



Fighting Together

strengthening alliances to defeat polluters and profiteers

Now that renewable energy is taking center stage to power the future, multinational oil and gas companies are scrambling to build new and expanding fossil fuel export terminals all along the Gulf Coast – not to boost our local communities or European partners, but just to maximize their profits by extracting and shipping Texas’ natural resources to the highest overseas bidders, no matter what the harm to people and the planet.

We’re fighting to prevent these bad projects from moving forward, and one way we are succeeding is by convincing key federal officials to visit Gulf Coast communities to see firsthand how devastating they would be. Here are a few examples to highlight:

We helped facilitate a visit to Calhoun County by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Acting Director to learn about a proposal to dredge an underwater, mercury-laden Superfund site in Matagorda Bay for the sake of building a massive crude oil export facility for Max Midstream. The Army Corps has now announced that approval for the dredging project has been withdrawn indefinitely, meaning the oil export terminal will most likely never be built!

We led efforts to have the U.S. EPA Region 6 Administrator visit the Coastal Bend and learn about the proposed “Bluewater” oil export terminal, which had a draft air pollution permit that would have made it the largest single emitter of VOCs (volatile organic compounds) in the entire country. The EPA revoked this bad air permit, and now Bluewater must submit a revised proposal to reduce its pollution by 95% from the original draft.

We launched a campaign with national allies to pressure U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg to deny permits for several proposed fossil fuel export terminals, and we confronted him publicly with creative demonstrations during his visits to Austin for SXSW and Texas Tribune Festival. Secretary Buttigieg’s Department of Transportation

has now issued a stop clock order against “Blue Marlin,” a proposed crude oil export facility off the coast of Port Arthur, delaying any immediate action.

We’re winning these victories together with many allies and partners in a testament to our collective power. We will continue working to delay and deny these and other bad projects, and instead put our state and nation on a path toward clean, sustainable energy.



U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg has the authority to reject the required permits for proposed offshore crude oil export terminals. You can take action now by urging Secretary Buttigieg to visit our Texas Gulf Coast communities and prioritize the health and wellbeing of people and the planet!

Visit: www.texasenvironment.org/take-action

Letter from Robin Schneider, TCE Executive Director



Robin Schneider
TCE Executive
Director

Taking on the pollution from fossil fuel companies is not an easy task anywhere – and especially not in Texas. It can feel pretty daunting. So we never forget to mix in a little fun and creativity whenever we can. And sometimes that's the best way to get the attention of key decision-makers!

For example, last March we went to CERA Week in Houston, one of the largest energy industry conferences in the world. Many global leaders were there such as John Kerry and Sen. Joe Manchin.

We knew we needed something unique to draw attention to our message, so we created a giant paper mache John Kerry puppet head and had him strike up conversations with conference attendees. He made quite a splash! We also coordinated a letter from frontline leaders that was hand-delivered to the high-ranking officials who were speakers.



In September we coordinated Gulf Coast allies to attend the Texas Tribune Festival in Austin, where U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg was a speaker. His department includes the Maritime Administration which has the authority to reject required permits for offshore oil and gas export terminals.

With life-size cardboard cut-out Pete Buttigieg figures in hand, we held a demonstration outside the event venue and had attendees waiting in line take their picture with Pete. Then inside we unfurled a giant banner during the Q&A portion of his talk. He acknowledged the banner and thousands of public comments his office has received – including the letters TCE supporters have written to him through our door-to-door canvassing – and he made a clear statement “I hear you.”

Humor and attention-getting tactics can be powerful tools in our work. But the most important key to our success is the people power that comes from folks like you and so many other Texans and allies. Thanks for being a part of our team!

Meet the staff



Corey



Rolanetta



Zac

TCE's hardworking staff has been organizing across our great state to ensure a better and cleaner future for Texans. They say everything is bigger in Texas and we are working relentlessly to ensure the environmental justice movement is a reflection of that. From deepening our connections in frontline communities and amplifying the work of our allies to developing strategic campaigns, we are connecting our struggles to give big, polluting industries the boot and ensure the Lone Star State shines bright.



