



# IN THE PIPELINE

TEXAS PIPELINE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2022

## WELCOME TO THE SPRING 2022 EDITION OF *IN THE PIPELINE*

We hope your year is progressing well. One thing we do know that went well was the performance of Texas natural gas, and the pipelines that deliver it, during this year's winter freezes [see page 7]. We are very pleased that the SB 3 reforms – and the incredible hard work of our members – contributed to this result.

In other news, in January TPA hosted its Annual Meeting (made virtual due to the pandemic), during which TPA reelected Shay Bluntzer, NuStar Energy, as its chairman, and elected Vincent DiCosimo, Targa Resources, as its vice chairman.

Please enjoy this edition of *In the Pipeline*.

## TPA RESOURCE LIBRARY

There are myriad resources available to TPA members on the association website. This includes one-pagers on pipeline matters, TPA issue statements, press releases and reports. You can use this content on your own social media, and when attending meetings with industry stakeholders, including regulators and government officials. We encourage you to download them from the [news site](#) or contact Sheryl Jett for copies.

The screenshot shows the Texas Pipeline Association website. The top navigation bar includes links for About, Pipelines, News, Membership, Members Login, and Contact. The main content area features several news articles:

- NEWS RELEASES** (1/19/2022) SHAY BLUNTZER REELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE TEXAS PIPELINE ASSOCIATION
- IN THE PIPELINE** (1/19/2022) TPA Hosts Annual Meeting
- ON THE RECORD** (1/19/2022) Shay Bluntzer was reelected Chairman of the Texas Pipeline Association on January 14, 2022.
- REPORTS**
- Pipeline Heroes**
- LEGISLATIVE OUTLOOK** (1/13/2022) TEXAS PIPELINES DETAIL EFFORTS TO WINTERIZE EQUIPMENT
- NEWS** (1/19/2022) SHAY BLUNTZER REELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE TEXAS PIPELINE ASSOCIATION
- PIPLINE 101** (1/19/2022) TEXAS PIPELINES DETAIL EFFORTS TO WINTERIZE EQUIPMENT
- NEWS** (1/19/2022) PIPELINES DO NOT "FREEZE"
- REPORTS**

## 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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<b>James Lee</b> Southcross Energy	<b>Jamie Welch</b> EagleClaw Midstream

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Friends,

What an eventful interim it has been. Believe it or not, this time next year we will be more than two months into the 88th Legislative Session. With the three special sessions that followed the 87th regular session, the multiple simultaneous rulemaking proceedings going through several state agencies, semi-regular Senate Business and Commerce Hearings and the recent announcement of House Interim Charges to the 87th legislature (more below), it feels a bit like the last session never ended.

As many of you will recall, this past legislative session was one like we've never seen. Between the standard legislative agenda items of eminent domain and environmental regulation, once Winter Storm Uri hit, a new spate of legislation was introduced. We thank the TPA member companies that were so heavily involved in the negotiations and crafting of this legislation. While what eventually passed the legislature in all these realms was far more workable for industry than what was originally proposed, as ever, the devil is in the details. The implementation of Senate Bill 3 has highlighted some of the more technical aspects of the interplay of the gas and electric industries, and perhaps inadvertently pointed out that legislators and regulators – not just industry participants – still have a lot to learn about how the respective segments of the gas-electric supply chain operate together.

TPA member companies have proved to be invaluable in these discussions and continued education of our sister industry, regulators and the public, by having the expertise and knowledge to guide the

narrative and produce something that was satisfactory to the members of the legislature and allowed industry to continue to efficiently operate. There is still work to be done in these areas with respect to agency rulemaking, but industry's starting position was improved because of the groundwork that was placed.

We are excited to include Chairman Craig Goldman in this segment of the *In the Pipeline* Legislative spotlight. Chairman Goldman heads up the crucial House Energy Resources Committee, which governs a good portion of issues related to the pipeline industry. His committee will be joining the House State Affairs Committee in jointly hearing House Interim charges relating to the Winter Storm Uri legislation (see below.) We look forward to continuing to work with Chairman Goldman during these hearings, as well as during the 88th Legislative Session.

Looking forward, we are excited to be returning to in-person board meetings on April 7, 2022 at NuStar in San Antonio! It was unfortunate that the onset of the Omicron variant in January moved our Houston board meeting to yet another virtual location, but we are excited to see everyone in person again soon!

We hope you find this edition of *In the Pipeline* informative and we encourage member companies to send any news or happenings that we can share, as it is always helpful to spread the great things our industry is doing for our state. As always, Sheryl, Jennifer and I stand ready to work on issues to assist the pipeline industry and advocate for a productive business environment.

