

ANN MAY

I urge TCEQ to implement the most stringent possible plan to bring the Houston-Galveston-Brazoria (HGB) area back into attainment for ozone pollution in accordance with the 2008 National Ambient Air Quality Standards as required by the Clean Air Act.

A large part of the nonattainment problem in Texas is also related to increased temperatures, because the summers are getting hotter as the climate crisis is made worse by continued reliance on fossil fuels and a failure to appropriately regulate polluting industries in general. A recent story from the Sierra Club identified that nearly half of the Texas population is consistently exposed to unsafe levels of ozone pollution. That's nearly 15 million people that could be at risk. In addition, a 2023 report published by the Environmental Integrity Project identified 6 Houston areas where residents were exposed to the highest levels of ozone in 2023 at 100 ppb (the 2008 standard is 75 ppb).

Texans are facing the very real and dangerous consequences of TCEQ's failure to submit state plans that meet the federal requirements for NAAQS, so we expect you all to do your due diligence and provide the most stringent regulations with these revisions to the 2008 plan.