

APPENDIX D

INITIAL NOTIFICATION AND DATA FLAGGING

**EXCEPTIONAL EVENTS DEMONSTATION FOR 2023 PM_{2.5}
EXCEEDANCES AT ATASCOSA, HIDALGO, TARRANT, AND
WEBB COUNTIES**

AUGUST 5, 2025

**TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
P.O. BOX 13087
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711-3087**

APPENDIX D: INITIAL NOTIFICATION AND DATA FLAGGING

A copy of the initial notification letter and addendum sent to EPA Region 6 is provided on the following pages.

Brooke T. Paup, *Chairwoman*
Bobby Janecka, *Commissioner*
Catarina R. Gonzales, *Commissioner*
Kelly Keel, *Executive Director*



TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

July 8, 2025

Jeff Robinson
Branch Chief, Air Permitting, Monitoring, and Grants
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 6
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500 (MC 6ARP)
Dallas, TX 75270

Subject: Initial Notification of Potential Exceptional Events

Dear Mr. Robinson:

This letter serves as formal notification that the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) will develop and submit a demonstration to exclude year 2023 particulate matter of 2.5 micrometers or less in aerodynamic diameter (PM_{2.5}) air monitoring data influenced by exceptional events pursuant to 40 CFR Parts 50 and 51. This demonstration will address the following exceptional events for PM_{2.5} (parameter 88101):

Date	Monitor	Type of Event	AQS Flag	Exceedance Concentration	Tier
May 6, 2023	480131090	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	28.1 µg/m ³	2
January 2, 2023	482151046	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	30.0 µg/m ³	1
January 3, 2023	482151046	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	24.9 µg/m ³	2
March 1, 2023	482151046	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	24.0 µg/m ³	2
March 2, 2023	482151046	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	23.2 µg/m ³	2
March 27, 2023	482151046	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	23.7 µg/m ³	2
April 4, 2023	482151046	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	23.7 µg/m ³	2
April 15, 2023	482151046	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	23.1 µg/m ³	2
May 5, 2023	482151046	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	28.2 µg/m ³	2
May 6, 2023	482151046	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	30.5 µg/m ³	1
May 11, 2023	482151046	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	30.3 µg/m ³	1
May 12, 2023	482151046	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	32.9 µg/m ³	1
July 15, 2023	482151046	African Dust	ra	23.4 µg/m ³	2
July 16, 2023	482151046	African Dust	ra	23.0 µg/m ³	2

Date	Monitor	Type of Event	AQS Flag	Exceedance Concentration	Tier
July 26, 2023	482151046	African Dust	ra	26.1 µg/m ³	2
July 27, 2023	482151046	African Dust	ra	27.1 µg/m ³	2
February 27, 2023	484391002	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	32.9 µg/m ³	1
February 26, 2023	484391006	High Winds	rj	26.2 µg/m ³	1
February 27, 2023	484391006	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	39.8 µg/m ³	1
May 12, 2023	484391006	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	24.6 µg/m ³	2
June 14, 2023	484391006	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	25.0 µg/m ³	1
June 15, 2023	484391006	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	27.8 µg/m ³	1
May 5, 2023	484790313	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	31.4 µg/m ³	1
May 6, 2023	484790313	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	39.8 µg/m ³	1
May 12, 2023	484790313	High Winds	rj	38.7 µg/m ³	1
June 15, 2023	484790313	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	33.1 µg/m ³	2
June 16, 2023	484790313	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	28.8 µg/m ³	1

The data requested for exclusion have regulatory significance and affect the regulatory determinations concerning Atascosa, Hidalgo, Nueces, Tarrant, and Webb Counties. TCEQ looks forward to working with EPA Region 6 on the demonstration.

If you need any additional information, please contact Shantha Daniel at shantha.daniel@tceq.texas.gov.

Sincerely,



Walker Williamson for Donna F. Huff, Deputy Director
Air Quality Division

Cc: Joshua Madden, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 6

From: [Emily Saculla](#)
To: [Robinson, Jeffrey](#)
Cc: [Robledo, Tony](#); [Madden, Joshua](#); [Donna Huff](#); [Walker Williamson](#); [Shantha Daniel](#); [Zhaohua Fang](#); [Amber Ni](#); [Timothy Janke](#); [Sarah Cox](#)
Subject: Addendum to Initial Notification of a Potential Exceptional Event
Date: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 4:57:05 PM
Importance: High

Hi Jeff,

In the previous initial notification letter dated July 8, 2025, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality notified EPA Region 6 of the intent to develop and submit a demonstration to exclude 2022, 2023, and 2024 particulate matter of 2.5 micrometers or less in aerodynamic diameter (PM_{2.5}) air monitoring data influenced by exceptional events pursuant to 40 CFR Parts 50 and 51. This addendum serves to revise the type of event and AQS flag for the World Trade Bridge monitor (484790313), the El Paso Chamizal monitor (481410044), and the Port Arthur Memorial School monitor (482450021) for the dates listed in the table below:

Date	Monitor	Event Type	Updated AQS flag	Concentration
May 12, 2023	484790313	Fire – Mexico/Central America	rg	38.7 µg/m ³
February 28, 2024	481410044	Wildfire – U.S.	rt	33.0 µg/m ³
May 15, 2024	482450021	Fire – Mexico/Central America	rg	24.7 µg/m ³
October 29, 2024	482450021	Prescribed Fire	rm	30.7 µg/m ³

If you need any additional information, please contact me at emily.saculla@tceq.texas.gov. Thanks!

Regards,

Emily Saculla

Air Modeling & Data Analysis Section
Office of Air, Air Quality Division
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)