

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Elizabeth Jones](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Private/Before Publication)
Date: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 8:07:57 AM

From: Texas Sunset Advisory Commission <sunset@sunset.texas.gov>
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2022 3:01 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission <Sunset.AdvisoryCommission@sunset.texas.gov>
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Private/Before Publication)

Submitted on Mon, 06/20/2022 - 13:27

Submitted by: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Choose the agency that you would like to provide input about

[Texas Commission on Environmental Quality](#)

Public Comments

1

First Name

Erin

Title

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Email

City

Dallas

State

Texas

Your Comments or Concerns

I'm writing regarding the Sunset Commission. I was shocked and troubled when I first learned that TCEQ differs from official EPA recommendations when it comes to regulating environmental toxins and pollutants. I am also troubled that so much "regulation" of high emissions industries is self-managed by the industries. My concerns do not come only from an environmentalist outlook, nor even strictly from a public health angle (links to cancer, asthma, etc.): so much research shows that there are considerable effects of air pollution and other environmental toxins on cognitive

functioning and brain development, which ripples outward into the economic, cultural, and political vibrancy of the state. As a person considering starting a family, I have serious qualms about doing so in TX if the state does not commit resources to the health of its environment, and hence its long-term prosperity.

Your Proposed Solution

Revamp the TCEQ: 1) give it more powers to directly regulate industries and deny or revoke permits when public interest demands -- 2) mandate greater transparency -- 3) bring TCEQ standards in line with those recommended by the EPA -- 4) increase the fines against violations (and revoke permits for repeat offenders) and 5) remove the "economic development" part of the commission's mission. This should not be part of the commission's mission at all (although, since environmental degradation and pollution have long-term negative effects on the economy by hampering workforce productivity and likely exacerbating climate chaos, a long view of the mission statement is already consistent with taking a much more proactive approach to the health of our environment)

My Comments Will Be Made Public

Yes