

From: [Channelview Community](#)
To: [TOX](#)
Subject: Sunset Management Recommendation 1.2: Commission Vote on Acceptable Level of Health-Based Risk
Date: Tuesday, October 3, 2023 9:36:50 PM

October 3, 2023

via: tox@tceq.texas.gov

Texas Commission on Environmental Equality
P. O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

Re: Sunset Management Recommendation 1.2: Commission Vote on Acceptable Level of Health-Based Risk

Dear Texas Commission on Environmental Quality,

I ask that TCEQ strengthen the Sunset Commission's recommendation to adopt a 1 in 1,000,000 health-based risk levels and for the TCEQ to recognize and account for the combined risks and impacts of all the chemicals, toxins and particulates within a community and the environment.

A facility and the chemicals, toxins, and particulates it produces does not exist within a bubble and combines with other area emissions, discharges and impacts resulting in a compounded health risk to those in the surrounding communities, residents and their environments thus the facility's added risk to the community can not and should not be disregarded. TCEQ should strengthen its standards to account for the total compounded risk level to an individual, community or the environment.

Accumulated low level exposure of a single chemical or cocktail of chemicals should be recognized and considered when assessing a permit and/or violation. Humans, wildlife and their environments act as depositories for chemicals which do not easily shed the impacts of exposure. Multiple and longtime or repeated exposures combine to increase the health risk levels to the impacted individuals, communities, wildlife and the environment thus repeated or continuous exposure can not be and should not be disregarded. TCEQ should strengthen its standards to account for the total accumulated risk level to an individual, community or the environment.

Historically, industries have chosen to establish or expand in areas which have multiple industries and are in or very near communities designated as being underserved and/or in the high risk areas for cancer and other health issues. These health challenged residents and those with health challenges in communities of lower risk are more susceptible to asthma, stroke, cardiac arrests and other health issues caused by exposure to particulates and chemicals. TCEQ should strengthen its standards to protect those with health challenges and for those residing and working in communities in designated health high risk areas.

We as Texans rely on TCEQ to protect our and our state's public health and natural resources. Please strengthen TCEQ's permitting standards to account for the combined and accumulated health effects of chemicals.

Sincerely,
Carolyn Stone
Resident and for
Chammelview Health & Improvement Coalition

[REDACTED]