All my best,  
Thure Cannon

## HOUSE SPEAKER RELEASES HOUSE INTERIM CHARGES TO 87TH LEGISLATURE

On March 10, 2022, House Speaker Dade Phelan issued Interim Committee Charges for the Texas House of Representatives for the 87th Legislature and formed the Interim Committees.

Some charges of particular importance to TPA members include: implementation of legislation and Railroad Commission efforts pertaining to Winter Storm Uri (Energy Resources Committee); the exploration of options for expanding the state's underground natural gas storage capacity, including using excess storage capacity for carbon capture opportunities and the creation of a strategic natural gas reserve for the state (Energy Resources Committee); the implementation of legislation and TCEQ oversight of the regulation of performance standards for aboveground bulk storage vessels (Environmental Regulation Committee); the implementation of eminent domain legislation, including active oversight of all associated rulemaking actions taken to ensure the intended legislative outcome of all legislation (Natural Resources Committee); and the examination of efforts of power generation facilities to weatherize their facilities (State Affairs Committee).

We will continue to discuss these topics in Legislative Affairs Committee meetings and the upcoming April 7 TPA board meeting.

# UNCERTAINTY AND CONTROVERSY CONTINUE TO PLAGUE THE DEFINITION OF “WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES”

By Don Lewis, Duggins Wren Mann & Romero, LLP

Just since 2015, the federal definition of “waters of the United States” (WOTUS) has changed four different times. It is likely to change again.

Under the Clean Water Act, waters and water features that are considered to be “waters of the United States” (WOTUS) are subject to federal protections and permitting requirements. Companies with construction or repair projects must determine whether they are impacting WOTUS and therefore need to apply for federal permit coverage. As in all areas of project planning and development, clarity as to permitting requirements is essential. Unfortunately, however, when it comes to what is and is not WOTUS, and therefore what activities require a Clean Water Act permit, clarity has been in short supply.

In 2015, the Obama Administration published a rule that expanded the definition that had previously been used. Then, in 2019, the Trump Administration issued a rule repealing the Obama definition and reinstating the pre-2015 definition. In 2020, the Trump Administration issued a final rule with a narrower definition of WOTUS, the Navigable Waters Protection Rule (NWPR). The NWPR was vacated on a nationwide basis by an Arizona federal court in 2021, which meant that once again, WOTUS was to be determined using the pre-2015 definition.

On top of all this, the Biden Administration in 2021 announced its intention to develop and finalize a rule that would create yet another new definition of WOTUS. Such a new definition, when it is issued, will surely be greeted with complaints, arguing that it is unclear and that it is either too broad or too narrow, depending on where one’s interests lie. Federal court litigation will no doubt follow, meaning that uncertainty will linger well beyond the publication of the new definition.

Adding to this tale of regulatory woe is the fact that, in January 2022, the federal agencies that administer WOTUS permitting – the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – issued notice that an Approved Jurisdictional Determination (AJD) that was based on the

WOTUS definition contained in the Trump Administration’s NWPR cannot serve as the basis for a new permitting decision. This is a departure from the agencies’ traditional practice, whereby an AJD could generally be relied on for permitting purposes for five years after its issuance.

The agencies summarized the new policy as follows: “The Corps will not rely on an AJD issued under the NWPR (a ‘NWPR AJD’) in making a new permit decision. The Corps will make new permit decisions pursuant to the currently applicable regulatory regime (i.e., the pre-2015 regulatory regime).

Therefore, for any currently pending permit action that relies on a NWPR AJD, or for any future permit application received that intends to rely on a NWPR AJD for purposes of permit processing, the Corps will discuss with the applicant...whether the applicant would like to receive a new AJD completed under the pre-2015 regulatory regime to continue their permit processing or whether the applicant would like to proceed in reliance on a preliminary JD or no JD whatsoever.”

**“WHEN IT COMES TO WHAT IS AND IS NOT WOTUS, AND THEREFORE WHAT ACTIVITIES REQUIRE A CLEAN WATER ACT PERMIT, CLARITY HAS BEEN IN SHORT SUPPLY.”**

One final thing to watch: the U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to decide a case presenting the question of whether, and to what extent, wetlands constitute WOTUS under the Clean Water Act. This is an issue that has long been a source of controversy. Arguments in the case, Sackett v. EPA, have not yet been scheduled. The Court’s decision could have a major impact on how WOTUS is defined in the future and could result in a judicial narrowing of the scope of WOTUS, which might well conflict with the WOTUS definition currently being developed by the Biden Administration.

