

# Austin American-Statesman

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## Letters

### Leasing company responds

The decision by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality concerning debris from a 1997 truck wreck south of Austin proves once again that the simplest things can turn into the most complex (Sept. 18 editorial, "Environmental commission makes right move on waste").

Everyone agrees the trash resulted from an accident and no one was trying to skirt environmental regulations when those working the wreck sent it to the landfill.

Shortly after the accident, our company removed as much of the debris as possible from the landfill. The state decided in 1998 any material that might be mixed with other garbage posed no threat to the environment and could stay at the landfill. TCEQ's tests confirmed that the remaining garbage does not come close to meeting any state or federal standard of hazardous waste.

All along the way, we have sought direction from the state to fully comply with environmental regulations but that effort seems to have gotten caught up in a series of contradictory instructions.

Penske Truck Leasing is proud of our record of complying with all laws and regulations in the 49 states and many countries where we do business. We will do everything possible to continue to comply with all regulations because we respect the environment in Texas as much as native Texans.

**MICHAEL A. DUFF**

Senior vice president  
and general counsel  
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