MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER PERMITS

TCEQ Environmental Trade Fair
& Conference 2013

Dex Dean
(512) 239-4570
Dex.Dean@tceq.texas.gov

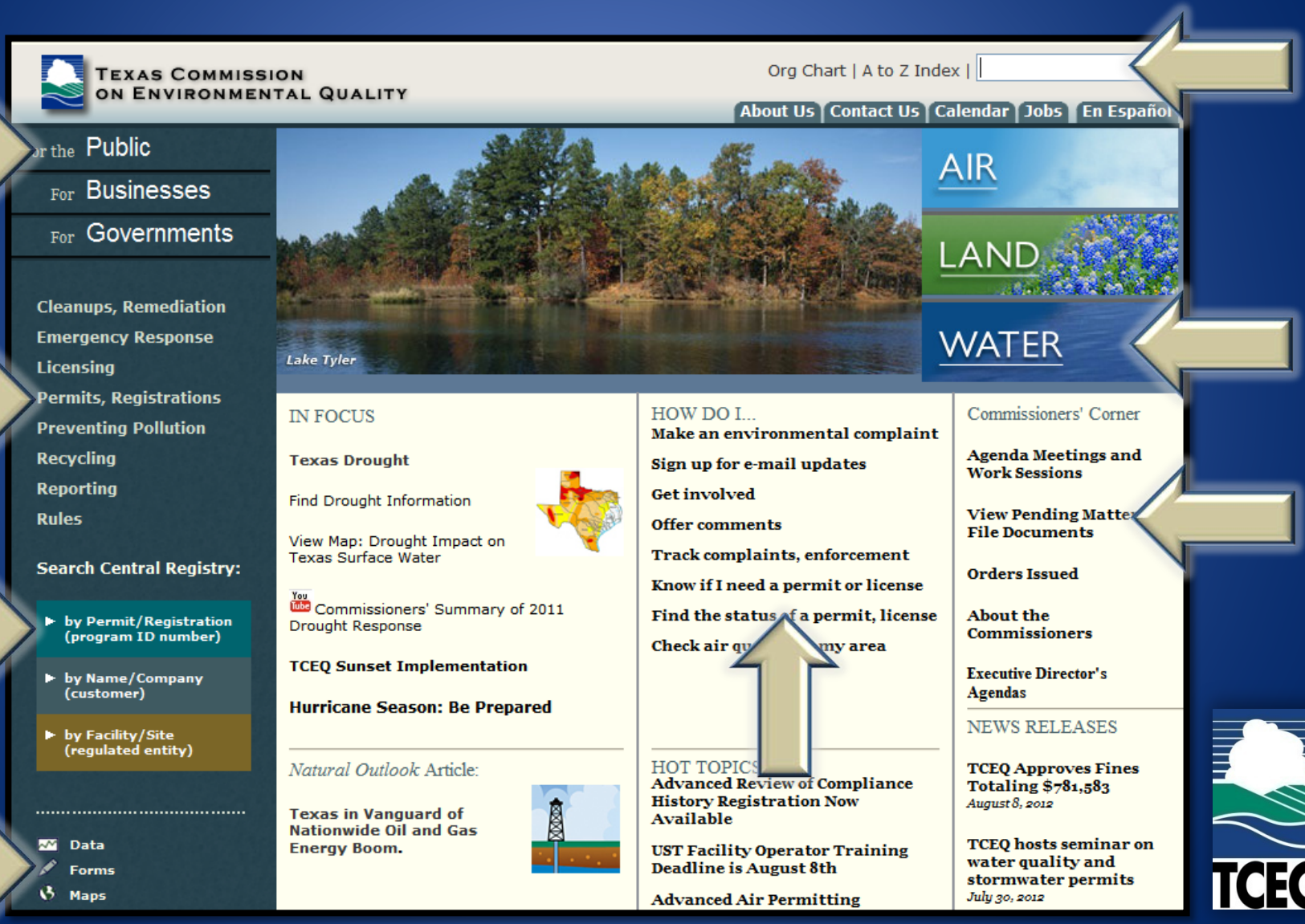
Introduction & Topics

- Part I – The Application Process
  - How to apply
  - The permitting process
  - Keeping up with your application

Introduction & Topics

- Part II – The Review Process
  - Types of domestic wastewater permits
  - Application review & role of the permit coordinator
  - Getting familiar with your draft permit
  - Special topics and updates

Helpful Website Resources

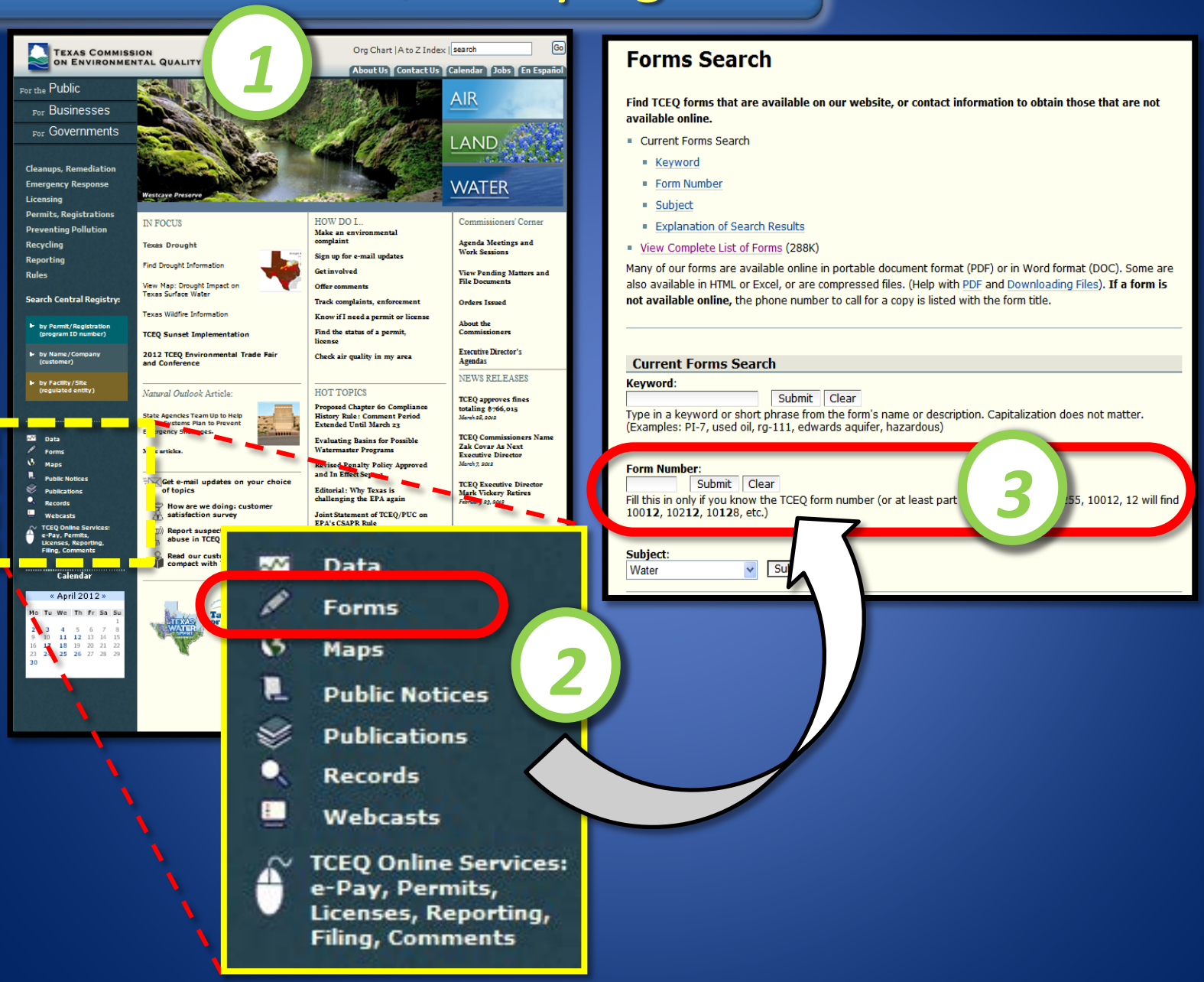


PART I – THE APPLICATION PROCESS

How to Apply – Forms

TCEQ Form Number	Description
10053-inst	• Instructions for Completing the Domestic Wastewater Permit Application (PDF)
10053	• Domestic Wastewater Permit Application (PDF)
10054	• Domestic Wastewater Permit Application Technical Report (PDF)

