



September 28, 2026

Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78711-2428

Re: An open letter on the state of Texas data center buildouts

On behalf of the NAACP Texas State Conference and NAACP Center for Environmental and Climate Justice, we share this letter to highlight a community-informed approach to more robust, community-driven regulations and pauses for data centers where it makes sense. Governor Abbott has stated that “[their] top priority is to protect Texans' safety and quality of life.” On September 21, Governor Greg Abbott directed the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to halt all permits sought by data centers until the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) completes its audit.¹ Governor Abbott has also paused new data center development over concerns about power grid strain and water use. However, this pause is not a true moratorium: companies that comply with audits can still operate in Texas, and the audit parameters are set to be discussed, with an official statement expected on October 19th.

The current audit is more about assessing what is there, not a true mandate for protections. It will be conducted on all data centers advancing through ERCOT's interconnection queue (the line for energy-intensive projects seeking connection to the electric grid), and it requires companies to identify their water usage, refrain from drawing power from the Texas grid, and lower the cost of electricity for consumers.² ERCOT will then evaluate information on data centers' public financial assistance, ERCOT grid reliance and on-site generation, projected power and water use, water sources and cooling technology, community impact mitigation, and project ownership and controlling interests.³ However, massive data centers are still being approved.⁴ On its own, this audit is insufficient to address the needs and concerns of local communities because it fails to consider the cumulative impacts of data centers, including but not limited to agricultural uses of land, past siting decisions for industrial build-outs, noise, and air pollution. While the Governor's office has taken first steps to address the robust outcry for protections, the approach outlined below offers a justice framework that ensures Texans are always centered in data center decisions.

Audit and Moratorium Gap

The NAACP has called for moratoriums on data center development, when necessary, in its 2026 Playbook.⁵ Governor Abbott has said, “I established clear guardrails to ensure data centers protect our electric grid, conserve our water, respect our neighborhoods, and pay their own way. They must not pass costs on to Texas families or interfere with their quality of life.” Yet these guardrails, as currently designed, do not apply to the growing

¹ https://gov.texas.gov/uploads/files/press/TCEQ_Data_Center.pdf

² <https://www.politico.com/news/2026/08/23/greg-abbott-texas-data-centers-01046867>

³ <https://gov.texas.gov/news/post/governor-abbott-directs-comprehensive-data-center-audit>

⁴ <https://insideclimatenews.org/news/24092026/el-paso-electric-only-considered-gas-to-power-meta-data-center/>; <https://gov.texas.gov/news/post/governor-abbott-announces-microsoft-hut-8-and-equinix-commit-to-comply-with-his-data-center-standards-8-13>

⁵ <https://naacp.org/campaigns/stop-dirty-data-centers>

number of facilities that generate or source their own power and never connect to the ERCOT-regulated grid at all. Moreover, the recommendations seem to end in just a few months. To be sure, the moratorium does not inherently stop the building of data centers; it simply pauses those going through the new audit. The NAACP demands long-term solutions as well.

The Governor's office is proudly reporting that companies like Microsoft, Hut 8, and Equinix are agreeing to the new regulatory guidelines and to the audit process.⁶ The regulatory agreement fails in several ways because many projects are not connected to the grid or located in regions under ERCOT authority, which is what the audit covers. Some of the biggest facilities coming to the state are likely happy to agree to the audit process because it may not apply to them. A project that generates or sources its own power can move forward without ever disclosing its water use, its emissions, or its impact on surrounding communities to any state agency. The audit, while great for public messaging, does not address the actual harm of data centers.

Texas is pushing for bring-your-own-energy data centers, including those powered by fossil fuels. In August of this year, Ceres published the Investor Guide Addressing Electric Power Risk from Data Center Growth. It reported that data centers already use 4 to 5 percent of all U.S. electricity, and that share is only going up. Developers want to power up fast to stay competitive, but utilities cannot always build at that pace. That mismatch creates the risk that studies like this one help investors understand. While it is clear that transmission is a bottleneck to better development of large-load energy projects, there must be a better plan for building new high-voltage transmission lines and upgrading existing ones with advanced grid technology to build a cleaner grid overall. The Governor's office shared that the stalled 765-kV lines are a barrier to more data center development. However, Texas could prioritize clean energy generation over new fossil fuel plants, which is also the practical choice. While communities should ultimately decide whether a data center is built in their communities, the state has not shared a plan to require data centers to accept reduced power during grid emergencies so that the cost of a shortage isn't simply passed on to regular ratepayers. And this is just one gap in the current recommendations. Additionally, demand-side tools like distributed generation and demand-response programs, plus grid assets like storage and smart-grid technology, must be analyzed closely before any more data centers are allowed to come online. The state's current stance will inevitably lead to more fossil fuel pollution in communities.