CENTRAL TEXAS

GREATER HOUSTON

COASTAL BEND



Kat



Trevor



Brandon



Olivia



Jenny



Armon



Tobin



Chloe



Jeffrey



Temo



Liz



Jessica



Sophie



Vic



Cody



Ana

Learn more about our work and how you can help by joining us virtually for our

Annual Meeting
Wed. April 5, 7-8PM

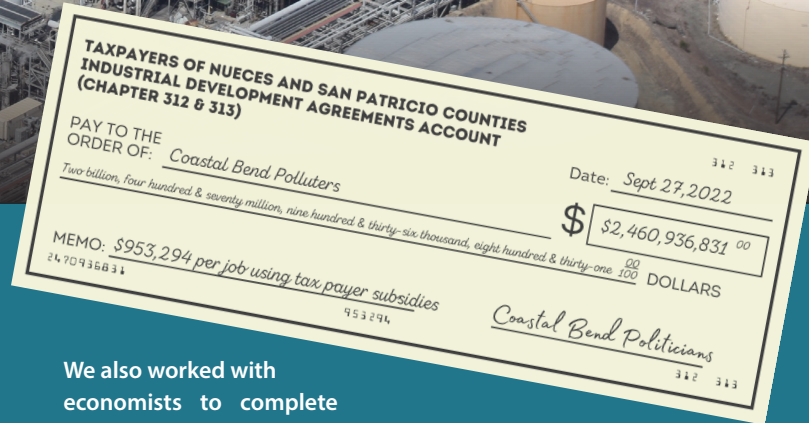
Register online:

texasenvironment.org/annual-meeting
or call 512-326-5655

Exposing industry's tax exemption strategy

In Corpus Christi, the City, the Port and a petrochemical company are trying to build a total of five desalination facilities to supply water for proposed petrochemical facilities. We are working with many Coastal Bend allies to fight this proposed industry buildout, and our combined efforts have caused delays at every stage of the process and have successfully withheld most of the permits they need to move forward on any of the proposed plants. Citing mounting public pressure, the U.S. EPA told the state environmental agency that the wastewater discharge permit it issued to one of the proposed plants is invalid because it did not correctly classify these plants as major polluters.

Working with economists, we released a study of the various tax subsidies that the petrochemical plants have received, which found polluters received an average of \$950,000 for each job promised!



We also worked with economists to complete a robust study of alternatives to the proposed desalination plants that would be needed for new and expanding petrochemical plants in the Coastal Bend. Of all the proposed water source solutions, desalination was found to be the most expensive and environmentally damaging option.

The main feasible alternative is water conservation and judicious use of groundwater. This could also be supplemented with floating solar panels on parts of the drinking water reservoir, which would generate renewable power and dramatically reduce evaporation from this key water source.

Shaping politics and winning elections



The TCE Coastal Bend office led the charge to elect a "Clean Slate" to Corpus Christi City Council. We endorsed four candidates who ran on rejecting corporate tax breaks, desalination for industrial use, and other business-as-usual. Our candidates advocated for lowering taxes and bills on residents, fixing the aging water infrastructure that delivers water to our homes, and investing in basic city amenities like roads, parks, and libraries.

Of our four candidates, two won their races and are now Corpus Christi City Council members! Jim Klein secured

an At-Large win in the general election, and Sylvia Campos went toe to toe with longtime corporate cheerleader and eight term City Council Member, Mark Scott, in a runoff that resulted in her win. In addition, Nancy Vera outpaced the At-Large incumbent coming in 4th, and Armon Alex's run forced a runoff in District 3. Thousands of Corpus Christians voted for these community advocates, sending a clear message to heavy industry that has for far too long treated the Coastal Bend as a sacrifice zone to pollution.

In North Texas, we endorsed a slate of three candidates for Denton City Council. One of our endorsed candidates, Brandon McGee was elected. We hope Brandon and other strong environmental allies on the Denton council will lead on the latest challenges to the city's sustainability efforts.

With such great turnout and success with TCE's endorsement efforts in 2022, we plan to continue local election work in the future!



Brandon McGee

financials

These past few years have been a rollercoaster of changes, challenges and important victories. Through it all, support from our members like you across the state was unwavering. Last year we also received project-specific grants that helped us with some major campaigns, and we had a deficit by design because certain income raised in 2021 was intended for projects in 2022. We are immensely grateful for the strong grassroots support you are helping us build as we continue fighting for a cleaner, healthier future. Please consider using the enclosed envelope to renew your support for our efforts today, for a more sustainable tomorrow!

where we got our funding in 2022

revenue total: **\$810,984**

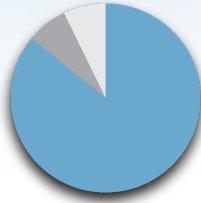
- 52% major gifts and grants
- 38% grassroots contributions from individual Texans
- 10% fundraising events



how we used our funding in 2022

expense total: **\$1,009,081**

- 86% environmental advocacy, community organizing & public education
- 7% fundraising to sustain TCE
- 7% managing TCE



source: TCE financial statement, 2022



**TEXAS CAMPAIGN
FOR THE ENVIRONMENT**

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12TH TRASH MAKEOVER CHALLENGE

We were so excited to hold our Trash Makeover Challenge event again for its 12th year – and back as an in-person gathering for the first time since the pandemic. It was another fantastic evening where attendees enjoyed delicious food and drinks, an incredible live performance by SaulPaul, our Kick-Ass award ceremony, and of course the unforgettable show of dazzling garments.

Our esteemed judges selected designer Melissa Prentice as the grand prize winner, and attendees voted for the "People's Choice" winner Greg Lara, whose design included gift-wrapping tissue, trash bags, and shower curtains!

