

Alamo, Austin, and Lone Star chapters of the  
Sierra Club  
Bexar Audubon Society  
Bexar Green Party  
Boerne Together  
Bulverde Neighborhood Alliance  
Cibolo Nature Center  
Citizens Allied for Smart Expansion  
Citizens for the Protection of Cibolo Creek  
Comal County Conservation Alliance  
Environment Texas  
First Universalist Unitarian Church of San  
Antonio  
Friends of Canyon Lake  
Friends of Dry Comal Creek  
Friends of Government Canyon  
Fuerza Unida  
Green Party of Austin  
Green Society of UTSA  
Guadalupe River Road Alliance  
Guardians of Lick Creek  
Headwaters at Incarnate Word  
Helotes Heritage Association  
Hill Country Planning Association  
Kendall County Well Owners Association  
Kinney County Ground Zero  
Leon Springs Business Association  
Medina County Environmental Action  
Native Plant Society of Texas – SA  
Northwest Interstate Coalition of  
Neighborhoods  
Preserve Castroville  
Preserve Lake Dunlop Association  
San Antonio Audubon Society  
San Antonio Conservation Society  
San Geronimo Valley Alliance  
San Marcos Greenbelt Alliance  
San Marcos River Foundation  
Save Barton Creek Association  
Save Our Springs Alliance  
Scenic Loop/Boerne Stage Alliance  
Securing a Future Environment  
SEED Coalition  
Solar San Antonio  
Sisters of the Divine Providence  
Travis County Green Party  
Water Aid – Texas State University  
West Texas Springs Alliance  
Wildlife Rescue & Rehabilitation  
Wimberley Valley Watershed Association

April 5, 2019

House Committee on Energy Resources

Chair: Rep. Chris Paddie  
Vice Chair: Rep. Abel Herrero  
Members: Rep. Rafael Anchia  
Rep. Ernest Bailes  
Rep. Tom Craddick  
Rep. Drew Darby  
Rep. Charlie Geren  
Rep. Roland Gutierrez  
Rep. Cody Harris  
Rep. Mary Ann Perez  
Rep. Jon E. Rosenthal

RE: HB 2871

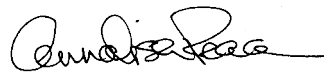
Honorable Members of the House Committee on Energy Resources,

The Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance (GEAA) supports HB 2871 relating to the regulation of certain aggregate production operations by the Railroad Commission of Texas; authorizing a fee; providing administrative penalties and other civil remedies; creating criminal offenses.

Rock crushers have an enormous impact on the human and natural environment, not only through the effects of particulate matter (PM) on air quality and surrounding communities, but also to the health of the Edwards Aquifer and the water quality of Texas's groundwater and surface water resources. Millions of users depend on the Edwards Aquifer (a sole source aquifer) for drinking water and recreation, and several endangered species exist only in the aquifer. Any pollution caused by the aggregate industry will negatively affect downstream users and the endangered species. Mining of aquifer limestone, pollution and pumping of groundwater, effects on the wells of adjacent landowners, are issues that go largely unaddressed under the current regulatory scheme, which only provides for storm water discharge permits and air quality permits.

We urge you to send this excellent bill for a vote of the House. Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments.

Respectfully,



Annalisa Peace

Executive Director

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GEAA is a non-profit coalition of grassroots organizations across the Edwards Aquifer united to preserve the water, wildlife, scenic beauty, and cultural heritage of the Edwards Aquifer and the Texas Hill Country.