

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Legislative Appropriations Request for the 2010-2011 Biennium**

Issue

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) requires adequate appropriations from the Texas Legislature to fund necessary air quality research and planning activities across the state.

Background

State funding for research and air planning activities, especially when complemented with private funding for these activities has proven to yield optimum results in developing science-based, practical, economically viable state implementation plans for non-attainment areas and air planning activities for near non-attainment areas.

The recent revision of the eight-hour ozone standard will increase the number of areas in Texas required to meet additional regulatory standards. Texas currently has three major metropolitan areas above the current standard, Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, Dallas-Fort Worth and Beaumont-Port Arthur. With the revised standard, El Paso, Tyler-Longview, San Antonio and Austin will be added. These new regions will require additional monitoring equipment as well as staff for investigations, modeling and analysis.

Legislative Action Needed

Approval of TCEQ's Legislative Appropriations Request, in particular the Exceptional Item Request addressing Eight-Hour Ozone Regulations.

Fiscal Impact

TCEQ's full Legislative Appropriations Request for the 2010-2011 biennium is approximately \$1,075,000,000 plus exceptional items.