



## SUMMARY & MISSION

The mission of Texas Campaign for the Environment Fund is to engage people and communities through face-to-face public education, grassroots organizing and action oriented research for a cleaner and healthier Texas.

TCE Fund worked successfully on a range of projects in 2022, primarily focused on fossil fuel export and petrochemical facilities, industry infrastructure projects, and climate change initiatives.

## FOSSIL FUEL EXPORTS

We have continued working with local, state and national allies to oppose new and expanding fossil fuel export terminals through public education, opposition to permits, and researching and organizing around financial vulnerabilities of these projects. Allies have filed suit against the US Army Corps of Engineers to stop the proposed expansion of an Enbridge crude oil export terminal, which is already the largest of its kind in the country, and which intends to destroy sacred Karankawa heritage sites in the Corpus Christi area. We attended demonstrations in Austin and Houston led by Karankawa activists (Indigenous Peoples of the Coastal Bend or IPCB) focused on Bank of America's role in funding the Enbridge terminal.

The Flint Hills (Koch) crude export facility adjacent to Enbridge is facing air pollution enforcement action by the EPA and is seeking to increase its pollution limits in its state permit. (On Christmas Eve 2022, there was a spill from the Flint Hills crude export terminal that polluted Corpus Christi Bay and its beaches.) Cheniere's LNG export facility is in violation of its state air pollution permit and is also seeking to amend their permit to increase its allowable air pollution. We are working on finance and permitting campaigns to thwart further expansions.

During CERA Week in Houston, one of the largest energy industry conferences in the world, TCE Fund worked with local youth activists and other allies to stage a public demonstration calling on global policymakers who were present at the conference (John Kerry, Richard Glick, Jennifer Granholm, Michael Regan, Joe Manchin, et al.) to act on climate. We created a giant puppet head with John Kerry's likeness to draw attention to the action and the message, after which we published a video documenting puppet Kerry's encounters during the conference. Additionally, we helped coordinate a letter from frontline leaders that was hand-delivered to the high-ranking officials who attended the event. Senator Manchin responded to frontline leader John Beard from Port Arthur, who led efforts inside the conference to address the policymakers.



TCE Fund allies at Texas Tribune Festival in Austin, Texas

In September 2022 we coordinated Gulf Coast allies to attend the Texas Tribune Festival in Austin, where we held actions at a featured talk by Pete Buttigieg. We held a demonstration outside the event venue and distributed informational fliers to attendees waiting in line, and then we unfurled a giant banner inside during the Q&A portion of Buttigieg's talk. He responded to this and questions from the audience about the fossil fuel export projects that his agency oversees, acknowledged the thousands of public comments his office has received, and made a clear statement "I hear you."

We have succeeded in convincing key federal officials to visit Gulf Coast communities and meet with residents regarding industry proposals. For example, we secured more than 30 signers on a letter to the new EPA Region 6 Administrator Dr. Earthea Nance and helped convene a virtual meeting with her in March, which led Dr. Nance and other EPA officials to visit the Coastal Bend in June. The EPA later denied an air pollution permit for Bluewater deepwater crude export off Port Aransas.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Acting Director recently visited Calhoun County, and TCE Fund's sister organization TCE subsequently filed a lawsuit with allies against dredging an underwater mercury-laden Superfund site to facilitate a crude oil export terminal. The approval for the dredging was reversed pending a revised Environmental Impact Statement.

We also worked with allies to successfully pressure then-Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Chair Richard Glick and now-Interim FERC Chair Willie Phillips to visit TX and LA communities with export facilities in September 2022 – the first time officials from this agency have ever visited these affected areas. TCE Fund co-led a Gulf-wide initiative to pressure the Department of Energy (DOE) to reopen a rulemaking process for its nearly 40 year-old "public interest determination" criteria.

We have also continued working with international allies who are opposing the development of fossil fuel import facilities. For example, Andy Gheorgieou, one of the activists who connected with our Coastal Bend ally Elida Castillo during the trip we sponsored to Germany in 2021, served as a panel member during our most recent LNG convening, appearing before an audience of approximately 80 frontline leaders, organizers, policy advocates, lawyers and funders. Another delegation went to Germany in July 2022 which included TCE Fund's Coastal Bend Fossil Fuel Export Organizer Chloe Torres. We have also supported the work of German activists by organizing video testimonials of frontline stories from the Gulf to be amplified via social media in front of European decision-makers. TCE Fund staff and allies met with Italian activists who visited the Gulf Coast export communities.

