

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
AGENDA ITEM REQUEST**

AGENDA REQUESTED: 3/28/2024
DATE OF REQUEST: 1/24/2024
**NAME & NUMBER OF PERSON TO CONTACT REGARDING CHANGES TO THIS
REQUEST, IF NEEDED: Yen Tran, (512) 239-4610**

CAPTION: Docket No. 2024-0128-MIS. Consideration of gifts and donations of \$500.00 or more in value given to the TCEQ, submitted for approval in accordance with Chapter 575 of the Government Code, concerning acceptance of gifts by certain state agencies. (Yen Tran)

Chief Clerk must send Notice of Application/Hearing: N/A

Type of Matter: Miscellaneous

County: All

Uncontested: N/A

Contested: N/A



**David Timberger, Deputy Director
General Law Division**

TCEQ Interoffice Memorandum

To: Kelly Keel *KK*
Executive Director

From: Erin E. Chancellor, Director *EC*
Office of Legal Services

David Timberger, Deputy Director *DT*
General Law Division

Yen Tran, Senior Attorney *YVT*
Contracts, Employment Law and Ethics
General Law Division

Date: March 8, 2024

Caption: **Docket No. 2024-0128-MIS:** Consideration of gifts and donations of \$500.00 or more in value given to the TCEQ, submitted for approval in accordance with Chapter 575 of the Government Code, concerning acceptance of gifts and donations by certain agencies.

Attached for your consideration and acceptance are the gifts and donations valued at \$500.00 or more received by the agency for the time period December 4, 2023 through March 8, 2024.

The Executive Director is authorized by Section 5.233 of the Water Code to receive and accept money and other assistance from any source to carry out the powers and duties of the Commission. Following your acceptance, Chapter 575 of the Government Code requires the Commission to acknowledge the acceptance of all gifts of money or property with a value of \$500 or more in an open meeting no later than the 90th day after the date the gift is accepted.

The attached listing describes the gifts made to the agency, including the name of the donor, a description of the gift or donation, and a statement of the purpose of the gift or donation received. We recommend your approval by signature below. Upon your approval, these gifts will be presented to the Commission at the March 28, 2024 Agenda.

I acknowledge and accept the gifts listed in attached on behalf of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

K Keel

Date: 3/7/2024

Kelly Keel
Executive Director

TCEQ Interoffice Memorandum

To: Commissioners

Thru: Kelly Keel, Executive Director *KK*

From: Erin E. Chancellor, Director
Office of Legal Services

David Timberger, Deputy Director *DT*
General Law Division

Yen Tran, Senior Attorney *YVT*
Contracts, Employment Law and Ethics Section
General Law Division

Date: March 8, 2024

Caption: **Docket No. 2024-0128-MIS;** Consideration of gifts and donations of \$500.00 or more in value given to the TCEQ, submitted for approval in accordance with Chapter 575 of the Government Code, concerning acceptance of gifts and donations by certain agencies.

This item contains, for your consideration, a proposed resolution acknowledging the gifts and donations valued at \$500.00 or more received by the agency for the time period December 4, 2023 through March 8, 2024.

Exhibit A contains the Executive Director's approval of the gifts received, including the name of the donor, a description of the gift or donation, and a statement of the purpose of the gift or donation.

As authorized by Section 5.233 of the Water Code, the Executive Director has accepted these gifts and donations to carry out the powers and duties of the Commission. Chapter 575 of the Government Code requires the Commission to acknowledge the acceptance of all gifts of money or property with a value of \$500 or more in an open meeting no later than the 90th day after the date the gift is accepted.