From the TCEQ Webpage…



Types of Applications

New*	• Brand new facility • Expired permits re-apply as new facilities
Renewal	• Continue an existing authorization • Can include a minor amendment
Amendment	• Major Amendment* – substantially change or relax the permit • Minor Amendment – update/change permit without relaxing the permit

Requires additional notice to adjacent and downstream landowners

TCEQ

Types of Permits

TPDES

- Direct Discharge
- Federally Authorized

TLAP

- Land Application
- State Only

TPDES Permits

Minor < 1.0 MGD

- Conventional parameter screening
- Standard pretreatment requirements
- Class C or D oprator

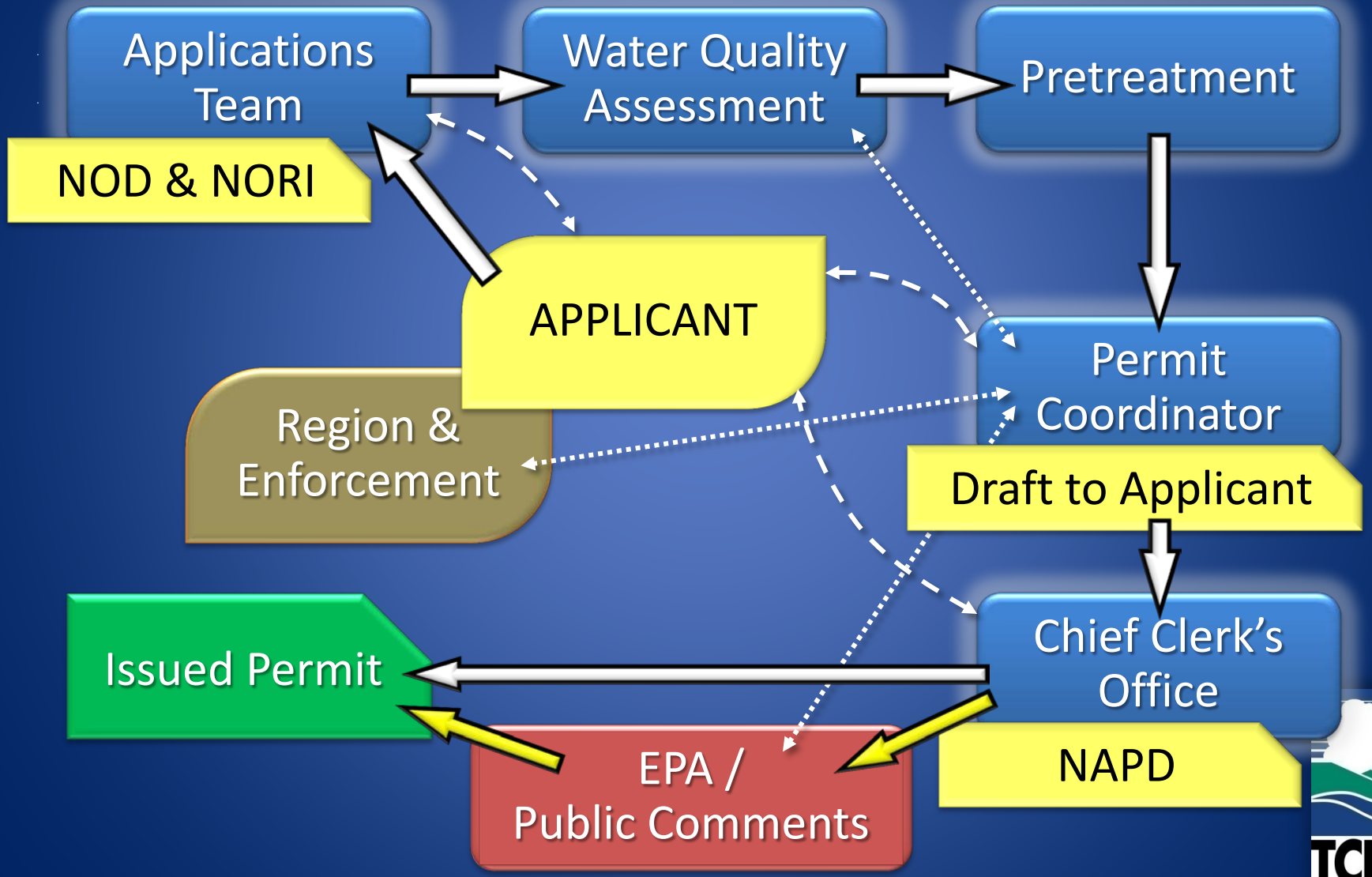
Major ≥ 1.0 MGD

- Full toxics screening
- Biomonitoring
- Possibly expanded pretreatment (for POTWs)
- Class A or B operator

How to Apply – General

- ***If I have questions…***
  - Call (512) 239-4671
- ***If I have lots of questions or unique issues…***
  - Consider pre-application meeting with TCEQ staff
- ***If I need to renew my existing permit…***
  - Submit application 180 days before the existing permit expires

Permitting Process



Don't get bogged down…

- Respond to Notices of Deficiency
- Publish both public notices and return documents
  - Check for bilingual requirements
  - Check accuracy and formatting
  - Complete/correct affidavit and verification
- Review draft permit and send approval or comments

TCEQ

PART II – THE REVIEW PROCESS

Administrative Review

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

TCEQ Domestic Wastewater Permit Application
Domestic Administrative Report

Submit this checklist with the application. Do not submit the instructions with the application. Indicate if the following are included in the application.

Applicant_____

Permit Number_____

WORKSHEET	Y	N	WORKSHEET	Y	N
Administrative Report 1.0			Original USGS Map		
Administrative Report 1.1			Affected Landowner Map		
SPIF			Landowner Disk or Labels		
Technical Report 1.0			Buffer Zone Map		
Technical Report 1.1			Flow Diagram		
Worksheet 2.0			Site Drawing		
Worksheet 2.1			Original Photographs		
Worksheet 3.0			Design Calculations		
Worksheet 3.1			Design Features		
Worksheet 4.0			Solids Management Plan		
Worksheet 5.0			Water Balance		
Worksheet 6.0 (Required For All POTWs)			Copy of Application Fee Check		
Worksheet 7.0			All fees owed TCEQ are paid		

Please indicate by a check mark the amount submitted for the application fee:

Flow	New/Major Amendment	Renewals
< .05 MGD	☐ $350.00	☐ $315.00
≥ .05 but < .10 MGD	☐ $550.00	☐ $515.00
≥ .10 but < .25 MGD	☐ 850.00	☐ $815.00
≥ .25 but < .50 MGD	☐ $1,250.00	☐ $1,215.00
≥ .50 but < 1.0 MGD	☐ $1,650.00	☐ $1,615.00
≥ 1.0 MGD	☐ $2,050.00	☐ $2,015.00
Minor Amendment (any flow)	☐ $115.00	

* All facilities are designated as minors until formally classified as a major by EPA.

For Commission Use Only:
Segment Number:_____ County:_____ Expiration Date:_____
Proposed/Current Permit Number:_____ Region:_____

Domestic Administrative Report 1.0

The following is required for all applications--Renewal, New, And Amendment

Type of application:

☐ New TPDES
☐ Major amendment with Renewal
☐ Renewal of existing permit
☐ New TLAP
☐ Major Amendment without Renewal
☐ Minor amendment to permit
☐ Minor modification to permit

If applying for an amendment to a permit, please describe the request in detail.

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION (Instructions, Page 18)

a. Facility Owner (Owner of the facility must apply for the permit.)

What is the Legal Name of the entity (applicant) applying for this permit?

_____

(The legal name must be spelled exactly as filed with the Texas Secretary of State, County, or in the legal document forming the entity.)

If the applicant is currently a customer with TCEQ, what is the Customer Number (CN)?

