

Comment Received during the October 26, 2022 to December 2, 2022
Public Review of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Draft El Paso County PM₁₀ Exceptional Event Demonstration
for December 23, 2020 at the
Socorro Hueco and El Paso Mimosa Monitors

Timothy Janke

From: Gill, Thomas E. <tegill@utep.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, November 2, 2022 11:17 PM
To: amda
Subject: El Paso County PM10 Exceptional Event Demonstration, December 23, 2020

Dear TCEQ,

I wish to make a comment on the El Paso County PM10 Exceptional Event Demonstration for December 23, 2020.

I am Thomas E. Gill, Professor at the University of Texas at El Paso. My professional research is in regards to dust storms, fugitive dust, and particulate matter, with expertise in using remote sensing and meteorology to identify the source areas of dust storms.

Some of my published and/or peer-reviewed research on those topics is cited in the TCEQ Exceptional Event Demonstration December 23, 2020 report.

For more than a decade, I have been documenting and investigating windblown dust events in the Chihuahuan Desert that impact the city of El Paso. Whenever possible, I report on the occurrence of dust events impacting El Paso, and their apparent source areas, on Twitter on my account @tomgillpredicts .

Please note that on December 23, 2020 I was aware of the occurrence of a blowing dust event and determined through analysis of satellite images that the dust impacting parts of El Paso was blown on north winds from White Sands, New Mexico. The image below I saved from the NOAA-GOES satellite at 2256 UTC, in which the light-colored dust plume originating from White Sands can be faintly but distinctly made out moving southwards, with the leading edge of it being visible as a curved line over the El Paso/Juarez metropolitan area.



Please refer to the following Tweets that I posted on my account regarding my observations of this phenomenon.

<https://twitter.com/tomgillpredicts/status/1341887515217842176>

<https://twitter.com/tomgillpredicts/status/1341981940522639360>

I hereby submit the above observations and Tweets for your consideration to potentially add to the record of this event.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Gill



Thomas E. Gill, Ph.D., P.G., F.R.G.S., Professor

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