Because of all this, it is likely that companies with development projects anywhere near waterbodies will continue to face confusion and uncertainty in assessing whether a project will impact WOTUS and thus need federal authorization.

As always, the Texas Pipeline Association (TPA) will continue to monitor developments in this area and issue notifications to members as appropriate.



TARGA

## TARGA RESOURCES ANNOUNCES POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH CONCHO VALLEY SOLAR TO PROVIDE RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY FOR ITS WEST TEXAS ASSETS

Targa Resources Corp. announced in November 2021 it has entered into agreements to source renewable electricity from Concho Valley Solar, LLC to provide power to Targa's natural gas processing infrastructure in the Permian Basin in West Texas. Concho Valley Solar is a joint development between Merit SI and Komipo America, Inc.

Concho Valley Solar initiated construction of the 160 MWac project near San Angelo in Tom Green County, Texas in the fourth quarter of 2021 and is expected to begin delivery of clean, renewable energy during the fourth quarter of 2022.

Concho Valley Solar will deliver low-cost, renewable electricity to Targa under a long-term power purchase agreement (PPA). This PPA continues to advance Targa's long-term sustainability strategy to reduce its emissions intensity.

As joint owner in much of Targa's Midland Basin gas processing

infrastructure, Pioneer Natural Resources will participate in the renewable electricity sourced from the Concho Valley Solar project, enhancing its emissions reduction initiatives through renewable electricity purchases and related renewable energy credits.

The combined support by Targa and Pioneer for this project and potential future joint opportunities exemplifies the commitment of the two companies to be industry leaders in reducing emissions throughout the Midland Basin.

Approximately 150 jobs are expected to be created during the construction phase and increased revenues will be generated over the operating life for Tom Green County taxing entities.

Concho Valley Solar is specially designed to generate clean energy, while minimizing impacts to wildlife, habitat and other environmental resources. The project will utilize high-efficiency bifacial solar photovoltaic (PV) modules.



## CHAIRMAN GOLDMAN ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PIPELINE INDUSTRY TO HIS TEXAS HOUSE DISTRICT, THE STATE AND THE NATION

*Craig Goldman (R-Ft. Worth) won election to serve his first term as Texas State Representative in November 2012. He represents District 97, which encompasses southwest Tarrant County.*

*Before taking office, Chairman Goldman's career traversed both the business and political fields. For nearly a decade, he and his father ran a retail gourmet food and fine wine store in Fort Worth, while he worked on campaigns helping to elect Republicans to office at the local, state and national levels.*

*As a 5th generation Texan and a 4th generation native of Fort Worth, Rep. Goldman is extremely proud of his Texas roots. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Texas in*

*Austin and is a partner in several real estate investment companies. He is chairman of the Energy Resources Committee.*

**Q. You are a proud Texan with deep roots in the community. Please tell us a bit more about yourself so that our TPA membership can get to know you better.**

A. I am extremely proud to be a 5th generation Texan and 4th generation native of Fort Worth. My family has been part of the Fort Worth community for over 100 years, and we have certainly been an active participant in its growth to what it is now the 13th largest city in the United States and many would say the best city to live and raise a family in Texas.

*(Continued on next page)*

(Continued from page 4)

**Q. What benefits does the oil and gas industry provide directly to your district?**

A. The oil and gas industry generates high-paying, high-quality jobs in my district, as well as local tax revenue, including \$3.5 million to the county and \$7.4 million to school districts in fiscal year 2021. A prospering industry like the state's oil and gas industry also brings indirect benefits to our communities, producing two indirect jobs for every direct industry job.

My district, like all Texas house districts, profits from the overall success of the oil and gas industry in our state. In fiscal year 2021, the industry paid \$15.8 billion in state and local taxes and state royalties and deposited \$1.134 billion into the state's Rainy Day Fund, supporting education, transportation, healthcare and infrastructure projects that benefit all Texans. I am grateful for the oil and gas companies choosing to do business in our city and across Texas.

**Q. In addition to being the safest way to deliver the hydrocarbons we rely on every day, do you see additional benefits to having a sufficient pipeline infrastructure? And what can be done to ensure that this vital resource can continue to be built in Texas and the nation?**

A. Well-regulated pipelines are the safest method of transporting oil and gas from our state's energy-producing regions into our communities and to the coast for processing and/or export. For some hydrocarbons, pipelines are the only method of transport.

