

# DFW HAS A GAS PROBLEM



HELP US RELIEVE IT ON JULY 14TH

## **TCEQ PUBLIC HEARING ON THE NEW DFW SMOG PLAN**

**THURSDAY JULY 14, 6:30PM**

**ARLINGTON CITY HALL 101 W ABRAM**

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## **Eat-Up and Sound-Off for Clean Air**

### **“Perry Bean” Cook-Off**

**5:45-6:30 pm North Side of Arlington City Hall Plaza**

Join citizens like yourself for a serving of “Perry Beans” outside City Hall and listen to speakers including former DISH Mayor Calvin Tillman and Tim Ruggiero, whose land was just selected by EPA for a Nat’l Fracking Study present...

**“A Conservative Response to Governor Perry’s Gas Problem”**

### **TCEQ Hearing on New Smog Plan**

**6:30 pm City Council Chambers at Arlington City Hall**

After the cook-off, walk inside and tell the state why it must do more to clean the air.

This TCEQ plan only cuts 14 tons out of 140 tons PER DAY of smog-forming “VOC” pollution from natural gas drilling!

**LET GOVERNOR PERRY KNOW HOW MUCH HIS AIR PLAN STINKS!**

DOWNWINDERS AT RISK, DALLAS AREA RESIDENTS FOR RESPONSIBLE DRILLING, FRAC DALLAS,  
TEXAS CAMPAIGN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, TEXAS OIL AND GAS ACCOUNTABILITY PROJECT

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# A CITIZEN'S GUIDE TO TCEQ'S 2011 DFW SMOG PLAN



Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) pollution escaping from a gas condensate tank in the Barnett Shale as photographed by a TCEQ infrared camera.

## Why is this plan necessary?

DFW didn't meet the obsolete 1997 federal ozone (smog) standard of 85 parts per billion (ppb) in 2009 the way that TCEQ and Governor Perry predicted. This 1997 standard was declared **"unprotective of human health"** by the George W. Bush Administration in 2008, which replaced it with a new ozone standard of 75 ppb.

## What is a "safe" level of ozone/smog?

Scientists are recommending a level of between 60 and 70 parts per billion, EPA is scheduled to announce a new standard in this range this summer. **So even if this TCEQ plan manages to meet the 1997 standard, we STILL won't be breathing safe and legal air.**

## What does this plan do?

Almost nothing. **The entire basis of this proposed TCEQ plan is to sit back and watch DFW residents trade in their older cars for newer ones.** TCEQ says this "turnover" in the car fleet will make it possible to meet the 1997 "unprotective" smog standard...by 2013. TCEQ's plan requires no new controls on the Midlothian cement plants, or Central Texas coal plants. It doesn't make it easier to purchase electric cars or hybrids, or increase funding for mass transit. It mostly sits back and watches.

## What's the TCEQ's plan's biggest flaw?

The largest single omission is the fact that it doesn't rein-in growing Volatile Organic Compound pollution from gas drilling sources. This pollution has risen significantly in DFW over the last six years and **has never been regulated by any previous clean air plan..** According to the TCEQ, by next year VOC pollution from gas industry sources in the area will **total more than the VOC pollution produced by all the cars and trucks in DFW.** VOC pollution from gas sources is now so large that it's obliterated previous progress from past efforts to clean the air. Despite two entire TCEQ air plans over the last five years, they'll be **MORE VOC air pollution in DFW in 2012 than there was in 2006.**

Nevertheless, this plan **only cuts 14 tons per day out of 114 tons per day** of all the smog-forming Volatile Organic Compounds released by the gas industry in North Texas - at a time when technology allows reductions of 90% or more and gas operators can make millions by collecting product that's now being lost.

Seven cities - Argyle, Bartonville, Denton, DISH, Ft. Worth, Flower Mound, Southlake - and Dallas County have all **unanimously passed resolutions requesting TCEQ and Governor Perry to include more gas industry VOC cuts in this proposed air plan.** To date, Governor Perry and TCEQ have ignored these requests from elected officials representing over 3 million DFW residents.

## What can make the plan better?

### 1) Reducing gas industry pollution up to 90% by taking aggressive action to reduce VOCs

- replacing valves that intentionally release gas pollution with ones that don't - 50 tons per day cut
- requiring vapor recovery on tanks that release more than 5 tons of pollution annually - 29 tons per day cut
- a ban on flaring, requiring green completions
- requiring electric gas compressors

### 2) Requiring a pilot-test of Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) technology on one or more Midlothian cement plants. SCR has been proven to remove over 90% of the smog-forming pollution from kilns.

### 3) Requiring SCR on all Texas coal plants. Many older coal-fired utility plants that DFW is downwind of are not required to have state-of-the-art pollution control technologies.