

#E1-2591
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The Medina County Environmental Action Association, Inc.

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November 21, 2006

received
11/28/06

FD 34284

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Attn: CECW-OR/MVD
David Olsen
441 G Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20314-1000

Re: Docket COE 2006-0005

Dear Mr. Olsen:

As President of the Medina County Environmental Action Association, I represent a group of over 350 individuals. We believe that if the 'streamlining' practice is adopted by the Corps, further contamination of the water supply will result. This would prove disastrous in this rapidly growing region of southwest Texas which is already facing severe water quality and quantity problems, as evidenced by water quality degradation and water restrictions in the San Antonio area. Currently San Antonio is experiencing increasing levels of toxic pesticides, hydrocarbons, and nitrates to name a few of the pollutants. The source of the above pollutants is believed to be largely due to runoff from impervious cover that subsequently enters our small streams and wetlands.

Exempting clean water standards such as bank stabilization, unwise development in floodplains, allowing wetland destruction, abolishing public notice requirements and not requiring evaluation of less-damaging alternatives will result in more pollution. I believe you will agree that it is imperative that our small streams, wetlands and floodplains be protected.

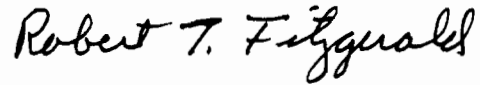
Therefore measures to protect our water quality must not be abandoned. Exempting safeguards for water quality must not be done to please land developers, mining companies and other industries.

We implore the Corps to not make the mistake of exempting the safeguards which are vital and proven to be effective for protecting water quality nationwide.

In closing, we would like to know under this 'streamlining' proposal, what factors would determine when a stream, floodplain, or wetland would be considered small enough that it does not deserve to be protected from pollution.

We oppose the rubber-stamp, 'streamlining' proposal and urge that strict limits on pollution potential be maintained.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert T. Fitzgerald". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Robert Fitzgerald, President
MCEAA

Cc: Victoria Rutson, Chief, Section on Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
U. S. Congressman Henry Bonilla
Texas Representative David Leibowitz
Texas Representative Tracy King

MCEAA, Inc., for your Home, Health, and Heritage