

APPENDIX E

INITIAL NOTIFICATION TO EPA AND FLAGGING

**EXCEPTIONAL EVENTS DEMONSTRATION FOR 2023 PM_{2.5}
EXCEEDANCES AT HARRISON COUNTY, TRAVIS COUNTY, AND
KLEBERG COUNTY**

February 7, 2025

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

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

Jon Niermann, *Chairman*
Bobby Janecka, *Commissioner*
Catarina R. Gonzales, *Commissioner*
Kelly Keel, *Executive Director*



TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

November 25, 2024

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

VIA EMAIL

Subject: Initial Notification of a Potential Exceptional Event

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 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
January 1, 2023	484530021	High Winds, Fireworks	rj, rh	44.2 µg/m ³
January 3, 2023	482730314	Fire – Mexico/Central America	rg	25.1 µg/m ³
January 16, 2023	482730314	Fire – Mexico/Central America	rg	24.0 µg/m ³
January 18, 2023	482730314	Fire – Mexico/Central America	rg	25.3 µg/m ³
February 14, 2023	482730314	Fire – Mexico/Central America	rg	21.8 µg/m ³
February 27, 2023	482030002	Fire – Mexico/Central America, high winds	rg, rj	26.6 µg/m ³
March 2, 2023	484530021	High Winds, Fire – Mexico/Central America	rj, rg	32.9 µg/m ³
March 15, 2023	482030002	Wildfire – U.S., Prescribed Fire	rt, rm	39.7 µg/m ³
May 5, 2023	482730314	Fire – Mexico/Central America	rg	22.2 µg/m ³

Date	Monitor	Type of Event	AQS Flag	Exceedance Concentration
June 13, 2023	484530021	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	31.5 µg/m ³
June 14, 2023	482730314	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	22.2 µg/m ³
June 14, 2023	484530021	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	27.4 µg/m ³
June 15, 2023	484530021	Fire - Mexico/Central America	rg	27.4 µg/m ³
July 15, 2023	482730314	African Dust	ra	24.2 µg/m ³
July 16, 2023	482730314	African Dust	ra	24.6 µg/m ³
July 25, 2023	482730314	African Dust, Fire - Canadian	ra, rf	22.3 µg/m ³
July 26, 2023	482730314	African Dust, Fire - Canadian	ra, rf	26.5 µg/m ³
July 27, 2023	482730314	African Dust, Fire - Canadian	ra, rf	29.6 µg/m ³
July 28, 2023	482730314	African Dust, Fire - Canadian	ra, rf	23.3 µg/m ³

The data requested for exclusion have regulatory significance and affect the regulatory determinations concerning the regions in which the air monitoring sites are located. 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,

**Donna F.
Huff**

Digitally signed by Donna
F. Huff
Date: 2024.11.25 12:05:53
-06'00'

Donna F. Huff, Deputy Director
Air Quality Division

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

From: [Sushil Gautam](#)
To: madden.joshua@epa.gov
Cc: [Robinson, Jeffrey](#); [Robledo, Tony](#); [Donna Huff](#); [Walker Williamson](#); [Shantha Daniel](#); [Zhaohua Fang](#); [Amber Ni](#); [Timothy Janke](#)
Subject: Addendum to Initial Notification of a Potential Exceptional Event
Date: Tuesday, December 17, 2024 9:33:04 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
Importance: High

Good Morning Josh,

In the previous initial notification letter dated November 25, 2024, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality notified EPA Region 6 of the intent to develop and submit a demonstration to exclude 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 addendum serves to revise the type of event and AQS flag for the Austin Webberville monitor (484530021) and National Seashore monitor (482730314) for the dates listed in the table below:

Date	Monitor	Type of Event	AQS Flag	Exceedance Concentration
January 1, 2023	484530021	Fireworks	rh	44.2 µg/m ³
July 25, 2023	482730314	African Dust	ra	22.3 µg/m ³
July 26, 2023	482730314	African Dust	ra	26.5 µg/m ³
July 27, 2023	482730314	African Dust	ra	29.6 µg/m ³
July 28, 2023	482730314	African Dust	ra	23.3 µg/m ³

If you need any additional information, please contact me at sushil.gautam@tceq.texas.gov.

Regards,

Sushil Gautam, Ph.D. (he/him)

Air Quality Technical Specialist
Air Modeling and Data Analysis Section, Air Quality Division
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
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