Enclosure

Exhibit A

Executive Director's Approval of Gifts and Donations

Gifts and Donations from Third Party Organizations

Reimbursing Organization	Traveler Name	Dates of Travel	Destination	Purpose of Trip	Total Reimbursed
Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA)	HORAN, DANIEL	12/4/2023 - 12/6/2023	Point Clear, AL	To attend GOMA Management Team Meeting. TCEQ paid for other travel expenses.	\$266.43
				Reimbursed Expense Description	Reimbursed Amount
				LODGING	\$266.43
Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA)	SCHAR, STEVEN	12/4/2023 - 12/6/2023	Point Clear, AL	To attend GOMA Management Team Meeting. TCEQ paid for other travel expenses.	\$306.39
				Reimbursed Expense Description	Reimbursed Amount
				LODGING	\$306.39
Southern Environmental Enforcement Network (SEEN)	GORMAN, PAUL	1/22/2024 - 1/26/2024	Denton, TX	To attend the New Detective and New Criminal Investigator training with the Legal and Liability Risk Management Institute. Mr. Gorman reserved a state vehicle for this trip and TCEQ paid for other travel expenses.	\$675.00
				Reimbursed Expense Description	Reimbursed Amount
				REGISTRATION FEE	\$495.00
				MEALS	\$180.00
Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)	JIA, ZHENWEN	2/4/2024 - 2/9/2024	Houston, TX	To participate in Nuclear Regulator Commission's (NRC) Safety Aspects of Well Logging course. Mr. Jia reserved a state vehicle for this trip.	\$1,198.15
				Reimbursed Expense Description	Reimbursed Amount
				LODGING	\$818.65
				MEALS	\$379.50
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	BEST, LEVI	2/12/2024 - 2/15/2024	Emmitsburg, MD	To attend and participate in the 2024 National Dam Safety Program Technical Seminar. TCEQ paid for other travel expenses.	\$426.66
				Reimbursed Expense Description	Reimbursed Amount
				LODGING	\$343.47
				SHUTTLE	\$83.19
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	COVERT, GRACYN	2/12/2024 - 2/15/2024	Emmitsburg, MD	To attend and participate in the 2024 National Dam Safety Program Technical Seminar. TCEQ paid for other travel expenses.	\$426.66
				Reimbursed Expense Description	Reimbursed Amount
				LODGING	\$343.47
				SHUTTLE	\$83.19
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	ZIEBERT, JACKSON	2/12/2024 - 2/15/2024	Emmitsburg, MD	To attend and participate in the 2024 National Dam Safety Program Technical Seminar. TCEQ paid for other travel expenses.	\$426.66
				Reimbursed Expense Description	Reimbursed Amount
				LODGING	\$343.47
				SHUTTLE	\$83.19
Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA)	MARSHALL, LISA	2/18/2024 - 2/23/2024	Tampa, FL	To participate in the Gulf of Mexico Conference (GOMCON), which combines the annual GOMA All Hands Meeting, the annual Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill and Ecosystems Science (GoMOSES) conference, and the triannual State of the Gulf Summit.	\$2,240.65
				Reimbursed Expense Description	Reimbursed Amount
				AIRFARE	\$369.30
				LODGING	\$1,580.51
				MEALS	\$159.79
				BAGGAGE	\$70.00
				TAXI/RIDESHARES	\$61.05

Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA)	CYPHER, ROBIN	2/18/2024 - 2/23/2024	Tampa, FL	To participate in the Gulf of Mexico Conference (GOMCON), which combines the annual GOMA All Hands Meeting, the annual Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill and Ecosystems Science (GoMOSES) conference, and the triannual State of the Gulf Summit.	\$2,811.09
				Reimbursed Expense Description	Reimbursed Amount
				AIRFARE	\$587.19
				LODGING	\$1,696.83
				MEALS	\$144.39
				REGISTRATION FEE	\$250.00
				PARKING	\$72.00
				TRANSPORTATION	\$60.68
Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA)	HORAN, DANIEL	2/18/2024 - 2/23/2024	Tampa, FL	To participate in the Gulf of Mexico Conference (GOMCON), which combines the annual GOMA All Hands Meeting, the annual Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill and Ecosystems Science (GoMOSES) conference, and the triannual State of the Gulf Summit. TCEQ paid for other travel expenses.	\$250.00
				Reimbursed Expense Description	Reimbursed Amount
				REGISTRATION FEE	\$250.00
The State Bar of Texas	GONZALES, CATARINA	2/21/2024 - 2/23/2024	San Antonio, TX	To attend the Environmental & Natural Resources (ENRLS) meeting in San Antonio. Commissioner Gonzales serves as a section manager on the Executive Committee for ENRLS. The TCEQ paid for the registration fee.	\$803.00
				Reimbursed Expense Description	Reimbursed Amount
				LODGING	\$589.52
				MEALS	\$50.00
				MILEAGE	\$163.48
Central States Air Resource Agencies (CenSARA)	GAUTAM, SUSHIL	2/26/2024 - 2/29/2024	St. Louis, MO	To participate in the National Exceptional Events Workshop. TCEQ paid for other travel expenses.	\$952.55
				Reimbursed Expense Description	Reimbursed Amount
				AIRFARE	\$464.96
				LODGING	\$487.59
Central States Air Resource Agencies (CenSARA)	JANKE, TIMOTHY	2/26/2024 - 2/29/2024	St. Louis, MO	To participate in the National Exceptional Events Workshop. TCEQ paid for other travel expenses.	\$952.55
				Reimbursed Expense Description	Reimbursed Amount
				AIRFARE	\$464.96
				LODGING	\$487.59

TOTAL FOR TRAVEL RELATED EXPENSES **\$11,735.79**

B. NON-TRAVEL RELATED GIFTS AND DONATIONS

Donating Organization	Gift Donation - Waiver Description	Location	Date Received	Value
San Antonio Irrigaion Association (SAIA)	Donated three backflow devices, each with cutouts to reveak the device's interior component to be used as displays for various outreach and educational opportunities for TCEQ Landscape Irrigation Program (LIP) staff.	N/A	12/19/2023	\$1,308.17
Zum Elkay Water Solutions	Provided six backflow devices, each with cutouts to reveal the devices' interior components to be used as displays for various outreach and educational opportunities for the LIP staff.	N/A	1/16/2024	\$1,954.15

Texas Public Broadcasting Service (PBS)	Donated funds to initiate an educational programming campaign using Texas PBS' website to promote Take Care of Texas (TCOT) resources and videos to educators and students across Texas. The programming will include a tip series as a means to disseminate useful tips on making everyday changes toward an eco-friendly lifestyle.	N/A	1/17/2024	\$5,000.00
Texas On-Site Wastewater Association (TOWA)	Donated a trade show booth and waived the registration fees for 27 TCEQ staff to attend TOWA's 31st Annual Conference.	Waco, Texas	3/4/2024 - 3/6/2024	\$9,133.00
TOTAL NON-TRAVEL GIFTS AND DONATIONS				\$17,395.32

TOTAL GIFTS AND DONATIONS FOR THIS PERIOD	\$29,131.11
--	--------------------

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



A RESOLUTION Regarding acceptance of gifts and donations in accordance with Chapter 575 of the Government Code concerning acceptance of gifts and donations by certain state agencies; TCEQ Docket No. 2024-1028-MIS

WHEREAS, Chapter 575 of the Government Code provides that a majority of the Commission must acknowledge the acceptance of all gifts of money or property with a value of \$500.00 or more in an open meeting no later than the 90th day after the date the gift is accepted.

WHEREAS, the list of gifts and donations submitted for acknowledgment is attached. The gifts have been accepted by the Executive Director. The list includes a description and amount of each gift or donation with a value of \$500.00 or more, the donor's name, and a statement regarding the purpose of each gift or donation in accordance with Section 575.004 of Chapter 575.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY that the Commission acknowledges acceptance of the gifts and donations listed in accordance with Chapter 575 of the Government Code.

Issued this the ____ day of _____, _____.

TEXAS COMMISSION ON
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Jon Niermann, Chairman