

Barbara Pederson

The TCEQ's recommended BMPs do not really address the biggest mining issues we have in the upper San Jacinto watershed.

I urge you to urge TCEQ to develop BMPs that address:

Discharge of sediment-laden water

Pit capture (when a river starts flowing through a mine)

Periodic flooding.

The proposed BMPs do not cover these issues at all.

The final report of a TCEQ investigation into a West Fork pit capture last year didn't even mention the phrase. Do they not consider it a problem? I sure wish the TCEQ could enlighten us on this issue. Bob Rehak has documented and submitted seven instances of pit capture in the Lake Houston watershed last year alone. There may have been more; many mines are in remote, difficult-to-access locations.

We in Kingwood are at flooding risk again due to the sand in the effluent, and diversion of the channels flowing through old mines. Please get serious about the issue which also impacts drinking water quality.

Thank you.