



TEXAS  
COMMISSION  
ON ENVIRONMENTAL  
QUALITY

2010 SEP 27 PM 12:59  
CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

**MATAGORDA COUNTY**  
NATE McDONALD  
COUNTY JUDGE

September 27, 2010

Ms. Castanvela,

Please distribute these letters to the Commissioners and whomever else may have input on the White Stallion Energy Center permits on Docket # 2009 0283 AIR.

Many thanks and have a good day.

Sincerely,

Nate McDonald  
County Judge  
Matagorda County



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Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
12100 Park 35 Circle, MC 105  
Austin, Texas 78753

Commissioners:

Thank you for your service to the great State of Texas. I know that it must be a daunting task to make decisions for the whole of our State, and I appreciate your efforts.

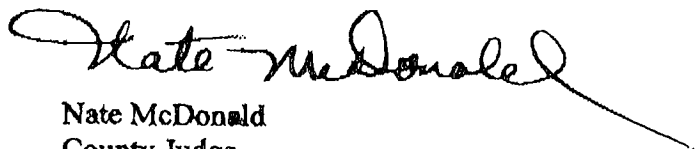
To that end, I would like to visit with you today about Docket # 2009 0283 AIR, which is the White Stallion Energy Center (WSEC) air quality permit. Those things that made our State great, like forthrightness, square dealing and the pledge of your word as your bond are categorically absent in my dealings with the WSEC. This company has made many promises to our Court and the citizens of Matagorda County; but, has yet to execute any legal document that binds WSEC to the assurances and assertions made, both verbally and in their published marketing. In my experience and practice, when you tell someone you will commit to a set of circumstances, that with your word as your bond, one is willing to back that up in writing. This has not been the case with WSEC, and because of that, I do not believe this project to be a good fit for Matagorda County, or the State of Texas. I base my decision on two years of negotiations with WSEC with regards to environmental monitoring, water issues and business concerns. I believe that likewise the TCEQ and our State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) have carefully studied the air quality permit promulgated by WSEC. I also know that the SOAH Judges have challenged the permit with three objections. I do not purport to know what reply the WSEC has made to these objections, but a reasonable person would believe that they have assured the TCEQ and SOAH that indeed they will perform to the letter of the law with regards to air quality.

Gentlemen, here is the critical juncture. This company has no compunction about promising to deliver, but balking when it is time to legally and financially obligate themselves. Please do not award this air permit, allowing them to build this plant "as cheaply as possible to achieve our goals," and then set the State up for an endless array of fines to be assessed for transgressions against the State, the TCEQ, and our citizens.

This is not a good environmental deal or business deal for the citizens of Matagorda County and Texas. If you award this permit, history will bear that out. Please exercise the discretion given you to award or not to award, and deny the permits requested in White Stallion Energy Center's Docket # 2009 0283 AIR. You will have made a good decision for the citizens of our county and State in doing so.

Thank you for your time today, and for considering my request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nate McDonald". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Nate McDonald  
County Judge  
Matagorda County