

# Plain Language Summary of Adopted Concrete Batch Plant Standard Permit 2023 Amendments

## Introduction

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ or commission) is amending the non-rule air quality standard permit authorizing concrete batch plants (CBP) under the authority of the Texas Clean Air Act (TCAA), Texas Health and Safety Code, §382.05195, and 30 TAC Chapter 116, Subchapter F, Standard Permits.

## Summary

The amendments to the standard permit (Non-Rule Project No. 2022-033-OTH-NR) include an updated Air Quality Analysis (AQA) and corresponding revisions to certain sections of the standard permit. The AQA is a report containing information that demonstrates that emissions at a concrete batch plant authorized by this standard permit would not cause or contribute to a violation of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, exceed a state property line standard, or adversely affect human health and the environment. It is used to demonstrate that the adopted amendment will be protective of human health and the environment. The amendments to the standard permit include revised operational requirements, additional setback limitations, production limitations, and updated best management practices. The adopted changes support the reduction of emissions from CBPs and ensure that air quality and human health remain protected.

In response to comments, certain changes to the standard permit have been made since proposal. The changes set different production limits and setback requirements for central mix plants and truck mix plants, which have different emission characteristics. The definition of setback distance was revised to include a reference to storage silos. Maximum hourly and annual production rates for specialty concrete plants were increased if the CBP complies with a greater setback distance. Certain permit provisions relating to plants in or next to the right-of-way of a public works project were revised for consistency with commission rule 30 TAC §116.178. Permit language was added to limit the total surface area of stockpiles. Language was added to require the owner or operator to maintain records to demonstrate that sand or aggregate material has been pre-washed prior to delivery. Language was added to require the owner or operator to maintain a copy of the manufacturer's specifications for engines used at the plant. Language was added to ensure that controls to minimize or suppress dust (such as fencing or equivalent barriers) are maintained in good working order. A reference to commission rule 30 TAC §101.4, Nuisance was added to the General Requirements.

## Public Comment and Public Meeting Information

The TCEQ held three informal stakeholder public meetings relating to the CPB standard permit in November 2022. The meetings were held on November 9, 2022, at TCEQ headquarters in Austin, Texas (hybrid in-person and virtual); on November 14, 2022, in Houston, Texas (in-person); and on November 15, 2022, in Arlington, Texas (in-person). Spanish language interpretation was available at these meetings. The TCEQ accepted informal comments through November 30, 2022.

The TCEQ held a formal public meeting on the proposed amendments to the CPB standard permit in Austin on Thursday, May 18, 2023, at the TCEQ's central office located at 12100 Park 35 Circle. Spanish language interpretation was available at this meeting.

The TCEQ also held an informational meeting in Houston on Monday, May 22, 2023, to answer questions about the proposed amendments. Spanish language interpretation was available at this meeting.

The comment period for these amendments opened on April 14, 2023, and closed on June 14, 2023. Numerous comments were received. The commissions' response to comments and other information on the amended standard permit may be found online at the following link:

[www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/air/newsourcereview/mechanical/cbp.html](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/air/newsourcereview/mechanical/cbp.html)