Search for your CN at:
http://www12.tceq.texas.gov/crpub/index.cfm?fuseaction=cust.CustSearch

CN_____

What is the name and title of the person signing the application?
(The person must be an executive official meeting signatory requirements in TAC 305.43(a).)

Prefix:_____
(Mr. Ms, Miss)
First/Last Name:_____
Suffix:_____
Title:_____ Credential:_____

What is the applicant's mailing address as recognized by the **US Postal Service**?
You may verify the address at: http://zip4.usps.com/zip4/welcome.jsp
Organization Name:_____
Mailing Address:_____
Internal Routing (Mail Code, Etc.):_____
City:_____ State: TX ZIP Code:_____

Administrative Review

- Make sure that you:
  - Fill out all contact information
  - Sign the form
  - Provide complete maps
  - Update the location description (as needed)
  - Provide a complete landowner list (as needed)
  - Arrange to have the application displayed in a public building

Data Completeness Reviews

- Some applications are sent to technical teams for completeness review during the administrative review
  - Majors
  - New permits
  - Major amendments
- You may interact with several staff more than once before the application is complete

Technical Review

TCEQ DOMESTIC WASTEWATER PERMIT APPLICATION
DOMESTIC TECHNICAL REPORT 1.0

THE FOLLOWING IS REQUIRED FOR ALL APPLICATIONS; RENEWAL, NEW, AND AMENDMENT

1. PERMITTED AND/OR PROPOSED FLOWS (Instructions, Page 39)

PERMITTED AND/OR PROPOSED FLOW:	Existing/Interim I Phase	Interim II Phase	Final Phase
Design Flow (MGD)			
2-Hr Peak Flow (MGD)			
Date construction estimated to commence			
Date waste disposal estimated to commence			

Phase currently in operation:_____

2. NAICS and SIC CODE (Instructions, Page 39)

Provide the appropriate SIC Code:_____ and NAICS code: _____

3. TREATMENT UNITS (Instructions, Page 40)

a. Provide a detailed description of the treatment process. Include the **type of treatment plant, mode of operation, and all treatment units**. Start with the plant's head works and finish with the point of discharge. Include all sludge processing and drying units. **If more than one phase exists or is proposed in the permit, a description of each phase must be provided.**

Port or pipe diameter at the discharge point: _____ inches

b. Provide the startup date of the current treatment facility: _____

Have plans and specifications been approved for the existing facilities and/or each proposed phase?

☐ Yes ☐ No

(If yes, provide the date(s) of approval for each phase)_____

Water Quality Assessment Review

- Compliance with the *Texas Surface Water Quality Standards*
- Endangered species impact
- Water quality modeling
- Biomonitoring (Whole Effluent Toxicity)
- Groundwater impact evaluation (for TLAP permits)

Permit Drafting

Review

- Permit coordinator reviews the application and TCEQ staff recommendations
- Compliance history and input from regional staff considered

Combine

- Permit coordinator combines all necessary information and recommendations into a draft permit

Coordinate

- Permit coordinator oversees review of the draft permit by the applicant and TCEQ staff
- Permit coordinator tracks application progress

TCEQ

Permit Coordinator Technical Review

- Make sure that you:
  - Discuss compliance with Other Requirements
  - Provide an adequate buffer zone map
  - Provide complete, up-to-date pollutant analysis
  - Use correct units in pollutant analysis
  - Provide complete treatment process description, treatment unit dimensions, process flow chart
  - Justify unbuilt phases or increased flow requests

b. Provide the startup date of the current treatment facility: _____

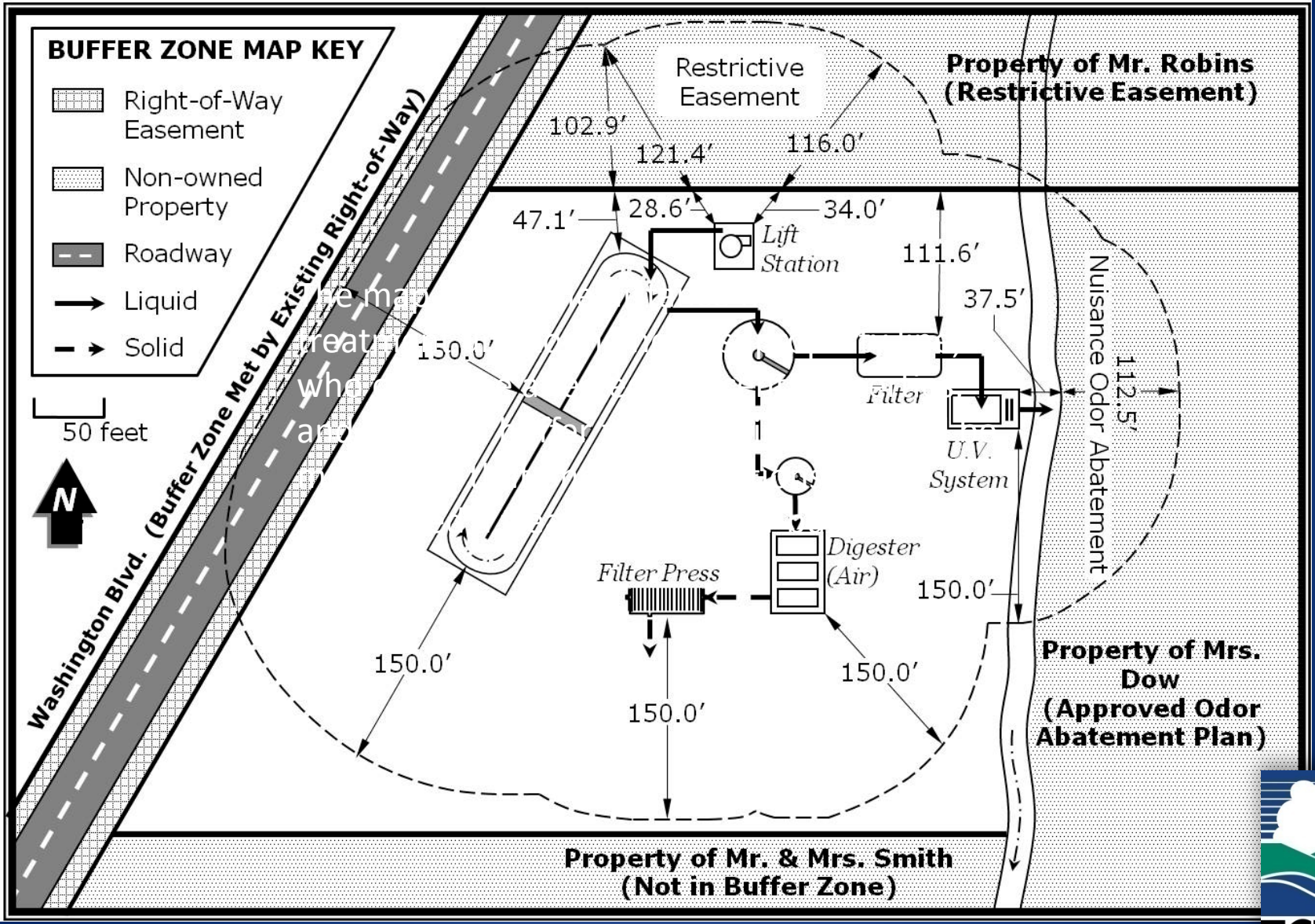
Have plans and specifications been approved for the existing facilities and/or each proposed phase?

