



Dear GEAA members and friends,

Today, I call your attention to one particularly bad bill - [SB 1628](#) filed by Senator Estes, relating to the replacement of contested case hearings for certain environmental permits with a petition for administrative review, must not pass.

Senate Bill 1628 seeks to abolish the contested case process that is available to citizens in permitting proceedings at the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. GEAA has joined many of you in contesting permits. Our track record is pretty good in getting permits denied or negotiating settlements that mitigate the most obnoxious aspects of projects throughout our region – from cement and asphalt plants to discharge of sewage effluent to trash dumps.

You may recall the many messages sent from GEAA about changes to the contested case permitting process which, sadly, passed into law. If SB 1628 passes, you will no longer even have the opportunity to have your day in court. You will have to rely on review by TCEQ staff and, good luck with that.

Please contact your representative ([firstname.lastname@Senate.Texas.gov](mailto:firstname.lastname@Senate.Texas.gov)) and the members of the [Senate Natural Resources and Economic Development Committee](#) to let them know that you oppose SB 1628.

**All of you who have worked with GEAA to oppose permits through the contested case process know what a valuable tool this can be. Please make sure that the contested case process is available to help your Hill Country neighbors in the future.**

Thank you for everything and, have a great weekend!

Annalisa Peace

Executive Director  
[Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance](#)

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