July \_\_, 2023

**Filed Electronically at: www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment**

Office of the Chief Clerk

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality,

P.O. Box 13087, MC 105

Austin, TX 78711-3087

RE: City of Abilene, CN600242671; Possum Kingdom Raw Water Roughing Facility; RN107958928; Renewal Application Wastewater Permit No. WQ0005213000; Comment and Request for Public Meeting and Contested Case Hearing

Dear Chief Clerk Gharis:

I am submitting these comments and request for a Public Meeting and Contested Case Hearing with respect to the above-referenced permit renewal application pending before the Executive Director. Consistent with the information required listed in the June 16, 2023 TCEQ Public Notice, below is my information.

Name:   
 Address:

Phone Number:

Water is the life-giving force that connects us all. The Possum Kingdom reservoir is a major water supply reservoir in Texas and supports water supply in the entire Brazos River Basin. The lake impounds approximately 540,000 acre-feet of water. Possum Kingdom receives an estimated three million visitors annually. Major activities on the reservoir include fishing, water skiing, and scuba diving. The reservoir has public fishing piers, seven public boat ramps, and public access areas for picnicking and camping. Possum Kingdom Lake is a key resource for the State of Texas.

The City of Abilene is requesting to discharge an “annual average” of **1.51 million gallons of wastewater into Possum Kingdom Lake daily**. The wastewater (i.e., Reverse Osmosis Reject Water) will include high levels of Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), Chlorides, and Sulfates. All of these contaminates will negatively affect the quality of the water in Possum Kingdom Lake.

There are many wastewater disposal options the City of Abilene (City) could have pursued that are more protective of Human Heath and the Environment. Options such as evaporation ponds or deep well injection are all available to the City. I assume they simply choose the option to directly discharge wastewater into Possum Kingdom Lake because it is less expensive in the short term.

It defies logic and common sense to discharge over a million gallons a day of wastewater into a major water supply and recreational reservoir in the State of Texas. This is not a sustainable practice. The discharge of over 1.5 million gallons of wastewater into Possum Kingdom Lake will affect my enjoyment of the lake and the water supply that I rely on. I also believe the permit application the City has filed with the TCEQ has a number of technical deficiencies that need to be addressed and vetted in a Public Meeting and Contested Case Hearing.

Therefore, I request a Public Meeting and Contested Case Hearing be conducted for the above-referenced permit renewal application pending before the Executive Director.

Sincerely,