☐ Yes ☐ No

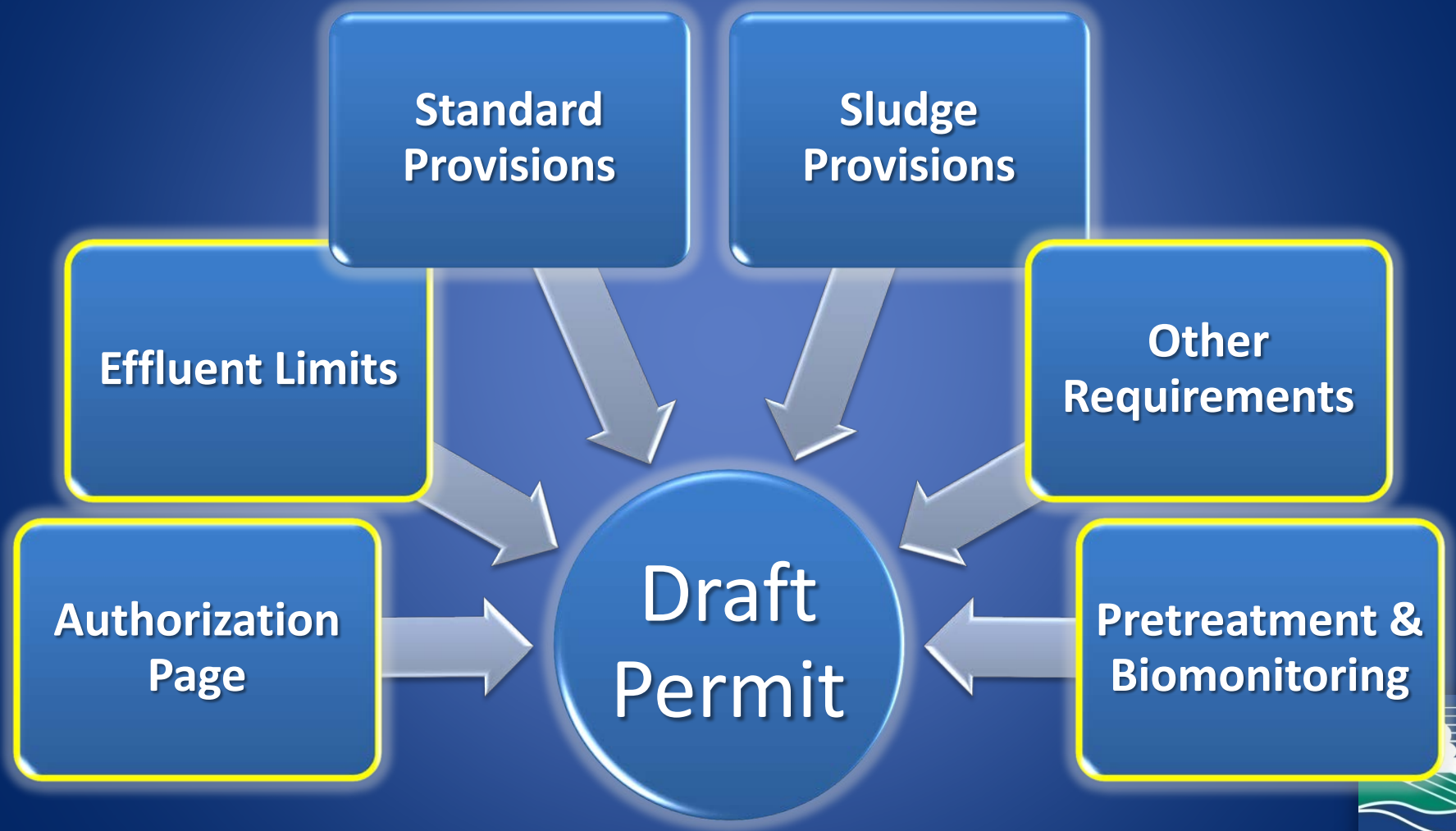
(If yes, provide the date(s) of approval for each phase)_____

c. For applicants with an existing permit: Check the Other Requirements page(s) of the existing permit and provide information (including dates) on any actions taken to meet an Other Requirement pertaining to the submission of a summary submittal letter if applicable.

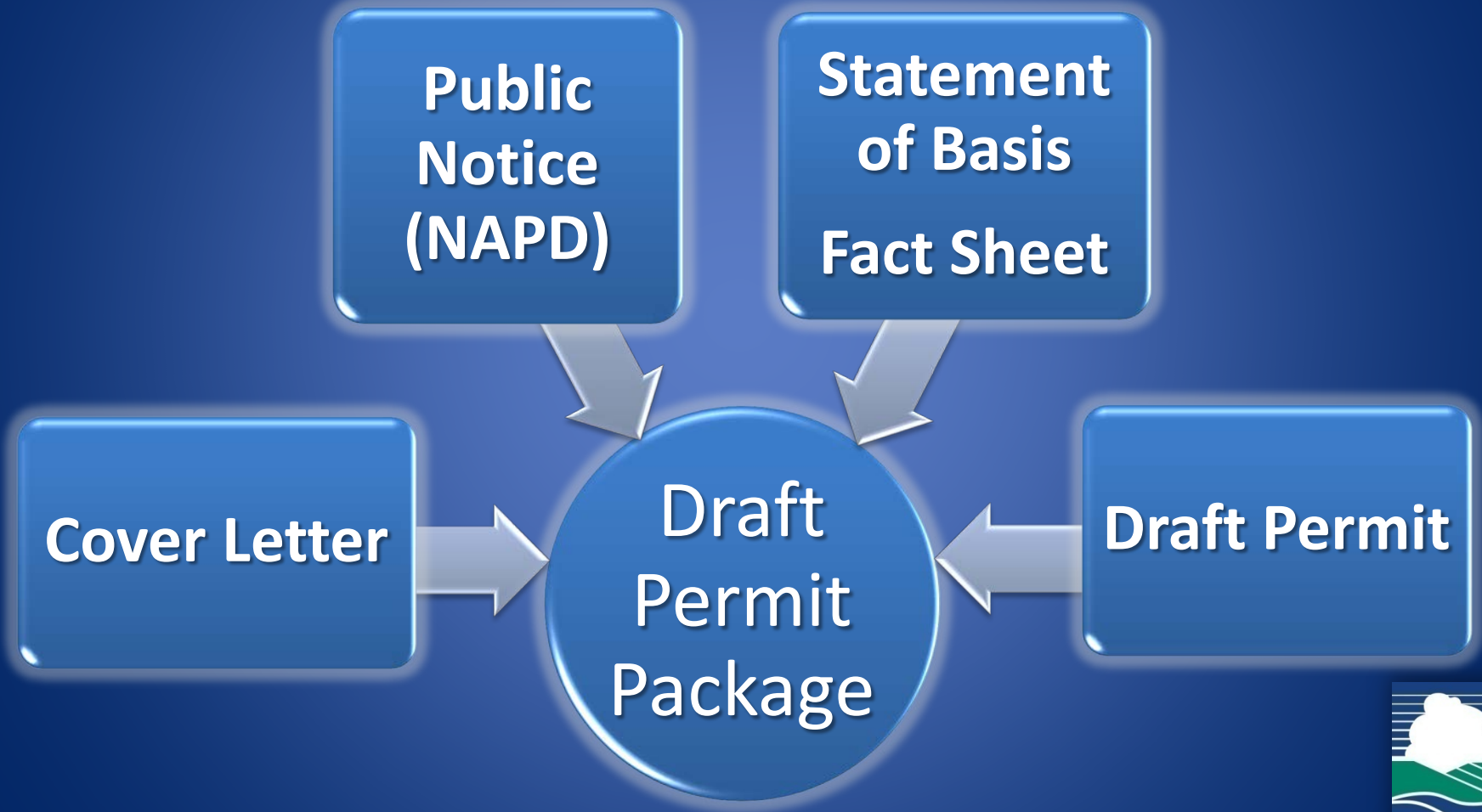
EXAMPLE 8 – Buffer Zone Map



Knowing Your Draft Permit



Draft Permit Package



Changes to Watch For

- EPA approved parts of 2010 Texas Surface Water Quality Standards in use
- Dechlorination requirement changes
  - Affects facilities permitted for ≥ 500,000 gallons per day
  - Phased based on EPA approval of IPs
- Revised provision for hauling sludge to another WWTP in use, allows flexibility

TCEQ/EPA Bacteria Limits

- Bacteria limits in all discharge permits
  - Typically 126 CFU per 100 mL *E. coli* (freshwater)
  - Typically 35 CFU per 100 mL enterococci (saltwater)
  - New single grab standards (399 CFU/100mL for *E. coli*, 104 CFU/100 mL for Enterococci)
- Sampling requirements vary by:
  - Disinfection method
  - Size of facility
  - Freshwater or saltwater (*E. coli* or Enterococci)
  - Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)
  - Frequency reduction, 30 TAC 319.9

Bacteria Limits Continued

- Geometric mean sampling
  - Why a geometric mean?
  - How does a geometric mean help?
- Bacteria hold time issues
- Pond bacteria issues
- Wetland bacteria issues

Sample 1	5
Sample 2	7
Sample 3	1000
Sample 4	2
Average	254
Geomean	16

TCEQ

Low Flows, Totalizing Meters, and Special Sampling Considerations

- Flows under 5,000 gallons per day
  - Possible on-site sewerage facility (OSSF)?
- Pond and wetlands sampling practices
  - Representative flow, bacteria, pH, dissolved oxygen samples
- Totalizing meters required for new facilities and new phases

TCEQ

It's natural, so what's the big deal?

