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Request for Coverage

Hearing on Rules to Protect the Edwards Aquifer

It is once more time for the [annual TCEQ Hearing on the rules that regulate development on the Edwards Aquifer](#). The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) will conduct hearings to receive comments from the public on what actions the commission should take to protect the Edwards Aquifer.

When: Thursday, November 18th at 6:30 pm

**Where: Alamo Area Council of Governments Board Room, Tesoro Building
8700 Tesoro Drive, Suite 100**

We appreciate that the TCEQ has provided us a unique opportunity in San Antonio this year by scheduling the Edwards Rules Hearings at a time and place that is easily accessible to the public.

The fifty member groups of the Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance (GEAA) are unanimous in regarding current rules as insufficient to adequately protect and maintain the high quality of our groundwater. GEAA has been submitting the same comments since [2005](#). In [2006](#), [2007](#), and [2009](#), we added recommendations to those previously submitted but never implemented.

GEAA's recommendations include requiring adequate buffer zones to protect streams, springs and recharge features, limits to impervious cover on the Edwards Recharge and Contributing zones, expanding the pollution reduction standards to include toxic metals, organic chemicals and nutrients, prohibiting discharge of treated effluent into waterways that recharge the Edwards, and other measures and strategies that we believe will protect our water quality.

We also ask that TCEQ provide adequate funding for trained and experienced staff, and that monitoring and enforcement of the Edwards rules, where appropriate, be delegated to local agencies that are better equipped to handle these duties.

Since TCEQ is under Sunset Review this session, now is our time to draw attention to their lack of due diligence in protecting our water supply. We invite everyone who is concerned about potential pollution of the Edwards to join us.

For more information:

http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assets/public/compliance/field_ops/eapp/public_hearings_2010.pdf

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The Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance unites fifty member organizations behind a comprehensive plan to protect regional karst aquifers, their springs and watersheds, and the Texas Hill Country.

For more information visit www.AquiferAlliance.org