

1. FACT SHEET

AIR PERMITTING PROCESS

CONCERN: The TCEQ Air Permitting requirements do not ensure that adjacent properties and landowners' air quality is sufficiently protected.

All elements of the TCEQ air permitting process have been developed through extensive and rigorous data analysis, which incorporates modeling, sampling, monitoring and toxicological information gathered and synthesized to ensure that human health and the environment are protected. In all cases, the standards established by this process incorporate highly conservative assumptions that go well above and beyond the levels that would be considered to have any potential adverse impacts to human health and the environment.

More specifically, the emission limits in an Aggregate Production Operation's (APO's) air quality permit are designed to be protective of human health and the environment.

During the permit application process, the TCEQ Air Permits Division reviews the operational parameters of the facility (e.g., number of crushers, operating rates, and location to property lines) in order to compare the APO's predicted emission concentrations to appropriate state and federal air quality standards.

The specific health-based standards employed in evaluating the potential emissions include the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and TCEQ standards contained in 30 Texas Administrative Code (30 TAC).

The TCEQ's technical staff conducts an "Air Quality Analysis." The TCEQ Executive Director's staff, often professional engineers with P.E. certifications and toxicologists with Master's level educations, review emissions rates and assess the adverse short- or long-term health effects for the general public, including sensitive subgroups such as children, the elderly or those individuals with preexisting health conditions, animal life, crops and vegetation. The potential for adverse health effects are assessed for persons living adjacent to the facility or visiting nearby properties.

TACA members work hard to minimize environmental impact, protect the public and communities from injury or property damage and institute many practices that mitigate noise, dust and other considered nuisances, at their own expense, and oftentimes when not required by any regulatory body.