- Is it good for my treatment process?
- Do I have organic capacity?
- Be careful about accepting:
  - Domestic septage (septic tanks) or chemical toilet waste
  - Domestic WWTP biosolids
  - Grit or grease
  - Brewery, bottling, and food processing wastewater
  - Animal feed or animal processing wastewater

Segment and Basin Specific Issues

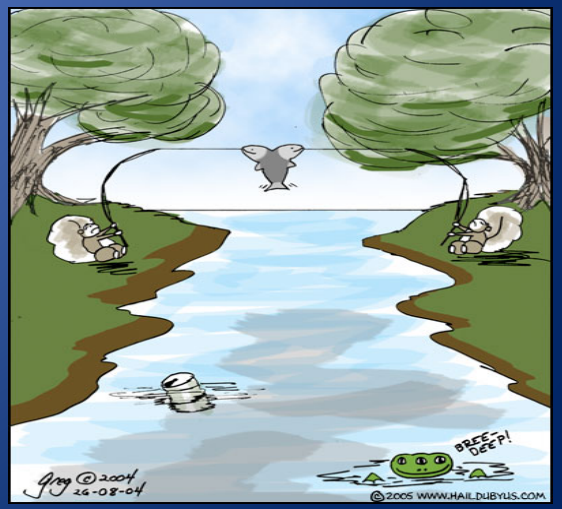
- Impaired Segments – 303(d) list
- Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)
- Endangered Species
- Lake Rules (30 TAC Chapter 311)

Geographic Location Issues

- Irrigation rate
- Edwards aquifer (30 TAC Chapter 213)

Water Quality Impaired Segments

- EPA requires identification of impaired stream segments
- 303(d) list
- List updated every two years
- Increased loading to impaired segment
- EPA approval required for loading increases to 303(d) segments
- Related to TMDL



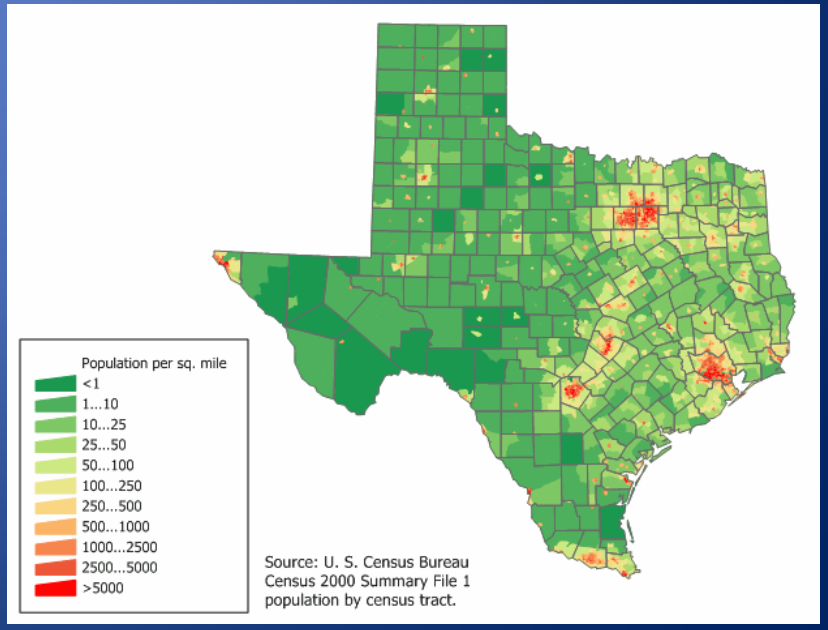
Antibacksliding

- Backsliding - less stringent conditions
- Federal regulations - no permit reissued with less stringent conditions
- 40 CFR Part 122.44 (l)(2)(i).
- Amendment applications are compared to federal Antibacksliding regulations.

Regionalization

State policy prefers regional or area-wide wastewater treatment systems over a large number of smaller treatment systems.

- New and expanding plants contact existing wastewater treatment providers
- Additional information may be requested
- CCN issues (512-239-4691)



TCEQ Land Application Permits

Authorize the disposal of effluent via land application

- Irrigation (30 TAC, Ch. 309.20)
- Evaporation (30 TAC, Ch. 309.20)
- Subsurface disposal (30 TAC, Ch. 309.20)
- Subsurface area drip dispersal (30 TAC, Ch. 222)

- Maximum application rate in acre-ft/yr/acre or gal/sq-ft/day.
- Storage requirements
- Water balance

TLAP v. Reuse Authorization

TLAP

- Dedicated disposal site
- Permittee owns/leases land
- Requires permit (330 days)

Reuse (210)

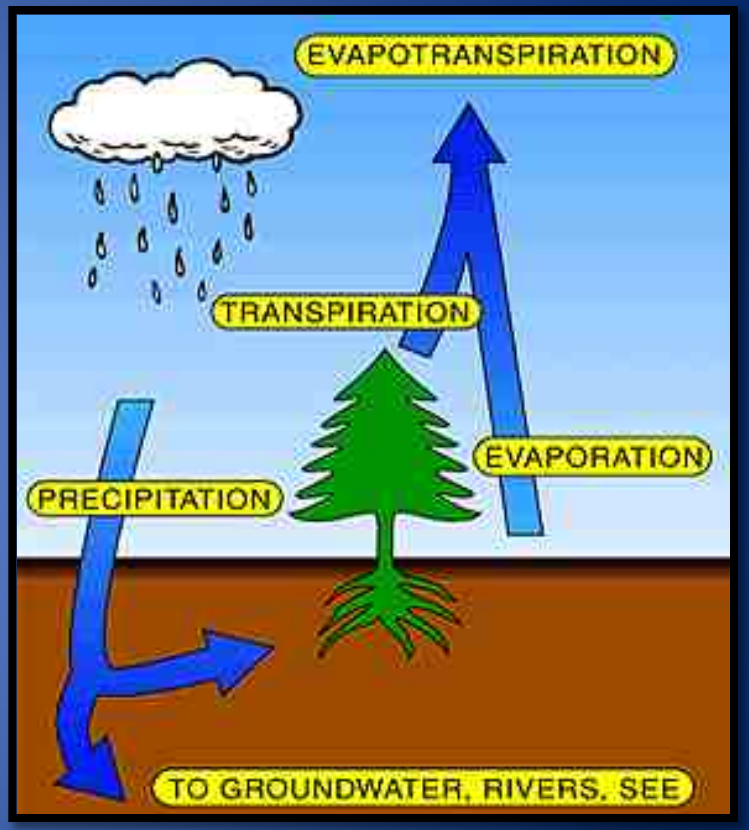
- At user's demand
- Permittee does not control land
- Attached to existing TPDES/TLAP permit (30 days)

TCEQ Land Application Permits

- Water Quality Assessment Team reviews new and amended permits
- Groundwater impact evaluation
- Soil analysis
- Renewal applications are also reviewed on a case-by-case basis

Water Balance

- Application rate is determined by a water balance
- Make sure your water balance assumptions reflect real life



TCEQ

Presentation Summary

- Different TCEQ sections work together to issue a permit.
- The applicant can help expedite the process.
- Comments may add significant time to permit processing.
- Bacteria limits are now part of every domestic discharge wastewater permit.
- TCEQ website has many helpful resources.