Data centers that generate their own energy can bypass standard review processes, even though on-site power generation can release toxic pollutants into the air and water. Switching to renewable energy alone does not solve this, since data centers also strain local water supplies and infrastructure. For this reason, state recommendations should treat community consent as a minimum requirement for any new data center, renewable or not. A prime example of this is Fort Stockton, Texas. According to the Environmental Working Group, the city's water utility reported contaminant levels above health guidelines from 2021 to 2023.⁷ These included radiological contaminants, which are linked to increased cancer risk, from 2018 to 2023.⁸

Because data center development creates pollution affecting Black, Latine, rural, and poor and working-class white communities that are already overburdened with industrial pollution, the NAACP has released its Frontline Framework to prevent these harms. Built with nearly 100 other organizations and coalitions, including some in Texas, the framework is a set of community guiding principles to shield frontline communities from the environmental and climate justice harms of AI data centers. It calls for affected communities to lead decision-making, for enforceable and transparent accountability from data center operators (including disclosure of resource use and tax commitments), and for explicit health and environmental protections backed by independent monitoring. It also calls for a shift to community-owned clean energy over fossil fuel dependency and insists that job creation cannot excuse harm.

⁶ <https://gov.texas.gov/news/post/governor-abbott-announces-microsoft-hut-8-and-equinix-commit-to-comply-with-his-data-center-standards-8-13>

⁷ <https://www.ewg.org/tapwater/system.php?pws=TX1860001>.

⁸ <https://www.ewg.org/tapwater/system.php?pws=TX1860001>.

Community Impact of Data Centers Across Texas

Black, Latine, Indigenous, and other communities of color, as well as rural, poor, and working-class white neighborhoods, must be prioritized over corporate interests when it comes to Texans' water, air, and quality of life, as the NAACP and its partners have long urged. In Texas, communities are concerned not only about harm to the electrical grid and rising electric costs, but also about clean air, water, and quality of life.

Texas draws on two sources of water, groundwater from aquifers and surface water from rivers and reservoirs, to meet the 5.8 trillion gallons (17.7 million acre-feet) used each year by 30 million residents, agriculture, and livestock.⁹ The historic drought in Nueces County has pushed Corpus Christi's water system into crisis.¹⁰

Corpus Christi's water utility serves an entire seven-county region and roughly 500,000 residents. Over the past decade, the City stretched its water supply by selling large volumes of Nueces River water to major industrial users, expecting to backfill that demand later with seawater desalination.¹¹ In 2017, Corpus Christi committed up to 25 million gallons per day to the ExxonMobil/SABIC project.¹² According to the Texas Tribune's investigation, Exxon accepted the City's water offer, and only six days later, the City Council authorized an application to the Texas Water Development Board for funding for seawater desalination feasibility work and preliminary design.¹³ In 2018, the City made another major water commitment, this time up to 6 million gallons per day for Steel Dynamics. By 2019, when City staff presented seawater desalination planning to the City Council, the demand projections included ExxonMobil/SABIC and Steel Dynamics as major sources of new demand.¹⁴ The City's planning contemplated bringing new seawater desalination supply online to accommodate growing demand, even though the City had already made the industrial water commitments.¹⁵

Industrial customers now account for roughly 50 to 60 percent of the city's water use.¹⁶ In 2025, the city's large-volume customers, led by refineries and petrochemical plants such as Valero, Flint Hills Resources, LyondellBasell, and Citgo, were billed for 11.75 billion gallons of water, more than twice the 4.85 billion gallons billed to all residential customers combined. Many of these users have paid a drought exemption fee of 31 cents per 1,000 gallons instead of facing the drought restrictions and surcharges other customers do.¹⁷

