



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

Barbara Kessler o Stanley Spruiell

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Sent by: Sierra Club Membership Services  
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Please respond to Barbara Kessler

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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.

My thoughts:

Many of us in Texas would rather see the economy take a sharp turn toward clean energy, toward wind and solar power, even geothermal and wave power. We can do all that in this large, diverse state. Traditionally, this has been the state that's easy to do "bidness" in. Unfortunately, this coal business is not good for our health, and is degrading the atmosphere to the point that it makes moot any debate about its effects on our children's health. It

will certainly be challenged by climate change and fossil fuel-produced air pollution.

Please help bring Texas into the 21st Century by stopping the easy-going permitting of coal plants in what could be a beautiful state.

Sincerely,

Ms. Barbara Kessler  
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