

April 25, 2011

Phil Cook
Sierra Club, Lost Pines Subcommittee
1192 Shiloh Rd.
Cedar Creek, TX 78612

Bastrop County Commissioners Court:

Concerning CTA's Permit Application SWF-2010-00506

The Sierra Club stands unequivocally opposed to the construction of the Central Texas Airport.

The cite chosen for the airport is utterly inappropriate for such a facility. The Commissioners Court's previous support for the airport project indicates a negligence and absence of due diligence, a disregard for the health, safety, and well-being of area residents, and a willingness to expose a large part of the county to environmental degradation that such a facility would cause.

Before the Court today is Consideration of CTA's permit to the US Army Corps of Engineers that, among other actions, would allow CTA to discharge "approximately 46,000 cubic yards of dredged and fill material into waters of the U.S. The applicant proposes to fill the 8.55 acre pond and 5,390 linear feet (0.866 acre) of ephemeral stream that would be permanently adversely affected...". This discharge would permanently and irreparably affect the public waters of the Colorado River, and lead to degradation of one of the cleanest and most environmentally important segments of the river.

The Sierra Club strongly recommends that the Court go on record as opposing this aspect of the project, and that the Court communicate this opposition to the Army Corp of Engineers. Further, the Court should recommend the "No-Build Alternative", as set forth in the permit application, as a means of protecting and preserving this segment of the Colorado River.

Attached, please find a copy of the Lone Star Sierra Club's "RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE CENTRAL TEXAS AIRPORT", unanimously passed by the state Executive Committee on April 9, 2011.

Sincerely,

Phil Cook
Sierra Club