Contact Information

- Dex Dean
- Dex.Dean@tceq.texas.gov
- 512-239-4671

Helpful Resources

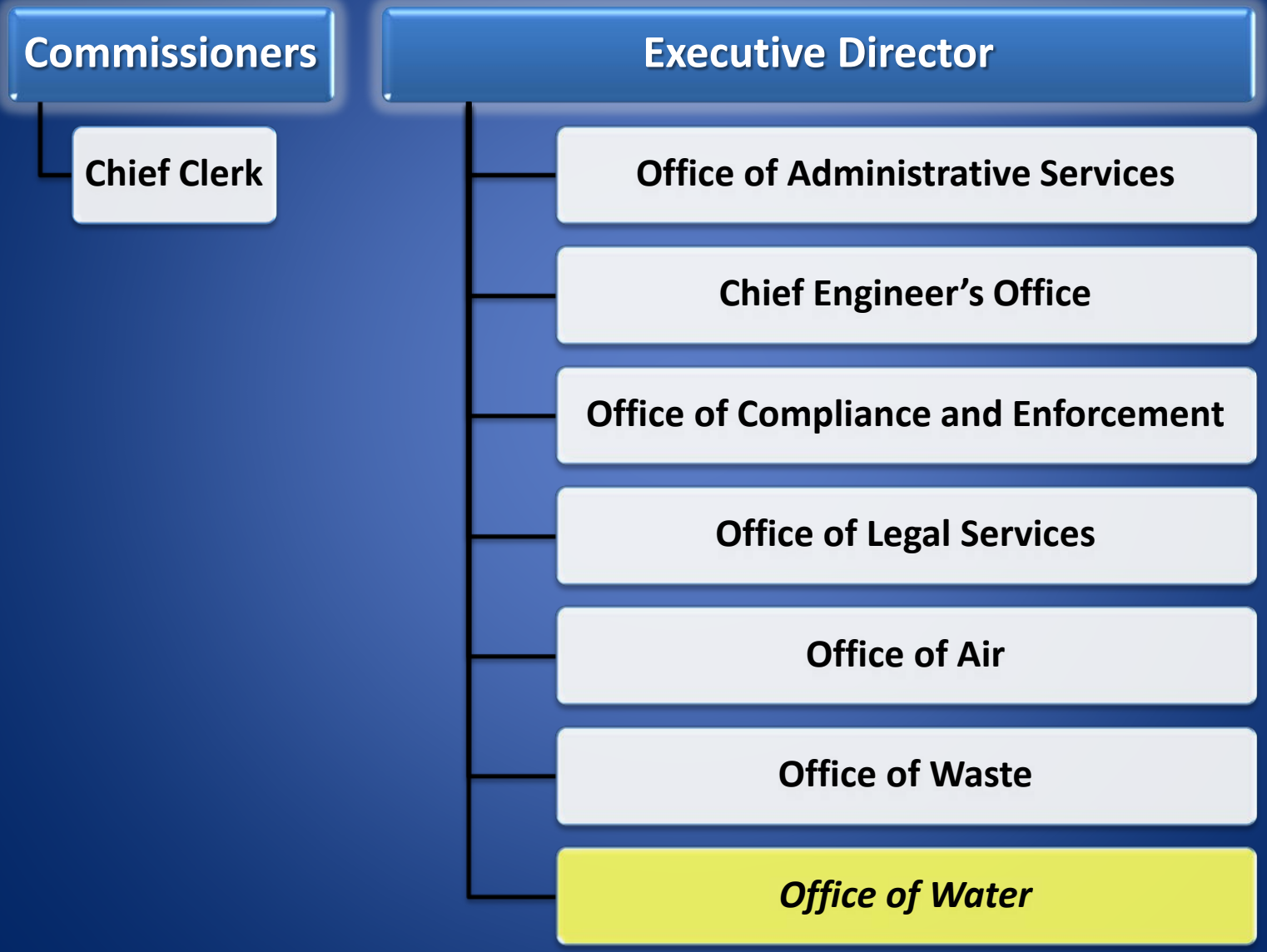
- TCEQ website:
  http://www.tceq.state.tx.us
- Keyword/forms search (database, Spanish templates, 10053, 10054, municipal wastewater permits, etc.)
- Central Records 512-239-2900
- Chief Clerk's Office: 512-239-3300
- Water Quality Division: 512-239-4671
- Regional Offices

Any Questions?

