

Dr. Lynn Drawe, Chairman  
Texas Prescribed Burning Board  
P.O. Box 12847  
Austin, TX 78711

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Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
Commissioners' Offices

January 15, 2013

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ASSIGNED TO:

DCE, DLS

Zak Covar, Executive Director  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
P.O. Box 13087  
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

JAN 22 2013

DUE DATE:

FY1

Dear Mr. Covar:

At the October 8, 2012 meeting of the Texas Prescribed Burning Board (PBB) in Austin, Texas, the PBB discussed and took action by unanimous vote to request a change in the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) rules pertaining to authorization for prescribed burning, specifically Title 30, Part 1, Chapter 111, Subchapter B, §111.211(1) of the Texas Administrative Code, which currently provides:

*§111.211. Exception for Prescribed Burning  
Outdoor burning shall be authorized for:*

*(1) Prescribed burning for forest, range and wildland/wildlife management purposes, with the exception of coastal salt-marsh management burning. Such burning shall be subject to the requirements of §111.219 of this title (relating to General Requirements for Allowable Outdoor Burning), and structures containing sensitive receptors must not be negatively affected by the burn. When possible, notification of intent to burn should be made to the appropriate commission regional office prior to the proposed burn. Commission notification or approval is not required.*

The motion passed by the PBB requests that the TCEQ add "hazard mitigation" to the exception authorized for prescribed burning in section 111.211(1) above.

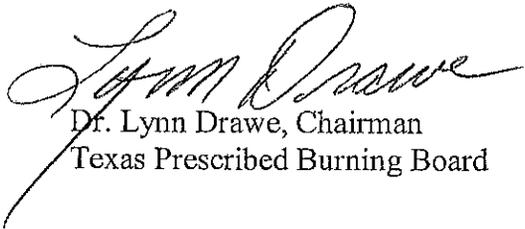
Two important goals of the PBB through the certified and insured prescribed burn managers licensed under its authority are to utilize prescribed burning to control vegetative fuels that can contribute to wildfires and to manage, maintain and restore valuable ecosystems in Texas. Adding the suggested

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language to the rule referenced above is another step toward achieving those goals.

On behalf of the PBB, I want to thank you in advance for your consideration of this matter.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dr. Lynn Drawe, Chairman  
Texas Prescribed Burning Board

cc: Dr. Bryan Shaw, Chairman  
Mr. Carlos Rubinstein, Commissioner  
Mr. Toby Baker, Commissioner  
Richard Hyde, TCEQ Deputy Executive Director