



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

Jimmy W. Hosch o Stanley Spruiell

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Sent by: Sierra Club Membership Services
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Please respond to "Jimmy W. Hosch"

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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 makes sure new laws and rules do not allow existing coal plants to pollute old global warming emissions.

I am so pleased you are forcing the Texas Commission on Environmental

Quality to enforce the Clean Air Act -- especially in the permitting of coal fired power plants. For too long, the Texas utilities have been allowed to disregard the environment and health of people in the pursuit of profitable dirty coal operations. It is wonderful that you are regulating carbon dioxide emissions as a pollutant. Current regulations must be enhanced to make a difference in the slope of global warming increase.

I hope you also revisit the EPA rulling under the last administration that mercury emissions from coal plants are not a health hazard to be regulated. As a Ph.D. chemist, I was never convinced of the validity of that conclusion.

Please keep up the good work.

Thank heavens some body in the federal government finally cares!

Jimmy W. Hosch, Ph.D.

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Sincerely,

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