The Texas 2036 report found that more than two decades of state water planning failed to give Coastal Bend cities like Corpus Christi a clear, timely, and actionable warning about the 2020s water crisis, even though the planning guidance should have provided one. Hut 8 recently signed a 15-year lease, worth up to \$25.1 billion over its full term, for a 352-megawatt AI data center campus in Nueces County, adding significant new demand in a region already under emergency water restrictions.¹⁸ Reporters at KXAN in Austin, Texas, have mapped the growth and current operation of data centers and report that more than 300 AI data centers are already operating in the state, with an additional 200 planned and 100 in progress.¹⁹ This is still within the guidance of Governor Abbott's audit and moratorium. There needs to be more transparency on water and energy use, and stronger regulation and review of all data centers. Additionally, data center companies are competing entities, meaning that the lack of a strong moratorium and long-term solutions will continue the cycle of closing and opening new data centers.

⁹ <https://harcresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Thirsty-Data-Water-Use-and-The-Projected-Data-Center-Boom-in-Texas.pdf>.

¹⁰ <https://gov.texas.gov/news/post/governor-abbott-amends-renews-drought-disaster-proclamation-in-may-2026>.

¹¹ Inside Climate News, "Water Scarcity and Clean Energy Collide in South Texas." This comes from the NAACP memo, p. 6.

¹² <https://www.texastribune.org/2022/11/04/texas-corpus-christi-water-desalination/>.

¹³ *Id.*

¹⁴ <https://www.texastribune.org/2022/11/04/texas-corpus-christi-water-desalination/>.

¹⁵ <https://www.texastribune.org/2025/09/03/corpus-christi-desalination-water-plans-canceled/>.

¹⁶ Inside Climate News, "Water Scarcity and Clean Energy Collide in South Texas." This comes from the NAACP memo, p. 6.

¹⁷ City of Corpus Christi billing data, as presented in Isabel Araiza, "The Fair Water Amendment: End the Drought Handout," For the Greater Good, February 24, 2026.

¹⁸ <https://www.datacenterdynamics.com/en/news/hut-8-signs-352mw-data-center-lease-in-texas-with-investment-grade-tenant/>.

¹⁹ <https://www.kxan.com/news/texas/texas-data-center-tracker-see-where-600-projects-are-operating-or-planned-across-state-in-interactive-map/>.

The principal crops produced in Texas include cotton, sorghum, rice, wheat, corn, hay, and silage.²⁰ The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), the agency that works to ensure a water-secure future in Texas, releases an updated State Water Plan every five years to guide Texas water policy and assess regional water supplies and needs fifty years into the future.²¹

The newest plan, adopted in July 2026, projects that in a repeat of the drought of record, Texas water users would face shortages of 3.6 million acre-feet per year by 2030, rising to 5.8 million acre-feet per year by 2080. Failing to act could cost the state \$177 billion a year by 2080.²² Agriculture will absorb much of this shortfall. Irrigation faces a projected gap of about 1.83 million acre-feet per year by 2080, and roughly 682,000 acre-feet of that would go unmet even if every recommended project were built.²³ Independent experts warn that even these figures may understate the risk, because state planning does not account for climate change and assumes future droughts will be no worse than the worst on record.²⁴ Texas 2036 found that across 25 years and five planning cycles, no state or regional plan projected a shortage for Corpus Christi or its neighbors before the current crisis. Research led by the Texas State Climatologist projects that Texas could face conditions drier than any megadrought of the past thousand years by the second half of this century.

According to the TWDB, the drought of record is a period when, generally, water supplies are lowest and water demands are highest. The TWDB currently benchmarks the drought that occurred from 1950 to 1957 as the state's drought of record. That drought cost Texas agricultural producers nearly \$39.8 billion (in 2021 dollars) in direct losses and damaged more than 4 million acres. More recent droughts show how much damage even a single dry year can do. The 2011 drought, the worst one-year drought in Texas since record-keeping began, cost producers an estimated \$7.62 billion in direct agricultural losses.²⁵ In 2022, Texas led the nation in weather-related crop losses at more than \$6.4 billion, driven mainly by drought. Those losses included \$2.9 billion in cotton, \$1.7 billion in forage and rangeland, and nearly \$1 billion in wheat.²⁶ In the Rio Grande Valley, drought and shortfalls in Mexico's water deliveries under the 1944 treaty forced the state's only sugar mill to close in 2024 after more than 50 years, eliminating hundreds of jobs.²⁷

Because the City had already promised up to 31 million gallons per day to ExxonMobil/SABIC and Steel Dynamics before it presented desalination to the public, the new plant was never simply a response to drought or population growth. It was, in large part, a way to supply water the City had already committed to industry. That means residents were asked to support, and potentially pay for, infrastructure meant to backfill promises they had no role in making.

