

**TCEQ DOCKET NO. 2025-0543-MWD**

<b>APPLICATION BY BLIZEXAS LLC FOR</b>	<b>§</b>	<b>BEFORE THE</b>
<b>TCEQ PERMIT NO.</b>	<b>§</b>	<b>TEXAS COMMISSION ON</b>
<b>WQ0016111001</b>	<b>§</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY</b>

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**SAVE OUR SPRINGS ALLIANCE’S REPLY TO HEARING REQUESTS**

On April 2, 2025, Save Our Springs Alliance (SOS) filed a contested case hearing request with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for the application and draft permit of Blizexas, LLC (Applicant) for new TLAP Permit No. WQ0016111001 (draft permit). In response, the TCEQ Executive Director (ED) and Office of Public Interest Counsel (OPIC) found that Save Our Springs Alliance qualifies as an affected person. The Applicant claims that SOS should not be granted affected person status based on SOS’s identified member.

As set out in SOS’s contested case hearing request, SOS member Sharon Thiede lives and owns property .14 miles from the proposed wastewater facility at 15211 Fitzhugh Road, Austin, Texas 78736. Ms. Thiede expressed concerns that her economic, property, aesthetic, recreation, and personal health and safety interests will be harmed by the draft permit. Ms. Thiede also expressed concern about odors, contamination of water, property values, and harm to wildlife. As recognized by the ED and OPIC, Ms. Thiede easily checks all the boxes to be considered an affected person under 30 T.A.C. § 55.203 and to confer affected person status to SOS as a member.

The Applicant fabricates several arguments to avoid conceding that SOS and its member Ms. Thiede are affected persons entitled to a contested case hearing on the application and draft permit. The Applicant claims the draft permit will not lead to a discharge of treated municipal sewage, so Ms. Thiede is not an affected person. But whether the draft permit contains sufficient conditions to avoid the discharge of treated municipal sewage is an issue for the contested case

hearing, not an issue to be decided under the criteria set out at 30 T.A.C. § 55.203. The Applicant also points out that Ms. Thiede's property is not adjacent to the proposed facility, but there is no requirement in 30 T.A.C. § 55.203 or elsewhere that an affected person's property must abut the proposed facility; the factors set out in the regulation only require requestors to show that their protected interests, as they relate to the permit, may be affected. It strains credulity to claim that someone less than 2 tenths of a mile from a proposed wastewater facility will not be impacted in a manner that is legally relevant regardless of whether the facility is for a TLAP or TPDES permit.

To conclude, Save Our Springs Alliance reiterates its request for a contested case hearing on the application and draft permit of Blizexas, LLC for new TLAP Permit No. WQ0016111001 and requests any other relief to which it is entitled.

Sincerely,  
/s/ Victoria Rose  
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#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was served on the required parties in accordance with TCEQ rules on July 28, 2025.

/s/ Victoria Rose  
Victoria Rose