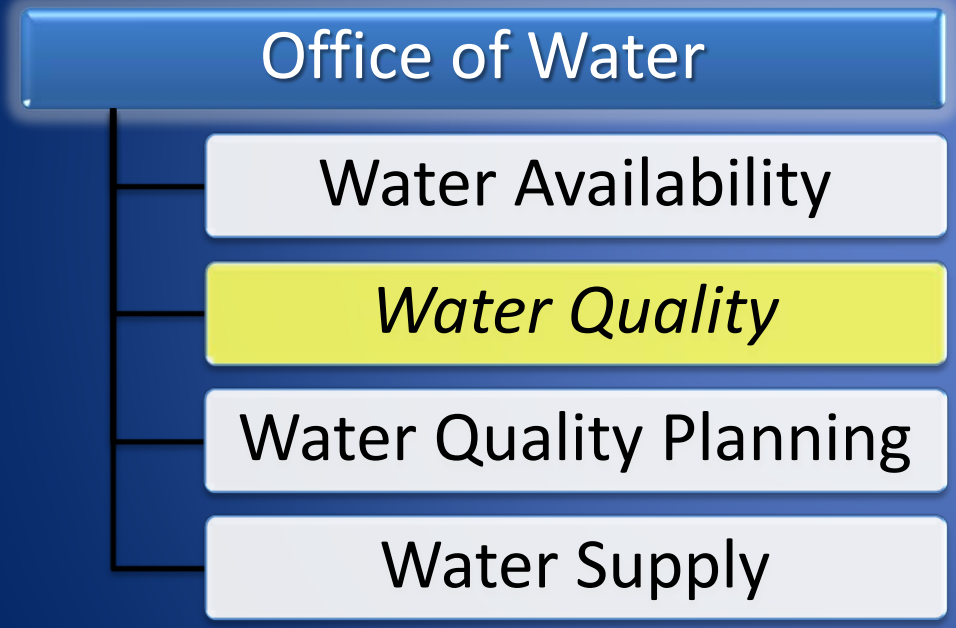
EXTRA INFORMATION

BONUS INFORMATION

Program Location Quick Reference

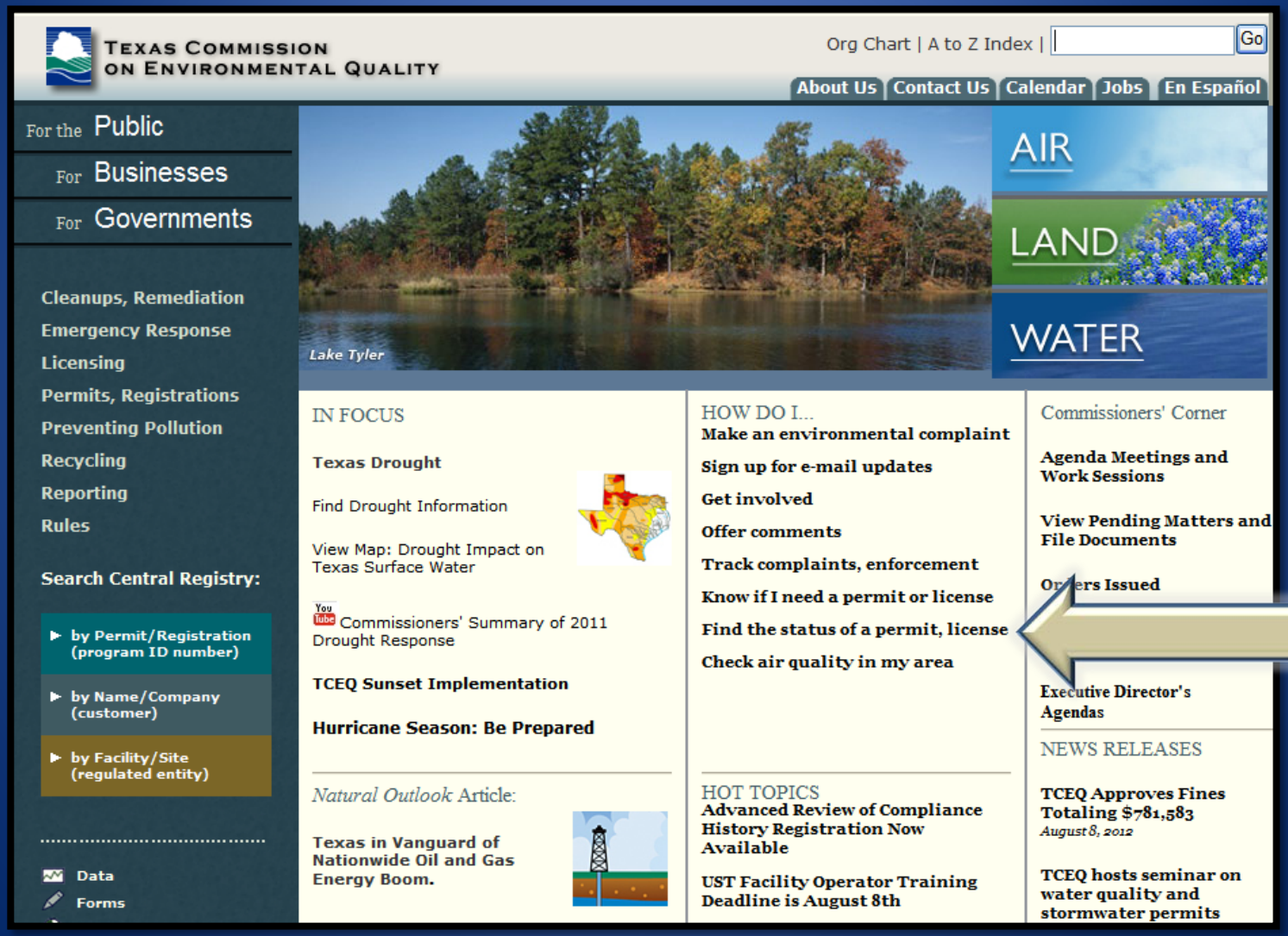


Program Location Quick Reference

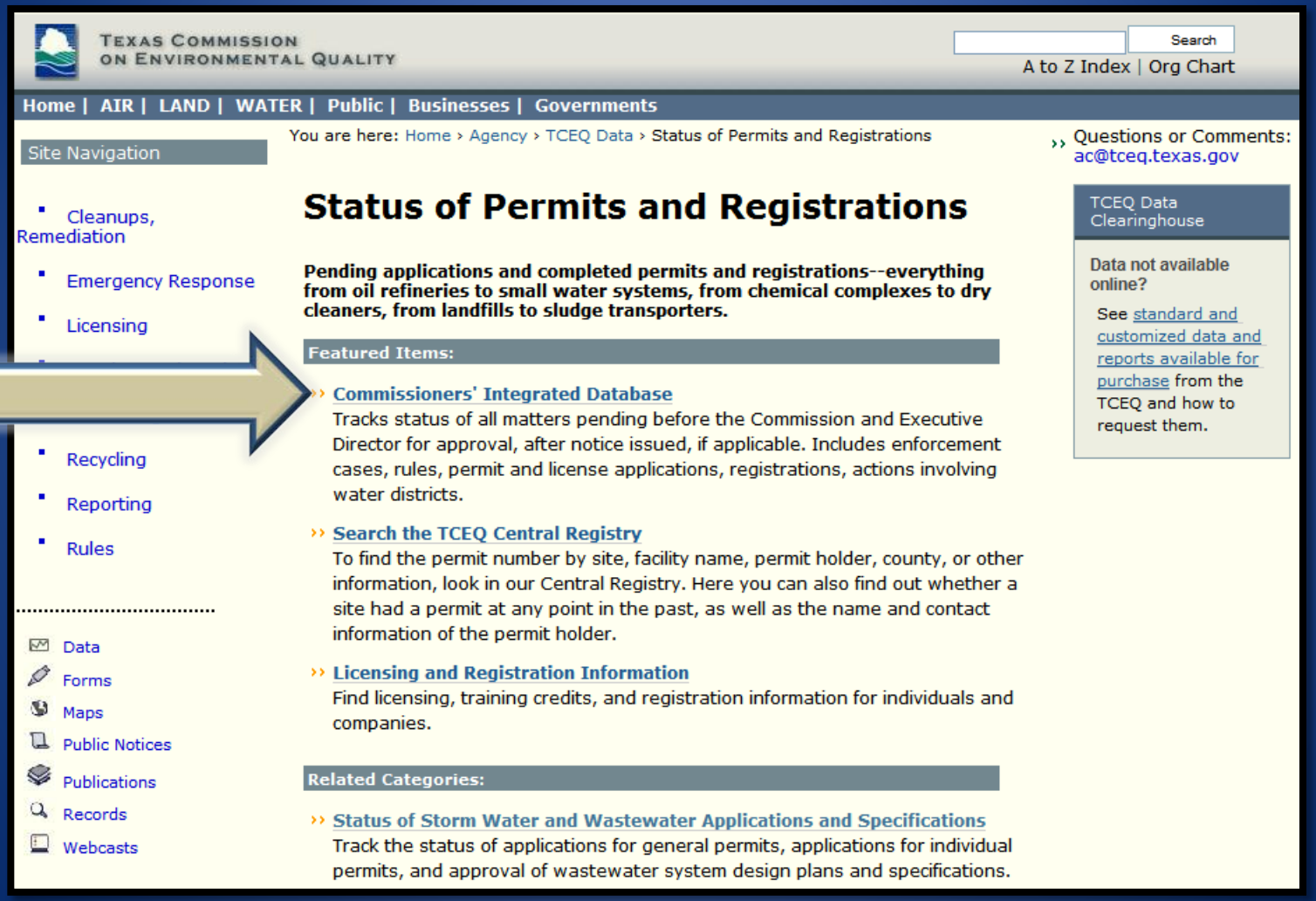


- Water Quality Permits
  - Industrial
  - *Municipal (Domestic)*
  - Stormwater
  - Agriculture

