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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMENT ON THE EDWARDS AQUIFER PROTECTION PROGRAM

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ or commission) conducts annual public hearings to receive comments from the public on actions the commission should take to protect the Edwards Aquifer from pollution, as required under Texas Water Code, §26.046. These annual public hearings are held by the Edwards Aquifer Protection Program and cover the TCEQ rules, found at Title 30, Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 213, which regulate development over the delineated contributing, recharge, and transition zones of the Edwards Aquifer. These annual public hearings assist the commission in its shared responsibility with local governments, such as cities, counties, and groundwater conservation districts, to protect the water quality of the aquifer. In addition to receiving comments, agency staff will provide an update on application process improvements and electronic records management.

This year the hearing will be conducted in person in two locations, the TCEQ Headquarters in Austin and the TCEQ San Antonio Regional Office. The hearing in Austin will be at the TCEQ Headquarters located at 12100 Park 35 Circle, Austin, Texas 78753 on **Tuesday, October 18, 2022** and begin at 10:00 a.m. in Building A, Room 172. The hearing in San Antonio will be at the TCEQ San Antonio Regional Office located at 14250 Judson Road, San Antonio, Texas 78233-4480 on **Thursday, October 20, 2022** and begin at 10:00 a.m.

Persons with disabilities who need special accommodations at the hearings should call the Office of the Chief Clerk at 512-239-3300 or 1-800-RELAY-TX (TDD) at least five business days prior to the scheduled hearings.

The hearings will be structured for the receipt of oral or written comments by interested persons. There will be no open question and answer discussion during the hearing; however, agency staff members will be available to answer questions 30 minutes prior to and 30 minutes after the conclusion of the hearing. All other comments must be received by **5:00 p.m., Friday, October 21, 2022**.

Additional written comments submitted before or after the hearing should reference the Edwards Aquifer Protection Program and may be sent to Ms. Lillian Butler, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Austin Region, MC R11, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087 or emailed to eapp@tceq.texas.gov. For further information or questions concerning these hearings, please contact Ms. Butler, or visit: <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/eapp/history.html>.