

It's time to enforce the Clean Air Act in Texas

Patricia Bacon o Stanley Spruiell

11/15/2009 09:40 AM

Sent by: Sierra Club Membership Services <membership.services@sierraclub.org> Please respond to Patricia Bacon

Nov 15, 2009

Mr. Stanley Spruiell

Dear Mr. Spruiell,

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is broken. I applaud EPA's proposed ruling that major portions of the TCEQ air permitting process does not adhere to the Clean Air Act, and should be thrown out.

That was a good first step. Now is the time for the EPA to take bold action by:

- Halting any new air pollution permits from being issued by TCEQ utilizing TCEQ's current illegal policy
- Creating a moratorium on the operations of any new coal-fired power plants in Texas until the TCEQ cleans up its act by operating under the Federal Clean Air Act standards
- Requiring coal companies clean up their old, dirty plants -- no exemptions, no bailouts, and no special treatment by reviewing all permits issued since the TCEQ adopted its illegal policies and requiring that these entities resubmit their applications in accordance with the Federal Clean Air Act.
- Put stronger rules in place in order to reduce global-warming emissions and to make sure new laws and rules do not allow existing coal plants to continue polluting with global-warming emissions.

Texas has great potential for green energy alternatives. The state also has a lot of money. There is no reason for circumventing Clean

Air Act Standards except for pure greed, and/or the attitude that says, "We don't need anyone tellin' us what to do". Safe business

practices must be a part of good business or the business should not be allowed. The EPA has done many beneficial things for the citizens of this country and it is a necessity to keep it strong and safe-guarding healthy environments and ecological systems. Don't let an elite group of "good-old-boys" think that they can push around the EPA or their regulations.

Sincerely,

Ms. Patricia Bacon 13315 Water Oak Ln Austin, TX 78729-3741