²⁰ <https://www.texasalmanac.com/articles/principal-crops-in-texas>.

²¹ <https://comptroller.texas.gov/economy/economic-data/water/2022/texas.php>.

²² <https://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/swp/2027/index.asp>.

²³ <https://www.myhighplains.com/water-and-drought-on-the-high-plains/public-comments-open-for-phase-i-draft-of-2027-texas-state-water-plan/>.

²⁴ <https://texas2036.org/news-analysis/plans-never-sent-a-steady-signal-of-the-coastal-bend-water-crisis/>.

²⁵ <https://comptroller.texas.gov/economy/fiscal-notes/archive/2022/dec/drought.php>.

²⁶ <https://www.fb.org/intel/markets/new-estimates-reveal-major-2022-weather-disasters-caused-over-21-billion-in-crop-losses>.

²⁷ <https://texasstandard.org/stories/santa-rosa-texas-sugar-mill-closes-water-drought-rio-grande-valley/>.

Current Lack of Transparency Regarding Data Center Decisions

Currently, data centers have to share very little about their plans across the state. In 2025, the TWDB indicated that 83 percent of data center companies failed to respond to a required survey about their facilities and water usage.²⁸ The Public Utility Commission (PUC) also surveyed companies this spring, and fewer than a third responded.²⁹ When a data center needs to power backup generators or on-site turbines, it applies to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for an air permit. TCEQ has been classifying many of these as “minor source” permits, the same permit category used for dry cleaners, auto body shops, concrete batch plants, and rock crushers. This category exists because those businesses are genuinely small polluters. But it comes with a built-in shortcut: minor source permits do not require public notice, an environmental study, or a public comment period. This needs to change, because communities should have the opportunity to be heard through public comment and rulemaking.

A former TCEQ employee who now works with Public Citizen put it bluntly: these permits “get granted very quickly and often without the public knowing,” and called it “pretty intentional.” Floodlight’s reporting found that at least 38 Texas data centers have obtained minor source permits for on-site power since 2024, covering more than 2,100 individual diesel generators between them. Some of the state’s biggest projects, including parts of the Stargate campus, have used this route.

The EPA has proposed a rule change that would give states like Texas even more discretion over how much public notice and comment residents get before one of these minor permits is approved. Right now, the EPA sets a minimum floor for public participation. The proposed rule would let TCEQ effectively rewrite its own rules on this without going through the normal federal process in which residents could weigh in. This EPA proposal would only make things worse. Communities deserve transparency on their water resources so they can protect them.

Data Centers Will Impact Energy Decisions Across the State

We appreciate the state for reviewing the strain data centers place on the electrical grid and the rising cost of energy. However, the state’s response is insufficient and irresponsible by advising companies to bring their own electricity, which is usually done through on-site gas-burning power plants. For example, Amazon is building a new natural-gas-burning power plant in Pecos County, Texas, that would use 35 natural-gas turbines, emitting approximately 33 million tons of carbon dioxide.³⁰ Companies will do what the state allows and it is up to government and public officials to set the tone for protections as well. In Texas specifically, communities are already living with the consequences of this build-out. Rising electricity demand tied to data center growth is straining the ERCOT grid and contributing to higher electric bills for ordinary ratepayers.

The transmission lines meant to support this new demand are in trouble too. After Winter Storm Uri killed roughly 246 people in 2021 and caused up to \$130 billion in damage, the Public Utility Commission approved building 765-kilovolt transmission lines in 2023, a scale never built in Texas before, to move power more reliably across the state. But rural landowners don’t want transmission towers cutting across their land, and residents broadly don’t want the data centers these lines exist to serve. That backlash has grown loud enough that state leaders who once welcomed this build-out are now calling on regulators to pause or kill the project, even as ERCOT warns of real blackout risk without it and the oil and gas industry says its own growth depends on the same lines. Governor Abbott’s audit has simultaneously forced ERCOT to pause Batch Zero, the review process

²⁸ <https://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/swp/2022/docs/01-SWP22-Introduction.pdf?d=829631.6999999993>.

