

Gina Biekman

Re: TCEQ's rule project number 2024-027-113-AI

My name is Gina Biekman. I live in Houston where the air quality is the 6th worst in the U.S. with high ozone and particulate pollution. Some days I can't stand to be outside because of the smell.

Carcinogenic compounds and volatile organic compounds are emitted with production of so called "natural gas". This may be the cause of allergies that my granddaughter has to take medicine for. Who knows what these compounds health impacts will show up later?

Millions of Texans, especially low income and BIOPC citizens, live in unsafe areas within a half mile radius of an oil and gas site. Premature deaths from cardiovascular and lung diseases as well as birth abnormalities are prevalent.

Climate change is accelerating due in large part to increased rates of methane emitted. See You Tube Video: "Methane Worst-Case Climate Emergency". This will affect us all wherever we live.

We need comprehensive and enforced rules to mandate reduced emissions at all oil and gas sites with a state plan that protects at least as well as the federal standards. Low-producing wells are responsible for about half of the wellsite methane pollution despite producing a relatively small amount of energy resources. These wells should be closed and capped by the companies that own them.

The TCEQ must regulate and mitigate the methane production in Texas. This is essential to protecting the climate and the health of environmental justice communities, oil and gas workers, and those living on the frontline of extraction in Texas.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.