



## **BORRIS L. MILES**

STATE SENATOR • DISTRICT 13

COMMITTEES: AGRICULTURAL, WATER, & RURAL AFFAIRS • HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES • NATURAL RESOURCES & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT • NOMINATIONS

March 2, 2017

The Honorable Jon Niermann  
Commissioner  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
12100 Park 35 Circle  
Austin, TX 78753

Dear Commissioner Niermann:

Thank you for meeting and following up on our discussion regarding the health risks of concrete and rock crushing.

I particularly appreciate your assessment that racism, specifically environmental racism, is a reality and a real concern to communities of color. The geographic data you presented showing the distribution of concrete and rock crushing facilities throughout my district appears to lend weight to your assessment. I look forward to working with you this session on legislation to tighten controls on the location of these facilities and curtail their adverse impact on our citizens.

Please know, too, in the interest of gathering further information and promoting informed policies with regard to this issue, I will soon file legislation that will charge the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Department of State Health Services, local health providers, the American Lung Association and other stake holders to investigate the threat of rock and concrete crushing and propose recommendations to the 86th Legislature to protect our fellow Texans from this threat.

**CAPITOL OFFICE:**

P.O. Box 12068  
Austin, Texas 78711  
(512) 463-0113 • FAX: (512) 463-0006  
Dial 711 for Relay Calls

**DISTRICT OFFICE:**

5302 Almeda Road, Suite A  
Houston, Texas 77004  
(713) 665-8322 • FAX: (713) 665-0009

Page 2  
Commissioner Niermann

Again, I greatly appreciate your hard work, research and leadership and look forward to continuing our work together. In the meantime, please feel free to contact me for any assistance you may need.

**Keep the Faith, Keep the Fight,**

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Borris L. Miles". The signature is written over a horizontal line that spans across the page.

Borris L. Miles  
State Senator, District 13

- cc: Sen. Craig Estes, Chairman, Senate Natural Resources & Economic Development Committee  
Rep. Lyle Larson, Chairman, House Natural Resources Committee  
Rep. Helen Giddings, Chair, Texas Legislative Black Caucus  
Rep. Rafael Anchia, Chairman, Mexican American Legislative Caucus  
Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., P.E., Chairman, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
Toby Baker, Commissioner, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
Richard A. Hyde, Executive Director, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality