



October 2025

Energy News



From the Field Photo

Well inspection in Ward County

Photo by Jimmy Hernandez



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Upcoming Events

RRC Open Meeting

November 18, 2025

[VIEW OPEN MEETING WEBCASTS](#)



RRC Shares Energy Insights with Canadian Business Leaders

The Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC) hosted senior representatives from four leading Canadian pension funds and five major Canadian banks at its Austin headquarters October 22, to discuss the agency's role as a global leader in energy regulation.

Led by the Honorable Susan Harper, the Consul General of Canada in Dallas, the delegation received an overview of the RRC's regulatory duties and Texas' leadership in energy development.

RRC Executive Director Wei Wang provided opening remarks to guests where he spoke about the Commission's close relationship with the Canadian provinces, specifically through the RRC's participation in the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission.

"We welcome opportunities like this to engage with international partners who share our goal of promoting safe and reliable energy production and transportation," said RRC Executive Director Wei

Wang. "The RRC remains a key player in maintaining Texas's position as a global leader in responsible energy development, and discussions like these strengthen our efforts."

Following the presentation, representatives asked the assembled panel of RRC experts about a variety of topics including gas rate determination, hydrogen production, economic development in Texas and the RRC's relationship with other federal, state and foreign regulatory agencies. The Commission's government relations director also provided an overview of the recent state legislative actions impacting the RRC.

This visit is just the latest example of how the RRC remains at the forefront of the global conversation on energy production and regulation. In its role as regulator for one of the most dynamic energy economies in the world, the Railroad Commission has played host to multiple foreign delegations so far this year, including representatives from Germany and Argentina.



Petroleum Theft Task Force Holds First Meeting at RRC

To begin coordinated action against the rising threat of petroleum product theft in Texas, Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC) Chairman Jim Wright presided over the inaugural meeting of the State Task Force on Petroleum Theft (STOPTheft) at RRC headquarters on October 29, 2025.

“Each of you were selected for the valuable expertise and insight you bring to this task force,” said Chairman Jim Wright. “Your work in the coming year and wealth of knowledge will play a pivotal role in protecting our precious Texas natural resources. I look forward to working together to accomplish the goals set forth under SB 494 and putting a STOP to oilfield theft.”

Established during the 89th Legislative Session by Senate Bill (SB) 494, STOP-Theft unites representatives from across the state’s energy industry, as well as federal and local law enforcement, with the goal of studying and making recommendations to help combat petroleum theft in Texas.

The task force’s duties include reviewing product theft laws and regulations in other U.S. jurisdictions as well as international laws; analyzing the impact of theft on

state tax collections and long-term economic impacts; making recommendations on law enforcement training to combat petroleum product theft and preparing a report to submit to the Governor and the Legislature.

During the inaugural meeting, members reviewed the language of SB 494 and officially voted to approve the STOPTheft charter.

Discussion topics included strengthening collaboration between law enforcement and private operators, examining the impact of petroleum theft on state sales tax revenues and determining how to identify and align existing theft data gathered by law enforcement and regulatory agencies.

A staggering 40% of oil and gas operators indicated that their operations have been impacted by theft in the past year, an increasingly sophisticated crime that has been linked to organized crime and foreign criminal syndicates, costing Texans millions of dollars in lost state revenue.

Under the leadership of Chairman Wright, the task force will continue to meet at least quarterly.

RRC Enhances Public Input Through Remote Listening Sessions



The Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC) will hold a series of remote Listening Sessions to provide the public with another opportunity to share their perspectives on the RRC's role as the state's oldest regulatory agency. Residents from across Texas are encouraged to participate, ask questions and express their opinions.

Public questions and comments will be addressed in real time by RRC staff who are subject matter experts. The inaugural session is scheduled for Wednesday, November 12, 2025, from noon to 1:30 p.m. CST.

"The remote Listening Sessions are an important opportunity for Texans to speak directly with us," said Wei Wang, RRC Executive Director. "We want to better understand the perspectives of those we serve, and these conversations help us listen, learn and lead with the best interest of Texans in mind."

