GOLIAD COUNTY FARM BUREAU

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Mr. Ron Curry
Director, Region 6 EPA
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202

Dear Mr. Curry:

Recently, the Goliad County Farm Bureau was named as a part of the "aligned parties" group by the Administrative Law Judge during the Contested Case Hearing with the TCEQ. As such, we have a vested interest in the ultimate decision of whether or not to grant the aquifer exemption to UEC.

Other than the obvious concern for the safety of our neighboring members' drinking water, we are also apprehensive about the protection of our groundwater so that the health of our livestock and wildlife is preserved, both genetically and as a food source.

After a meeting with concerned parties in Dallas and subsequent correspondences, the EPA requested that TCEQ conduct water modeling and a pump test to determine the transmissivity of the two faults associated with the mining area. The area in question has been used for domestic and livestock wells for over 100 years, providing water for generations of landowners and their agricultural operations, up to and including the present time. This has been, and continues to be, a drinking water aquifer and until the scientific data is presented to prove otherwise, an aquifer exemption must not be granted!

We, the Board of Directors of the Goliad County Farm Bureau, strongly recommend that the EPA maintain this position, as empirical data and historical use indicate that the aquifer in the area ***is*** used as a source of drinking water.

Sincerely,

P. T. CALHOUN
President

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PAUL LOONEY
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RAY ARNOLD

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cc: Lisa Jackson, Director EPA
William Honker, Region 6 EPA
Sam Coleman, Region 6 EPA
Zac Covar, TECQ
Senator John Cornyn
Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison
Senator Elect Ted Cruz
State Senator Glenn Hegar
State Representative Geanie Morrison