## LEADERSHIP

**Executive Director**  
Robin Schneider

**Board of Directors**  
Rodrigo Leal, Chair  
Alan Krathaus, Treasurer  
Max Morales  
Jade Kurian  
Lauren Ice



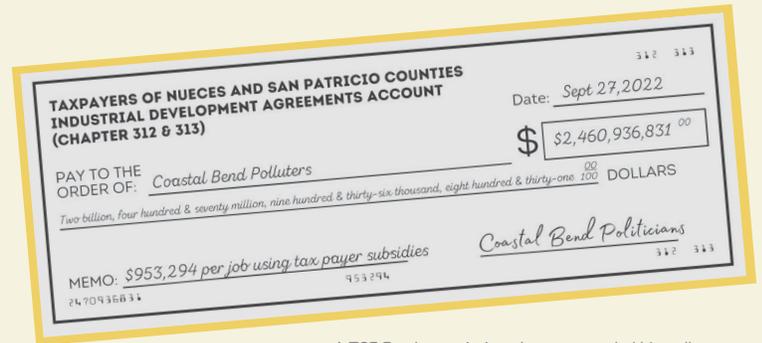
Puppet John Kerry made an appearance at CERAWeek

## FIGHTING THE PETROCHEMICAL BUILDOUT

In Corpus Christi, existing and new proposed petrochemical facilities require massive amounts of water for their industrial processes, and so the City, the Port and a petrochemical company are trying to build a total of five desalination facilities. These desalination plants would discharge millions of gallons of heavily saline wastewater daily into the Corpus Christi Bay ecosystem. We have continued working closely with our Coastal Bend coalition (Coastal Alliance to Protect Our Environment or CAPE) to fight this proposed industry buildout. Our combined efforts have continued to successfully withhold almost all of the valid permits they need to move forward on any of the proposed plants. Together with allies we have caused delays at every stage of the process by requesting public meetings on each permit and securing extensions of comment periods when possible. Citing this mounting public pressure, the EPA has told the TCEQ that the water discharge permit it has issued to one of the proposed desalination plants is invalid because it did not correctly classify these plants as major facilities which require detailed analyses of less damaging alternatives.

Working with Autocase economists, we completed a study of the various tax subsidies that the petrochemical plants have received. The report on tax subsidies that found polluters received an average of \$950,000 for each job promised. We distributed the findings through a variety of channels including briefings of policy makers and public education, including door-to-door canvassing. Activists campaigned against a number of tax subsidy agreements that were going before school boards and other bodies. The Ingleside school board unanimously voted in December 2022 not to proceed with the process of giving tax abatements to Enbridge at its crude oil export facility.

We also completed a study comparing a variety of proposed methods to meet the water needs of local residents and businesses in the Coastal Bend region, which found that the proposed desalination plants would be more expensive and environmentally damaging than several alternatives. These studies and more supporting information is available at [WePayTheyProfit.com](http://WePayTheyProfit.com) and [DesalDisaster.com](http://DesalDisaster.com).



A TCE Fund commissioned report revealed big polluters are getting outrageous tax handouts in the Coastal Bend

## TEXAS GRASSROOTS MINI-GRANTS

TCE Fund was able to increase funding to continue and expand our program to provide mini-grants to grassroots environmental organizations in Texas. We are working to provide a reliable source of funds for small groups that don't usually have access to foundation grants, especially in communities that are disproportionately burdened by pollution. Over the past four years we have awarded 31 mini-grants to 23 different organizations—most of which are led by people of color—for a total of over \$95,000 so far. In 2022 we dispersed mini-grants to groups such as East Lubbock Art House, Start:Empowerment, The Frontera Land Alliance, Preserve Our Hill Country Environment Foundation, Black Gold Resourcing, and Ecology Action of Texas.

## STRONG SUPPORT FOR TCE FUND INITIATIVES

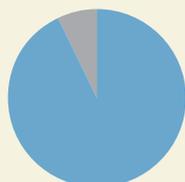
TCE Fund has diversified its funding sources with important contributions made by local, state and national organizations. Our 2022 supporters included High Tide, Climate Imperative, The 2030 Fund, Winkler Family Foundation, Rockefeller Family Fund, Jacob & Terese Hershey Foundation, William J. J. Gordon Family Foundation, Movement Voter Fund, Tides Foundation, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Juan M. Cordova Foundation, and Schmidt Family Foundation.

TCE Fund also receives funding from dedicated community giving days such as Amplify Austin and North Texas Giving Day, in addition to events that also benefit our sister organization (Texas Campaign for the Environment) such as the Trash Makeover Challenge. TCE Fund participates in EarthShare Texas, which facilitates employee giving through payroll contributions and other partnerships.

## FINANCIALS

Revenue total: **\$2,763,176\***

- 93% major gifts and grants
- 7% grassroots contributions and fundraising events



\*Over \$1 million raised in 2022 for projects in 2023

Expenses total: **\$1,573,839**

- 89% grassroots organizing & programmatic work
- 6% managing TCE Fund
- 5% fundraising to sustain TCE Fund