²⁹ <https://www.texastribune.org/2026/06/23/texas-data-centers-puc-water-survey/>.

³⁰ <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/08/08/climate/amazon-data-center-texas-pollution.html>.

for nearly 2,000 pending grid-connection requests, 90 percent of which are from data centers. Five transmission applications remain pending before the PUC, with a decision expected within months.³¹

In 2025, Texas passed SB 6, requiring data centers that connect to the grid after a certain date to install remote-controlled shutoff switches so ERCOT can cut their power before cutting residential power during an emergency. It was a direct response to the 2021 storm and a real admission that data center growth has already outpaced the grid. That growth shows no sign of slowing: Texas has received grid connection requests totaling more than 220 gigawatts, a 170 percent jump from just 83 gigawatts at the start of the year, driven mostly by data centers, crypto mining, and other industrial users. The North American Electric Reliability Corporation has warned that this growth could contribute to shortfalls during exactly the kind of extreme winter weather seen in Winter Storm Uri, when more than 4 million Texans lost power and over 200 died, mostly from hypothermia, carbon monoxide poisoning, and worsened medical conditions. ERCOT itself has said continued data center growth raises the risk of rolling blackouts.³²

Data Centers Will Impact Air Quality for Texans

The American Lung Association found that 71 percent of children in Texas live in a community with unhealthy air, and that 79 percent of Black individuals are breathing unhealthy air.³³ The proliferation of data centers in Texas will only make these numbers worse. All communities will be affected, particularly frontline Black communities and other underserved communities, including rural, poor, and working-class communities. This is not a distant concern. In July 2026, the Environmental Integrity Project, Sierra Club, and Public Citizen sent formal notice of intent to sue two companies, Vantage Data Centers and Volta Grid, over two gas-fired power plants built to power data center campuses in San Antonio. Together, the plants involve 423 megawatts of gas-fired generation and 454 megawatts of diesel backup generation.³⁴ The groups allege that the companies used minor source permits, the same weak permit category described earlier in this letter, by treating each data center and its own dedicated power plant as separate, smaller sources of pollution instead of counting their combined emissions together. They argue this piecemeal approach let the project avoid the stricter review a project this size should have triggered, and that construction at one of the campuses moved forward without the major source permit required for ozone and carbon monoxide emissions. This case demonstrates that the minor source review loophole is not a hypothetical problem and is already impacting Texas residents.

How Will Communities Engage With the Audit's Next Steps?

Communities need access to the information and details from the audit. We urge the state to release information regarding environmental data, permits, and financial impacts. The audit indicates that the PUC and ERCOT will obtain the information but does not indicate whether it will be disseminated to the public. The Meta facility in Texas indicated that it would support a regional water conservation and restoration project to pump 5.2 million gallons back into the local watershed annually.³⁵ However, there are no details on how this would be achieved and measured, or whether it will be reported to the TWDB or PUC. Neither the declaration nor the audit strengthens transparency in local communities; they are tools to keep the status quo under the guise of state regulation. Texas should require data center developers to publicly disclose energy consumption, water use, emissions, and grid upgrade costs, with annual updates and public hearings upon community request.

³¹ <https://www.texastribune.org/2026/08/24/texas-765-transmissions-lines-data-centers-pauses-delays/>; <https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2025/08/07/texas-law-data-centers-power-grid/>; <https://www.cnn.com/2025/11/22/texas-data-center-ai-ercot-blackout-power-outage.html>.

³² <https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2025/08/07/texas-law-data-centers-power-grid/>.

³³ <https://www.lung.org/research/sota/city-rankings/states/texas>.

³⁴ <https://www.mitchellwilliamsllaw.com/data-center/gas-fired-power-plant-environmental-integrity-projects-and-other-environmental-organizations-clean-air-act-notice-of-intent-to-sue-san-antonio-texas-project>.

³⁵ <https://kfoxtv.com/news/local/meta-vs-painted-dunes-what-the-numbers-and-water-sources-show>.