The development of pipeline infrastructure has provided great economic investment across the state, as well as the ability for the state's largest economic driver to continue to expand. If we want the Texas energy industry to grow, our pipeline infrastructure must grow along with it.

In order to ensure pipelines continue to be built in Texas, the legislature and regulatory agencies must prioritize business-friendly, pro-growth policies. We must develop and support the education and training of our technically skilled workforce. Companies doing business here should have skin in the game too; they must comply with state regulations and local ordinances, be good stewards of the environment and good neighbors in the communities in which they operate.

**Q. America's energy independence is under threat due to several recent policies enacted by the current administration. What are the benefits of energy independence and how can we protect this industry, which is vital to Texas and the nation?**

A. A thriving Texas oil and gas industry means a thriving U.S. oil and gas industry, and the potential for our country's energy independence, freeing us from reliance on unfriendly, foreign governments to fulfill our energy needs. Our energy independence also means a lesser impact on the U.S. economy when oil prices surge as less of our income goes overseas to pay for imported energy.

The biggest obstacle to our energy independence is unpredictable, excessive regulation, which stifles industry growth. Texas has historically done a good job balancing environmental protection and economic development on the state level. Despite state-level efforts, overregulation at the federal level has consistently threatened the Texas oil and gas industry.

The Texas legislature has recently placed emphasis on requesting federal authority to regulate energy from within our own borders and should continue to look for areas where this is reasonable and practical.

## TEXAS OIL & NATURAL GAS INDUSTRY PAID \$15.8 BILLION IN STATE AND LOCAL TAXES AND ROYALTIES IN FY 2021

Despite an incredibly difficult two years, the Texas oil and natural gas industry continues to contribute tremendously to state and local tax coffers, paying \$15.8 billion in state and local taxes and state royalties in FY 2021, according to the Texas Oil & Gas Association's (TXOGA) [2021 Annual Energy & Economic Impact Report](#). These funds directly support Texas schools, teachers, roads, infrastructure and essential services and equate to more than \$43 million each and every day. Both state royalties and production taxes increased by more than 20 percent in FY 2021 and production taxes exceeded \$5 billion for only the third time in history, even amid a pandemic year. When direct and indirect impacts are considered, the Texas oil & natural gas industry supported \$344.1 billion, or nearly 22 percent of total private sector Texas GSP in calendar year 2020. The report also details the industry's recent technological and environmental progress.

# LEGISLATIVE NEWS

## ABOVEGROUND STORAGE LEGISLATION ENTERS THE RULEMAKING PHASE

By Jennifer Coffee, Texas Pipeline Association

In 2021, aboveground storage tank legislation was passed by the 87th Texas State Legislature, and now, the necessary work of rulemaking has begun.

Legislation to establish performance standards and safety program for aboveground storage tanks (now called bulk storage vessels) was something we knew was coming heading into the legislative session. A bill had been filed the previous session after the ITC tank fire in Deer Park in March 2019, and with the subsequent TPC Group explosion in Port Arthur – and a handful of other incidents occurring in 2020 and 2022 – it was all but certain that a bill seeking to further control these tanks was on the horizon. Texas legislators wanted a say in both the regulation and enforcement of these vessels containing certain hazardous materials in coastal areas, and they got it in Senate Bill 900.

Authored by Sen. Carol Alvarado (D-Houston) and sponsored by Rep. Chris Paddie (R-Marshall), SB 900 sought to have the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) create a safety program for the design, construction, operation and maintenance of certain tanks. After hours of negotiations between TPA and other trade associations, legislators and regulatory bodies, TPA was instrumental in crafting a bill that addresses the legislature's underlying safety concerns of overfill prevention, remote shutoff capabilities and fire suppression technologies, while also allowing for flexibility in the rules for operators to demonstrate compliance under existing methods without having to overhaul current practices. SB 900 passed both chambers unanimously and was signed into law on June 8, 2021.

While the rules must be adopted by Sept. 1, 2023, operators will not be required to make physical alterations to their ex-

isting tanks until their next regularly scheduled out-of-service maintenance period, or by Sept. 1, 2037, whichever is sooner. Operators must register their tanks with TCEQ within 30 days of commencing operations and certify compliance every 10 years. We believe that this amount of time to come into compliance, coupled with rules that are required to allow operators the flexibility to comply in a variety of ways, gives TPA members the tools they need to demonstrate to the TCEQ and the legislature that they are good actors following industry best practices. However, as with all things regulatory, the devil is in the details. How the rules are drafted will be crucial in carrying out the legislature's intent under the bill.