Keeping Track of Permit Status Step 1

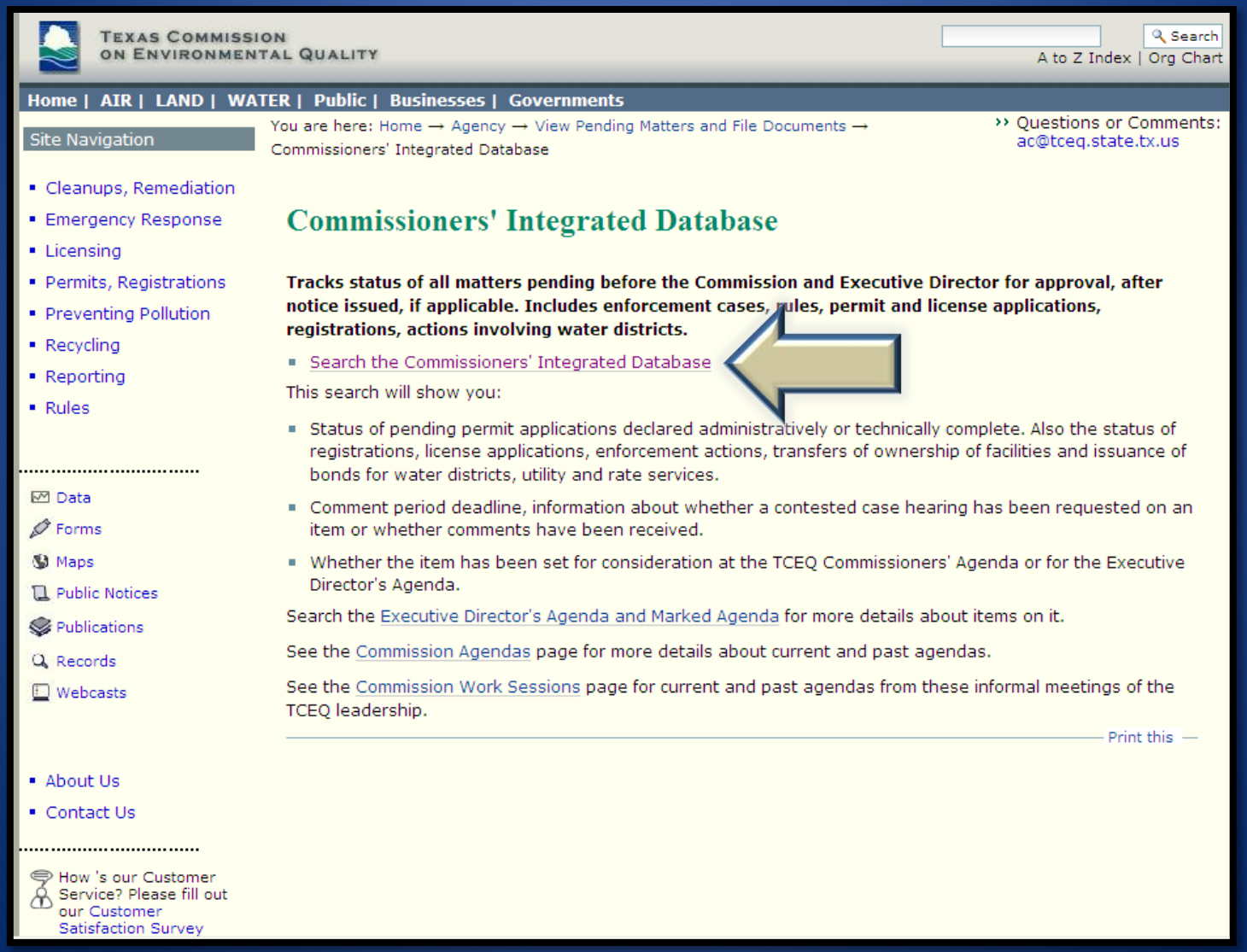


Keeping Track of Permit Status Step 2

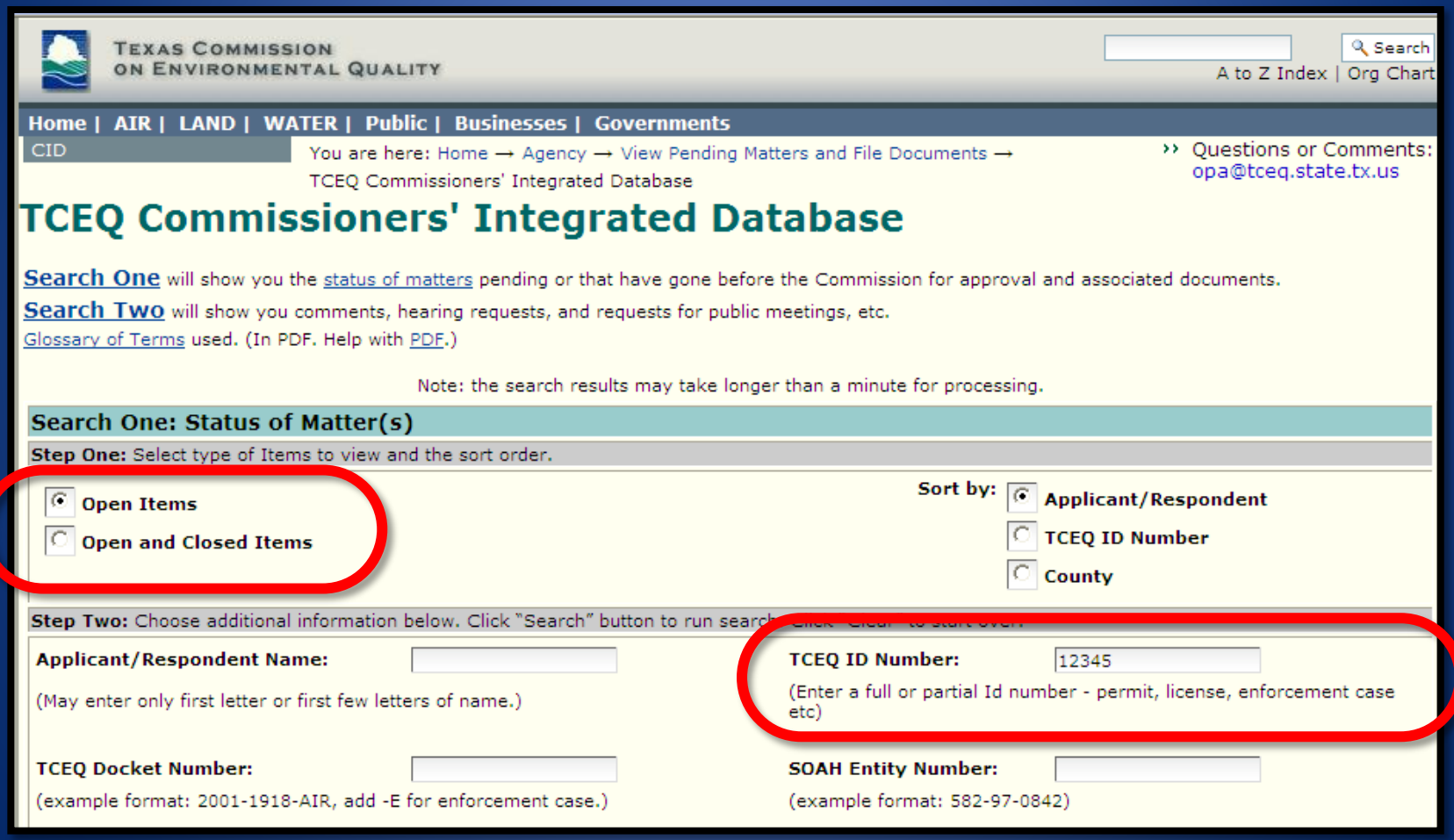


TCEQ

Keeping Track of Permit Status Step 3



Keeping Track of Permit Status Step 4



Keeping Track of Permit Status Results

County, TCEQ Region:
CHAMBERS, REGION 12 - HOUSTON

Doc. Type: PERMIT

Protestant Information
Note: Allow up to five or more business days after the end of the comment period for comments or hearing requests to be included in this total.

Comments Received: 1 **Hearing Requests Received:** 0 **Public Meetings Received:** 0

17 Activity Actions found. Display all Activity Actions

Activity Action List:

Date	Document Type	Action
12/06/2010	COMMENT PERIOD	END
11/12/2010	NEWSPAPER TEARSHEET	RECEIVED
11/12/2010	PUBLIC NOTICE VERIFICATION FORM	COMPLETE
11/12/2010	AFFIDAVIT - NAPD	RECEIVED
11/12/2010	PUBLIC NOTICE VERIFICATION FORM	RECEIVED

1 - 1 |
Return to search form.

Site Help | Disclaimer | Web Policies | Accessibility | Helping our Customers | TCEQ Homeland Security | Contact Us

Texas Homeland Security TRAIL texas.gov Stimulus Funding

Last Modified Thu, 24 Sep 2009
©2002-2010 Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

TCEQ

Keeping Track of Permit Status Results

TCEQ Commissioners' Integrated Database - All Activity Actions

BACK TO: Back to Report Result 1 - 1

Activity Action List:

Date	Document Type	Action
02/28/2011	RFR/HR PERIOD	END
01/28/2011	FINAL DECISION LETTER	MAILED
12/06/2010	COMMENT PERIOD	END
11/12/2010	PUBLIC NOTICE VERIFICATION FORM	COMPLETE
11/12/2010	PUBLIC NOTICE VERIFICATION FORM	RECEIVED
11/12/2010	NEWSPAPER TEARSHEET	RECEIVED
11/12/2010	AFFIDAVIT - NARD	RECEIVED
11/04/2010	NOTICE - PRELIM DECISION	PUBLISHED
10/27/2010	NOTICE - PRELIM DECISION	MAILED
10/21/2010	FILE	RECEIVED
08/17/2010	NEWSPAPER TEARSHEET	RECEIVED
08/17/2010	AFFIDAVIT - NORI	RECEIVED
08/17/2010	VERIFICATION/APPLICATION	RECEIVED
08/17/2010	BILINGUAL VERIFICATION	RECEIVED
08/06/2010	NOTICE OF RECEIPT/INTENT	PUBLISHED
07/23/2010	NOTICE OF RECEIPT/INTENT	MAILED
07/19/2010	NOTICE OF RECEIPT/INTENT	RECEIVED
07/13/2010	ADMIN REVIEW	COMPLETE
06/04/2010	APPLICATION	RECEIVED

Site Help | Disclaimer | Web Policies | Accessibility | Helping our Customers | TCEQ Homeland Security | Contact Us

TCEQ