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Re: Toxic Wells & drinking water

Jose Torres to: (b) (6) [redacted]

Cc: Philip Dellinger

07/28/2008 10:52 AM

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From: Jose Torres/R6/USEPA/US

To: (b) (6) [redacted]

Cc: Philip Dellinger/R6/USEPA/US@EPA

Good morning (b) (6) [redacted]

Thank you very much for your e-mail of this morning, July 28, 2008, in which you express your concerns with the need for measures to minimize/eliminate the potential for contamination of drinking water by chemicals. Your reference to "Toxic Wells" seems to indicate concerns in connection with the underground injection of waste water containing chemicals, pretty much in line with the concerns received from Ms. Stephanie Helton and a number of other citizens during the last few days.

I have expressed to these citizens, as I express to you today, our appreciation for those comments, on behalf of my managers in the Underground Injection Control (UIC) program here at EPA Region 6.

In October, 2007 and in January, 2008, we received similar comments from (b) (6) [redacted] respectively, residents of Montgomery County. Some of my colleagues and I responded to their comments with a detailed outline of how the permitting process works and EPA's role in this process. If you are interested in learning about these details, you may be able to obtain copies of our responses to the comments from those citizens who, I believe, may be members of the CROW group. Or you can send me a request for the information and I will be happy to convey it to my Section Chief.

I want you to know that the UIC team in this office has already invested considerable time monitoring the progress of the permitting process for the proposed injection wells in Montgomery County. Thank you again for your comments, I hope you have taken the opportunity to submit comments to TCEQ as well. Have a nice day. Sincerely,

Jose Eduardo Torres - 6WQ-SG
EPA, Region 6