Communities deserve full transparency about what is being developed in their neighborhoods and a say in rejecting projects that threaten public health and environmental security. We urge the state to prioritize Texans over industry profits by stopping harmful data center projects before they begin. Texas must implement a moratorium, demand full public disclosure of all data center environmental and utility uses, and ultimately choose alternatives that are cleaner, safer, and more sustainable for our communities.

Data centers are emerging as one of the biggest threats to the state's water supply. Texas is in the midst of a severe water crisis; 77 percent of Texas residents are experiencing drought.³⁶ The proposed data center build-out will place even more demand on Texas's scarce water resources. According to a Houston Advanced Research Center study, existing data centers in Texas consume approximately 25 billion gallons (Bgal) of water, and this could increase to 29–161 Bgal by 2030.³⁷ The State Water Plan indicated that water infrastructure projects would cost \$174 billion to implement and that, with extreme drought conditions, the state could face a water shortage of 3.6 million acre-feet by 2030.³⁸ These figures were calculated without including data centers' water demand because there is not enough water usage data from data center companies.³⁹ Communities deserve transparency on their water resources, and we demand that the state adopt stronger regulations on data centers' water usage and reporting, especially as some estimates indicate that data centers could account for between 3 and 9 percent of Texas's total water use by 2040.⁴⁰

The Old Farmer's Almanac is currently calling for a warmer, drier winter across Texas this year, with below-normal rain.⁴¹ A dry winter means less water refilling our lakes, rivers, and aquifers before the summer heat returns. And one wet season would not fix the problem: reservoirs and groundwater take years to recover from drought, while data centers pull water every single day. Put plainly, Texas cannot afford to hand its water to data centers and just hope the rain comes.

Conclusion

We urge Texas not to allow the proposed data center project to proceed. We understand the need to integrate everyday people into the technological future. There are ways to do that which require community consent, apply principles of self-determination, and ground decision-making in the NAACP's Frontline Framework. The current process does not do that. The harms to our state's power grid, water supply, air quality, and vulnerable communities are too great to justify any new data center construction. Rather than building more data centers, Texas should invest in proven alternatives such as community-owned renewable energy, sustainable technology infrastructure, and equitable economic development that truly benefits Texans. The state should close the groundwater conservation district gap and require air permitting, pollution controls, and independent monitoring for all power generation, regardless of how the facility is classified.

We also understand that each state has a nuanced position in the AI future. For some, the decision to move forward at this pace does not represent an inclusive next step. The NAACP's West Virginia State Conference has taken the bold position that we cannot continue as we are now. In Texas, the State Conference also understands that we need technology, but not at this pace. Together, these positions reflect how important each next step is for the residents who live there, and the recognition that we must proceed at a pace that does not harm our larger ecosystem. At its core, the NAACP will not allow a technological future to justify more sacrifice zones and deepen generational environmental and health crises for the benefit of a few. Texas has an opportunity to demonstrate that it can take a nuanced approach that mitigates, and even helps reverse, the climate crisis; invests

³⁶ <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/trot/droughtw.html>.

³⁷ <https://harcresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Thirsty-Data-Water-Use-and-The-Projected-Data-Center-Boom-in-Texas.pdf>.

³⁸ <https://2027.texasstatewaterplan.org/>.

³⁹ [SWP27-Water-For-Texas.pdf](#).

⁴⁰ https://dgs.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/dgs/event_content/attachments/Attachment%20J.1.4%20%20DC%20Water%20Standard%20Specifications_0.pdf.

⁴¹ <https://www.almanac.com/winter-extended-forecast-farmers-almanac>.

in frontline and fenceline communities; and ensures that technology that may benefit some is used to benefit us all.

Lastly, to maintain consistent transparency, the TWDB, PUC, TCEQ, and ERCOT must publicly release all environmental and resource data from data center companies, especially in areas where data centers will have a significant impact on Black communities or other communities of color that are already severely impacted. Texans should not be sacrificed, harmed, or silenced for the benefit of wealthy corporations. We should protect these communities and ensure that we can all build a better future.

Thank you,

Gary Bledsoe, Esq.

President, NAACP Texas State Conference

Abre' Conner, Esq.

Director, NAACP Center for Environmental and Climate Justice