Texas Materials Group Inc - Hot Mix Asphalt Plant
5303 Navigation Boulevard, Houston, Harris County, Texas 77011

Permit Number: 21258

What is being decided in this process?
- Texas Materials Group, Inc. has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to renew their air permit for their plant at 5303 Navigation Boulevard.
- Their plant - known as the Turkey Bend Asphalt Plant - produces/manufactures asphalt paving mixtures.
- The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is deciding whether to renew the permit. The company must have an air permit to continue operating the plant.

What are the specific concerns about the Texas Materials Hot Mix Asphalt Plant?
- Asphalt plants emit one of the most dangerous air pollutants: Particulate Matter 2.5, super-fine particles (of soot, dust, silica, and other aggregates) that, when inhaled, can lodge in the lung tissue and bloodstream leading to asthma attacks and even respiratory or cardiac arrest for vulnerable persons. Asphalt plants and other aggregate processing facilities are unfairly clustered in communities of color and lower income.
- In addition, asphalt plants also release volatile organic compounds (VOCs) (e.g: benzene, formaldehyde, ethylene etc) that are toxic even at low concentrations, causing respiratory irritation, headaches, nausea. Exposure to VOCs over a long period of time has been linked to organ damage and cancers as well.
- The renewal requested by Texas Materials Group will authorize the continued operation of a hot mix asphalt plant that includes silos, stockpiles, storage tanks, and a heater. While the company states that there will be no changes to the permit, a renewal will allow them to continue releasing **over 120 tons of pollution per year** - in the following amounts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pollutant</th>
<th>Tons per year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Volatile Organic Compounds</td>
<td>13.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrogen Oxides</td>
<td>23.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sulfur Dioxide</td>
<td>23.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Particulate matter (All sizes)</td>
<td>13.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon Monoxide</td>
<td>52.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydrochloric Acid</td>
<td>0.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead</td>
<td>0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>126.28</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• More than 3,300 households are within a mile of the asphalt plant. This plant is also close to an early childhood center, an elementary school, multiple churches, parks, and other sensitive areas.

• The community within 1 mile of the plant is comprised of:
  o 91% people of color, with 84% identifying as Hispanic.
  o 67% Spanish speaking
    • 33% speak English "less than very well"
  o Predominantly middle-low income and working class households

• The two nearest zip codes - 77011 and 77020 - both possess elevated levels of asthma, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), coronary heart disease, and strokes compared to the county average

What should be done about the permit application?
• TCEQ should reject this permit outright and say “no” to the environmental and health harms posed by asphalt plants. The community already has far too many sources of air pollution, including a concrete batch plant (CEMEX), 6 Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) sites, and a municipal solid waste site. The continued operation of this plant will continue to add to pollution and related health concerns

• Unfortunately, we know that TCEQ will not stand up for environmental justice, so, barring a permit denial, they must do everything in their power to strengthen the permit itself. They should require fenceline monitoring so community members can know for sure how much
(more) pollution is being emitted, and they must require all Best Pollution Control Practices to reduce the dust and soot that will come off of this plant into the community.

**What can you do?**
- Write up your comments and submit them to TCEQ online. To submit written comments, go to: [http://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/](http://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/). Type “21258” in the Permit Number box. You will be taken to an online form where you can type in your comments or attach a document. The form requires you to provide contact information.
- Contact your elected officials and voice your concerns about this asphalt plant and their plans to continue releasing pollution in the community by renewing their permit.