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March 9, 2022

*Submitted via email*

Scott Muri, PhD, Superintendent  
Board of Trustees  
Ector County Independent School District  
802 N. Sam Houston  
Odessa, TX 79761

RE: Proposal to Accept a \$275,000 Gift to Fund HEPA Filters

Dear Dr. Muri and Members of the Board of Trustees:

The Environmental Integrity Project (EIP) is a nongovernmental organization based in Washington, DC and Austin, TX that advocates for effective enforcement of environmental laws. We reached out to the ECISD in January 2022 with a proposal to direct \$275,000 of funding toward a project to improve air quality for ECISD students and staff. We spoke with District Operations staff who identified the opportunity to utilize the available funding for purchase of replacement filters for 3,503 air purifiers recently installed in rooms throughout the District.

The funding was set aside in 2020 as a result of a [legal settlement](#) involving the Clean Air Act. The funding was set aside for a community benefit project in the Odessa area. The funding will be directed to the U.S. Treasury unless the lawsuit parties file a motion to release the funds to ECISD before March 12, 2022.

The lawsuit parties have worked hard to resolve this matter and are in full agreement that directing the funds to ECISD for air filter replacements is an excellent use of the funds. We desire to keep the funds in the local community for air quality and public health benefits, rather than having the funds sent to the federal treasury. We hope you agree, and that you can quickly approve ECISD's acceptance of this gift.

With your urgent approval, we propose to direct the \$275,000 in Mitigation Project funds to the ECISD for the purchase of approximately 4,435 replacement HEPA filters, to confer respiratory health benefits to ECISD students and staff. In addition to protecting against COVID-19 infection, the HEPA filters will also eliminate many of the substances in indoor air that are known to trigger asthma symptoms.

Please call environmental engineer Lauren Fleer, or attorney Colin Cox, if you have any questions or concerns about this urgent matter.

Sincerely,



Lauren Flee, P.E.  
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Colin Cox (Mar 9, 2022 10:25 CST)

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# 2022-03-09 EIP letter to ECISD

Final Audit Report

2022-03-09

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