

Jon Niermann, *Chairman*  
Emily Lindley, *Commissioner*  
Bobby Janecka, *Commissioner*  
Kelly Keel, *Interim Executive Director*



## TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

*Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution*

August 18, 2023

**TO: Persons on the Attached Mailing List**

**RE: Docket No. 2023-0617-WR  
City of Lubbock (Applicant)  
Request(s) filed on Permit No. WRPERM 5921**

The above-referenced application and all timely filed hearing requests/requests for reconsideration on the above-referenced application will be considered by the commissioners of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) during the public meeting on **September 27, 2023**. The meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m. The agenda meeting may be held in person in Room 201S of Building E at the Commission's offices located at 12100 Park 35 Circle in Austin, Texas, virtually, or both in person and virtually. To confirm how the meeting will be held, please visit the Commissioners' Agenda webpage at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/agendas> eight days before the Agenda.

In accordance with commission rules, copies of the timely hearing requests/requests for reconsideration have been forwarded to the Applicant, the Executive Director of the TCEQ, and the Public Interest Counsel of the TCEQ. Each of these persons is entitled to file a formal written response to the hearing requests/requests for reconsideration on **September 1, 2023**. Persons who have filed timely hearing requests/requests for reconsideration may file a formal written reply to these responses on **September 18, 2023**.

All responses and replies must be filed with the Chief Clerk of the TCEQ. Responses and replies may be filed with the Chief Clerk electronically at [www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/efilings](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/efilings) or by filing an original and 7 copies with the Chief Clerk of the TCEQ. The mailing address of the Chief Clerk is: Office of Chief Clerk, ATTN: Agenda Docket Clerk, Mail Code 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087 [Fax number (512) 239-3311]. On the same day any response is transmitted to the Chief Clerk, a copy must also be sent to the Executive Director, the Public Interest Counsel, the Applicant, and the requesters at their addresses listed on the attached mailing list. On the same day any reply is transmitted to the Chief Clerk, a copy must also be sent to the Executive Director, the Public Interest Counsel, other requesters, and the Applicant at their addresses listed on the attached mailing list.

The procedures for evaluating hearing requests and for filing and serving responses and replies are located in 30 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 55, Subchapter G (§§55.250-55.256) and 30 TAC §§ 1.10-1.11. The hardcopy filing requirement is waived

by the General Counsel pursuant to 30 TAC § 1.10(h). Copies of these rules may be obtained by calling the Public Education Program toll free at (800) 687-4040.

The commissioners will not take oral argument or additional comment on this matter at the public meeting. Therefore, it is important to address the sufficiency of the requests in timely filed written responses and requesters' replies. At the public meeting, the commissioners may ask questions of the Applicant, requesters, or TCEQ staff. The commissioners will make a decision on the request(s) during the meeting and will base that decision on the timely written requests, public comments, any written responses and replies, any responses to questions during the meeting, and applicable statutes and rules. Copies of all timely public comments and requests have been forwarded to the Alternative Dispute Resolution Program to determine if informal, voluntary mediation might help resolve any dispute.

The attachment to this letter is intended to help you better understand how the TCEQ processes and evaluates hearing requests and requests for reconsideration. To obtain additional information, or to ask questions about anything in this letter, please call the Public Education Program toll free at 1-800-687-4040.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laurie Gharis".

Laurie Gharis  
Chief Clerk

Enclosures: Copies of protestant correspondence to Applicant, Executive Director, Office of Public Interest Counsel, and Alternative Dispute Resolution.

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR WATER RIGHTS HEARING REQUESTS**

Commission rules in 30 TAC § 55.251 (b) and (c) require a hearing request to:

- (1) be in writing and be filed with the Office of the Chief Clerk during the public comment period;
- (2) give the name, address, and daytime telephone number of the person who files the request;
- (3) identify the person's personal justiciable interest affected by the application including a brief, but specific, written statement explaining in plain language the requestor's location and distance relative to the activity that is the subject of the application and how and why the requestor believes he or she will be affected by the activity in a manner not common to members of the general public;
- (4) request a contested case hearing; and
- (5) provide any other information specified in the public notice of application.

A hearing request must comply with requirement (1) above and "substantially comply" with requirements (2) through (5). In addition, a group or association may request a contested case hearing only if the group or association meets all of the following requirements:

- (1) one or more members of the group or association would otherwise have standing to request a hearing in their own right;
- (2) the interests the group or association seeks to protect are germane to the organization's purpose; and
- (3) neither the claim asserted nor the relief requested requires the participation of the individual members in the case.

A request for a contested case hearing must be granted if the request is made by an affected person and the request: (A) complies with the requirements of 30 TAC § 55.251; (B) is timely filed; and (C) is pursuant to a right to hearing authorized by law.

An affected person is one who has a personal justiciable interest related to a legal right, duty, privilege, power, or economic interest affected by the application. An interest common to the general public does not constitute a justiciable interest. To determine whether a person is an affected person, all relevant factors must be considered, including but not limited to:

- (1) whether the interest claimed is one protected by the law under which the application will be considered;
- (2) distance restrictions or other limitations imposed by law on the affected interest;
- (3) whether a reasonable relationship exists between the interest claimed and the activity regulated;
- (4) the likely impact of the regulated activity on the health, safety, and use of property of the person;

- (5) the likely impact of the regulated activity on the use of the impacted natural resource by the person; and
- (6) for governmental entities, their statutory authority over or interest in the issues relevant to the application.

MAILING LIST

City of Lubbock

TCEQ Docket No. 2023-0617-WR; Permit No. WRPERM 5921

FOR THE APPLICANT:

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REQUESTER(S)/INTERESTED  
PERSON(S):

See attached list.

FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
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FOR PUBLIC INTEREST COUNSEL  
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FOR ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE  
RESOLUTION

via electronic mail:

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