming our planet for an extra buck.

Sincerely,
Sandra Rogers

Michael Ronsonette
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. I live on the east side of Houston where these plants are mainly concentrated. Do not think that I can easily forget about the pollution that I see going on every day when I drive home from my job in the Medical Center. Make them pay to clean up their mess. The chemical plants in Harris County are the worst neighbors that I have had to put up with in my entire life.

Sincerely,
Michael Ronsonette

Mary Sue Rose
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

We MUST act to do all that we can to protect our environment! Please do NOT reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Sincerely,
Mary Sue Rose

Nancy Sagafi-nejad
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 7, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Why should companies get by with no penalties for polluting the air by their omissions?

Please do your job in seeing that Texas has the cleanest air possible and that means making refineries and other companies accountable for the pollution they create. To do less is abdicating your responsibility.

Thanks for your serious consideration of this message.

Sincerely,
Nancy Sagafi-nejad

Mary Schultz
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. This would only set us further and further back in any effort 1) to save our people's health, 2) the slow down the global warming that's already sending us disasters!!

Sincerely,
Mary Schultz

Dale Stevens
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 8, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

No one is above the law.

Sincerely,
Dale Stevens

Glenn Sutton

Dec 6, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severé Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

I will remember this failure to protect the public that you serve and I will remind all my friends so that we vote against you and your cronies in the next governor's election..

Sincerely,
Glenn Sutton

Roy Tansill
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

These standards are not punitive measures aimed at fossil fuel; they are measures needed to protect the health of people. To ignore violations is a blatant denial of reality as well as an obvious preference for the profits of a few over the well being of the many. Try doing what is right for a change- you might find it easier to breath.

Sincerely,
Roy Tansill

Carrie Tilton-Jones
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 7, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

My mother grew up in the Golden Triangle, east of Houston. When we visit, we can literally smell and feel that it's harder to breathe than it used to be. My grandmother still lives there. She deserves better.

Sincerely,
Carrie Tilton-Jones

Dorrett Townsend
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. Even considering such a waiver for these continual polluters illustrates how big business controls government, right down to TCEQ board members. Stand up for Texas and Texans in following through with clean air controls. Business can certainly afford the fines. Our kids cannot afford continued assaults on our environment.

Sincerely,
Dorrett Townsend

Jill Veatch
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Please consider the unhealthy consequences for allowing these oil refineries and chemical plants to pollute our air without sanctions! Heed the words "environmental quality," please!

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Sincerely,
Jill Veatch

Barbara Vinson
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 7, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

As a Texan who grew up on Galveston Bay and experienced first hand the pollution that occurs, I know that the oil refineries and chemical plants must be held accountable for the damage done to Texas air, water, land, and citizens' health. Only by bearing a small fraction of the costs of their pollution through paying penalties will there be an incentive to these facilities to clean up their productions. Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. with the state being millions of dollars short in its budget, these refineries and chemical plants must not be given a free pass to continue polluting the environmental resources we all depend on.

Sincerely,
Barbara Vinson

Mobi Warren

[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. Please support the health of Texas citizens. We want a clean environment for our families.

Sincerely,
Mobi Warren

Mark Wassenich
5221 Pebblebrook Dr
Dallas, TX 75229-5504

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

I spend Sept. on the beach in Galveston. When the wind is out of the north it can gag you!

Sincerely,
Mark Wassenich

Blake Watters
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 17, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

I think that the set standards are important and so is their enforcement. We should not teach these oil refineries and chemical plants that they don't have to face consequences for breaking the rules.

Sincerely,
Blake Watters

Jacqueline White

[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Please Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards. The state of Texas can use the penalty money to help fund important projects: like water conservation, solar & wind power, etc. Please make the polluting companies PAY for their crimes. d

Sincerely,
Jacqueline White

Vincent Young
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dec 5, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

When I or other people get a speeding ticket or some other kind of fine, we pay it. If these oil refineries and chemical plants cannot meet federal clean air standards, then they should pay. If public libraries did not fine patrons for overdue or lost books then there would be no books left on the shelves. If you waive the penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards then these oil refineries and chemical plants will never clean up their act. Make them pay. If people's car have to meet an emissions standard then these refineries and plants should to. Enforce and preserve the justice set by our society.

Please do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Sincerely,
Vincent Young

The attached letter represents 368 identical form letters

Dena Abney

Dec 6, 2012

Charlotte Horn

Subject: 2009-009-101-AI Make the polluters pay

Dear Charlotte Horn,

I oppose TCEQ's proposed change to the Severe Ozone Nonattainment Area Failure to Attain Fee.

Do not reward more than 200 oil refineries and chemical plants in the Houston area by waiving tens of millions of dollars in penalties for failing to meet federal clean air standards.

Sincerely,
Dena Abney