
From: Leslie Bush
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 11:19 AM
To: VWSettle
Subject: Texas Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Program

Dear TCEQ planners,

I am disappointed and angry to learn that Austin will receive no funds in the TCEQ's current plan for the Texas Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Program.

Volkswagon's mitigation money was allocated to the states on the basis of how many affected vehicles were purchased in each state. According to the Austin American-Statesman, Austin purchased nearly twice as many of the vehicles per capita than the Texas average. In keeping with the VW/EPA agreement, Austin ought to receive funding according to the number of vehicles its citizens have to mitigate.

A second reason the proposed settlement is unfair to Austin is that it penalizes our responsible citizens who ride bus and bicycles and replace our air filters regularly. It also penalizes us for the good environmental regulations we've implemented. In contrast, areas that have welcomed dirty industries and failed to adequately encourage their citizens to be environmentally responsible are being rewarded with money intended to mitigate damage by vehicles that did not operate in their cities.

Finally, there is a disturbing political element to the TCEQ decision. Governor Abbott recently vetoed \$6 million in air quality programs for ten metro areas. The TCEQ seems intent on stealing money that should rightfully go to Austin in order to create cleaner air in more Republican parts of the state.

Please revise your plan so that it sends Volkswagon mitigation money to Austin, where a disproportionate number of the vehicles that caused the need for mitigation operated.

Sincerely,
Leslie Bush