Contact: Annalisa Peace, (210)275-9336 Spanish Language Contact: Lydia Avila, (626) 506-9651

November 2, 2010 Request for Coverage

**Press Conference** 

When: Thursday, November 4th at 3:00 pm

Where: San Antonio Central Library Gallery, 600 Soledad Street

## **Texans Rate State Environmental Agency**

Town Hall Meetings featuring performance reviews of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) are being held across Texas in anticipation of the State Legislature's Sunset Review of the agency that is charged with protecting the health and safety of all Texans, and with enforcing the Federal Clean Air and Clean Water Acts here in Texas. TCEQ Town Halls have already been held in El Paso, Beaumont, Dallas, Houston, Corpus Christi, and Victoria, and are scheduled for other Texas cities, including San Antonio.

The Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance, Leagues of Women Voters of the San Antonio Area and Comal County, the Alliance for a Clean Texas, the Lone Star and Alamo Groups of the Sierra Club, Bexar Audubon Society, Southwest Workers Union, the Helotes Nature Center, Citizens for the Protection of Cibolo Creek, 350 San Antonio.org, La Coste Residents for a Healthy Community, CASE New Braunfels, and State Representatives Trey Martinez Fischer and David McQuade Leibowitz are co-sponsoring a local event that will provide a forum for citizens, advocacy groups, local and county elected officials, and agencies from San Antonio and surrounding communities to recount their experiences with TCEQ, and to share their suggestions for improving this agency in light of TCEQ's upcoming Sunset Review.

Since this topic is so vital to the quality of life for the citizens of Central Texas, everyone is invited to join in this important conversation.

# **Town Hall Meeting for TCEQ Sunset Review**

When: Monday, November 8, 2010 from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Where: San Antonio Central Library,

600 Soledad Street, San Antonio, Texas

Lamont Jefferson, member of the Sunset Review Commission of the Texas Legislature, and State Representatives Trey Martinez Fischer, David McQuade Leibowitz, and Roland Guitierrez will preside. The meeting will follow a *citizens to be heard* format, allowing six minutes each for presentations from government agencies and citizens groups. Individuals will be accorded three minutes each. Sunset Commissioners, State Representatives and State Senators in attendance will have the opportunity to ask questions and converse with each presenter as they see fit. Topics to be addressed by citizens engaged in these issues will include air quality, hazardous waste disposal, water quality protection, and TCEQ's track record in keeping Texas a great place to live.

For more information about the Sunset Review process visit: <a href="http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/agency/sunset/index.html">http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/agency/sunset/index.html</a> and <a href="http://www.acttexas.org/PDFs/TCEQSunset\_at\_a\_Glance.pdf">http://www.acttexas.org/PDFs/TCEQSunset\_at\_a\_Glance.pdf</a>

### **Upcoming Town Hall Meetings:**

Below is the information for the other town halls scheduled for the rest of the month. Additional information can be found at: http://www.acttexas.org/TownHalls.

#### Dallas-Ft. Forth Worth

Monday November 8th
6:30-8:00 p.m.
The Sheraton Arlington
1500 Convention Center Drive, Arlington TX
Map and Directions

#### San Antonio

Monday November 8th 6:00-8:30 p.m. San Antonio Central Library 600 Soledad Rd Map and Directions

#### Austin

Wednesday November 17th
7-8:30 p.m.
Bass Lecture Hall
LBJ School of Public Affairs
University of Texas at Austin campus
Map and Directions

#### <u>Abilene</u>

Thursday November 18th 7:00-8:30 p.m.
Unity Church of Christianity
Map and Directions

#### Lubbock

Friday November 19th 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Texas Tech University School of Law 1802 Hartford Avenue Map and Directions