



January 22, 2019

To the Parish Council and Mr. Roussel,

“Don’t trust us, track us.” This statement has been uttered by Formosa spokespeople at every public hearing regarding their facility.

**We are tracking them, and Formosa in Texas was fined \$121,875 last week by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for polluting the waterways in an area near Lavaca Bay.**

This [article](#) was in the local Texas paper, the Victoria Advocate

([https://www.victoriaadvocate.com/news/plastics-company-fined-almost-k-for-polluting-south-texas-waterway/article\\_36a39b00-19e0-11e9-8276-c7afb926c09d.html?platform=hootsuite](https://www.victoriaadvocate.com/news/plastics-company-fined-almost-k-for-polluting-south-texas-waterway/article_36a39b00-19e0-11e9-8276-c7afb926c09d.html?platform=hootsuite)).



Photographs of the pollution can be found [here](#) on the page of the San Antonio Bay Waterkeeper

(<https://www.facebook.com/San-Antonio-Bay-Waterkeeper-128611780622397/>). The TCEQ’s order can be found [here](#).

[https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/comm\\_exec/agendas/comm/backup/Agendas/2019/01-16-2019/0737IWD.pdf](https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/comm_exec/agendas/comm/backup/Agendas/2019/01-16-2019/0737IWD.pdf)) Last week’s approval for the fine is item 17, page 6 of [this](#) TCEQ agenda ([https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/comm\\_exec/agendas/comm/current/2019/190116.pdf](https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/comm_exec/agendas/comm/current/2019/190116.pdf)).

This letter is a request to delay the council vote so that the parish can gather more information about what exactly happened in Texas – what the violations were and how likely such problems are to be repeated here.



Included in this letter is a picture of the plastic pellets that Formosa has released into the waterways in Texas. It is this type of pollution that has been the source of the fine. This is an urgent situation and deserves investigation before we allow this company in St. James and into the state of Louisiana.

Sincerely,

Sharon Lavigne, RISE St. James

Anne Rolfes, Louisiana Bucket Brigade

Renate Heurich, 350 New Orleans

Kendall Dix, Gulf Restoration Network