

Subject: PIR 55596 - 10 day Certification
Date: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at 8:21:15 AM Central Daylight Time
From: Carmen Molina
To: gwestbrook@posgcd.org
Attachments: image001.png, image002.png, 55596 Certification.pdf

Good evening Gary Westbrook:

Thank you for your Public Information Request (PIR) No. 20-55596. In light of recent state and federal disaster declarations, and to limit the risk associated with COVID-19, TCEQ is operating remotely with a reduced staff and employees have limited access to TCEQ records. Specifically, staff does not have access or has limited access to records such as physical files that have not been converted to electronic format, electronic files not stored on an agency server, working files of staff, files stored in closed agency buildings and locked offices, and the like. Additionally, the agency's limited VPN and remote access capabilities have severely limited access to TCEQ servers and databases via remote access or VPN for regional offices, causing unavoidable delays in accessing and sending information stored off-site at these locations, such as information related to investigations, emergency responses, complaints, and other information that's maintained solely in those offices and not the agency's headquarters in Austin. Accordingly, responses to PIRs — including requests for rulings from the Attorney General regarding confidential information — are being delayed beyond the normal ten business days and will continue to be delayed until the agency resumes normal operations.

This letter is to notify you that the amount of responsive information being requested . Because of the foregoing circumstances, TCEQ is unable to provide you with the public portion of the information you requested within the normal ten business-day time period. We anticipate that the information should be available **October 2**, which is the earliest date possible considering the circumstances. If, however, we are not able to provide the information to you by that date, we will contact you to make arrangements to receive the information as it becomes available.

Thank you,

Carmen Molina

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