

February 16, 2024

<u>Via Email Delivery to Intergovernmental Relations Division</u>
Mrs. Kelly Keel
Executive Director, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality TCEQ MC 109
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

Re: Air Quality Permit 174388

Dear Director Keel,

Thank you for your work on reviewing all of the various permits under the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) purview and ensuring the public comments are reviewed in a timely manner. From my review of TCEQ during the recent Sunset Advisory Commission process, I know each permit is unique, that public comments are valued, and that TCEQ strives to find the balance between economic development and public health.

With regard to a proposed air quality permit for a rock crusher facility near Quinlan, Texas (Air Quality Permit 174388), please accept this letter as my formal opposition to the approval of this air quality standard permit. I, too, try to seek the balance with economic development interests, private property rights, public safety interests, public health interests, and community interests which is frequently difficult in the legislative process. I support my constituents and their community interests which is my reason for opposing the approval of this permit and ask that you take action to deny the permit after the close of the public comment period.

My constituents near Quinlan, Union Valley, and Royse City are overwhelmingly opposed to this air quality permit and have submitted hundreds of comments to TCEQ in opposition, providing many reasons as to why having a rock crushing facility in their neighborhood would impact air quality and the quality of life in the neighborhood. I have been in communication with a number of constituents directly and have heard the common concerns about how the approval of this permit will impact their community interests in a negative way, including:

• Additional heavy truck traffic on State Highway 276 affecting daily road safety.

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- Significant increase in noise levels affecting quality of life.
- Additional silica dust in the immediate neighborhood which will have an impact on personal health for a number of individuals.

These are just a few of the comments that I have received. I know the noise and traffic are not under the TCEQ review criteria for the air quality standard permit, so I want to especially voice these concerns on behalf of the overall area as I ask you to deny the air quality permit. These concerns have also been raised by the Hunt County Commissioners Court, the Union Valley City Council, and the Quinlan City Council in resolutions opposing this specific air quality permit and those resolutions have been sent to TCEQ as part of the public record.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact my staff. Thank you for addressing this important issue for my constituents and listening to their sincere comments on behalf of southwestern Hunt County.

Blessings,

Angela S. Paxton

Texas State Senator

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Cc: Laurie Gharis, TCEQ Chief Clerk

TCEQ Commissioners

TCEQ Intergovernmental Relations Division