These virtual sessions, occurring every other month, are organized by the Office of Public Engagement (OPE) and will feature a brief overview of the Commission's regulatory functions followed by an op-

portunity for participants to provide comments and ask questions during a brief Q&A session with RRC subject matter experts. Registration is required for participation and commenting.

The remote Listening Sessions program is a part of the RRC's continuous commitment to inform and involve Texans in the vital work of the Commission. This fiscal year alone, OPE staff traveled to 36 cities and participated in 50 events, engaging with more than 21,000 Texans through presentations, exhibits and interactive outreach. The team delivered 32 speeches and set up 18 booths, with eight of these in partnership with other RRC divisions.

Event details

Date: Wednesday, November 12, 2025, from noon to 1:30 p.m. CST.

Format: These sessions will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams. A dial-in option will also be available for convenience.

Registration: [Texans can click here to register in advance.](#)



In Episode 7 of Texas Energy on Track, the hosts Bryce Dubee and Nick Kraynok sit down to talk with Stephanie Weidman, Pipeline Safety Director at the RRC. The discussion includes managing more than 400,000 miles of intrastate pipeline, pipeline inspections, safety aspects and more!

Available on all major podcast platforms, including [Apple Music](#) and [Spotify](#).



RRC Engages Students and Educators at GSA Field Trip in Partnership with the University of Texas at Austin

As part of its ongoing commitment to public engagement across the state, the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC) partnered with the University of Texas at Austin's Hildebrand Department of Petroleum and Geosystems Engineering (PGE) and the Choose Energy K-12 Outreach Program to host a field trip during the 2025 Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of America on Saturday, October, 18.

The field trip, "Energizing the Future: Innovative Energy Production and Environmental Stewardship in Texas" brought together RRC staff, 5th-12th grade teachers and university students for a hands-on

exploration of subsurface energy technologies and innovations shaping Texas' energy landscape.

Subject matter experts and representatives from the RRC's Office of Public Engagement showcased Texas leadership in energy production, environmental stewardship and career development.

Participants engaged with real-world geology and engineering concepts through site visits, including an active well-plugging operation overseen by Nick Harrell, Well Plugging Manager for the San Antonio Oil and Gas District. It was a valuable



opportunity allowing attendees to witness these technologies firsthand.

RRC staff also provided information on the agency's regulatory jurisdiction, well-plugging initiatives, waste disposal and produced water management and the drilling permits process.

Staff also highlighted the many career opportunities at the RRC that apply geology and engineering principles to protect Texas' natural resources.



The RRC is grateful for the operators who graciously provided public access to their sites and to UT Austin's PGE department for helping inspire the next generation of energy professionals.

To learn more about the RRC's public engagement efforts visit: <http://rrc.texas.gov/public-engagement/>.

Chairman Wright

COMMISSIONERS' CORNER



In October, Chairman Wright traveled to Odessa to attend the Permian Basin International Oil Show, one of the premier energy trade shows in the world!

In between looking at the latest and greatest oilfield technology and equipment, he addressed attendees at the Permian Basin Petroleum Association luncheon, where he discussed the importance of the “Texas Model” of energy production and regulatory oversight which serves as an example for governments around the globe.





(From left) Odessa Mayor Cal Hendrick,
Midland Mayor Lori Blong and RRC
Chairman Jim Wright



Oil and Gas Production Statistics

View monthly production totals of crude oil, condensate and total oil; and of gas well gas, casinghead gas and total natural gas.

[VIEW PRODUCTION STATISTICS](#) ▶

Enforcement Actions

The Commission has primary oversight and enforcement of the state's oil and gas industry and intrastate pipeline safety. View RRC's Latest Enforcement Actions [here](#).

[VIEW ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS](#) ▶

Public GIS Viewer

The Public GIS Viewer allows users to view oil, gas and pipeline data in a map view.

[LAUNCH THE PUBLIC GIS VIEWER](#) ▶