

Message

From: Jones, Enesta [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=65B8E6C6E5CA4A7A9AE85D98A4C8EEDB-EJONES02]
Sent: 3/28/2018 8:40:03 PM
To: elizabethgrace.dickens **Ex. 6**
CC: Press [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b293283291dc44e0b5d1c36be9281d8a-Press]
Subject: Daily Texan Interview Request

Grace,

On background:

More information on the Clean Water Act: <https://www.epa.gov/laws-regulations/summary-clean-water-act>

More information on regulations for waterway pollution: <https://www.epa.gov/npdes/npdes-permit-basics>

More information on the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES):

<https://www.epa.gov/npdes/industrial-wastewater>

More information on enforcement of the Clean Water Act: <https://www.epa.gov/npdes/npdes-state-program-information>

States have the primary authority enforce most statutes of environmental laws like the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. EPA maintains federal enforcement oversight of all state-led programs and the agency's enforcement staff across the country work closely with states, territories and Tribes to ensure their enforcement activities appropriately address violations of the law. EPA enforcement staff, at both the headquarters and regional levels, remain committed to vigorous civil and criminal, and in certain cases, EPA partners with a state enforcement agency on an enforcement action."

More information on our programs and efforts to enforce and build compliance with the CWA and SDWA:

<https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/water-enforcement>

Our annual results press release, which summarizes our recent enforcement work:

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-2017-annual-environmental-enforcement-results>

In FY 2019, EPA has requested sufficient resources to support a robust enforcement and compliance assurance program. To accomplish this, EPA works in partnership with state and tribal agencies to assure compliance, to protect public health and the environment, and to create consistency and certainty for the regulated community.

Budget proposal: <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-02/documents/fy-2019-congressional-justification-all-tabs.pdf>

The Civil Enforcement section begins on page 179.

From: Grace Dickens; **Ex. 6**

Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 1:22 PM

To: Jones, Enesta <Jones.Enesta@epa.gov>

Subject: Daily Texan Interview Request

Hello,

My name is Grace Dickens, and I am a student at the University of Texas at Austin. I am writing an article for our student-run paper, called The Daily Texan, over the "Troubled Waters: Industrial Pollution Still Threatens American Waterways" report that was recently published by the Environment

America Research and Policy Center. I have a few questions regarding the pollution of waterways, and the enforcement of federal regulations.

What is the Clean Water Act?

What industrial activities go on in Texas? Do these activities pollute waterways?

According to a recent study published by the Environment America Research and Policy Center, Texas ranks number one in America for legal exceedences of waterway pollution. Why do you think that is?

To what extent has waterway protection been prioritized in the Texas legislature?

Are the regulations in place now effective at curbing waterway pollution?

Why do states lack enforcement for environmental regulation?

Why is there such a low rate of punishment among polluters?

What actions can be taken to increase the power of these environmental pollution regulations?

How do toxins such as arsenic, mercury, selenium and lead impact waterways?

2019 EPA fiscal budget cuts \$30.4 million from Civil Enforcement of Environmental Protection Plans

How much is its budget right now?

How does losing \$30.4 million impact that?

Where can polluters dump now with impunity?

What are they dumping?

Why aren't industries switching to non-toxic chemicals now? 7:00

Are the energy industry and pollution linked now?

Why is Texas' rate so high?

What kind of industries have National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) approval to point-source pollute waterways? Why?

Under what circumstances would the EPA revoke a state's authorization to enforce the Clean Water Act?

Thank you so much,

Grace Dickens

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