As mentioned in Thure's Message From the President, oversight of the implementation of this legislation was included in the Speaker's issuance of House Interim Committee Charges. Hearings in the House Environmental Regulation Committee are expected to begin at the end of April. Stakeholder meetings have already begun on the drafting of the rules and will continue through April. The TPA Storage Vessel Workgroup had its first meeting on Feb. 10 and will continue meeting as necessary throughout the rulemaking process. We expect to see a draft of the proposed rules sometime between May and November of this year, with the 30-day comment period taking place in spring 2023. It is our understanding that there will be at least one public hearing held in Austin, with others held in the Gulf Coast Region.

If you are not on the workgroup e-mail list and would like to be added, please e-mail me at [jennifer.coffee@texaspipelines.com](mailto:jennifer.coffee@texaspipelines.com) or Sheryl Jett at [sheryl.jett@texaspipelines.com](mailto:sheryl.jett@texaspipelines.com).



### TWEET THIS!

HELP SPREAD THE WORD. IF YOU'RE ON TWITTER, PLEASE TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO SHARE THESE PRO-INDUSTRY TWEETS!



Texas Pipeline Assoc @TexasPipelines · Mar 14

New polls finds that 90% of voters support the US developing domestic sources of #energy rather than relying on foreign. This needs to include the #pipeline #infrastructure to support it. @APIenergy



[rigzone.com](http://rigzone.com)

API: 90pct Of Voters Want Domestic Energy Sour...  
API released a new poll that found 90pct of voters support the U.S. developing its domestic energy ...



Texas Pipeline Assoc @TexasPipelines · Mar 9

FERC's new policy makes it harder to build new #pipelines to carry #oilandgas. "These policies should be reversed to enable America to expand its leadership role in #energy production, benefiting our European allies," writes @OFR\_Economics @forbes, @FERC



forbes.com  
America Needs To Pump More Oil  
If President Biden is serious about his strong support for Ukraine, then America needs to be increasing domestic production of oil and gas, ...

# INDUSTRY NEWS

## MIDSTREAM INDUSTRY WAS READY FOR WINTER

Pipeline operators performed admirably throughout recent freezing weather in the state, demonstrating that they are ready for extreme temperatures, both hot and cold. And – as during Winter Storm Uri in February last year – if a generator had a firm supply of gas, it was delivered efficiently and safely by a pipeline.

That's because pipelines took the initiative over the last decade to prepare for winter storms. "Essentially," said Texas Pipeline Association (TPA) General Counsel Jennifer Coffee, "No two operations are identical. Emergency preparation plans have been extensive and take a lot of things into consideration, such as geographic location. Plans for operations in the Panhandle will differ from those on the Southern border."

"It doesn't benefit pipeline companies when operations go down," said Coffee. "They have every incentive to prepare."

For the last decade, she said, midstream companies have been hardening their facilities, implementing elements like heat tracing, methanol injection and pipe wrapping to valves and controls that might freeze. And since last February, additional measures have been taken, including building enclosures around controls, installing back-up generators and placing additional personnel in the field in advance of extreme weather.

"In addition," said TPA President Thure Cannon, "the Railroad Commission's work in implementing the requirements of SB 3 has ensured that the midstream industry, indeed the entire natural gas industry in Texas, is prepared for severe winter weather." This includes improved communications, critical load designation, mapping, prioritizing power and winterization in the field.

For a comprehensive overview of how the natural gas industry is prepared for extreme weather, check out TXOGA's ["Winter Ready" website page](#). Also read TPA Member Energy Transfer's LinkedIn post discussing how "[winterization is not new](#)" to the midstream industry.

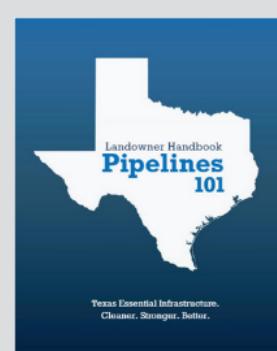
## POWER STAYED ON DURING TEXAS COLD SNAPS

During recent cold weather in Texas, "Power stayed on, lights were on and gas kept flowing to residences," reported the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC). "Many media reports beat the warning drums of a dire situation with the state's natural gas production...That is incorrect," said the RRC. The sources used in some media reports utilized pipeline nominations – which are basically contract requests for space in the pipeline system to transport gas – to estimate real-time gas production. "That approach is speculative and does not paint a complete picture, especially given that gas trading markets were closed for the holiday weekend," said the RRC.

"There was plenty of gas flowing to power generators and homes," RRC reports. "Production is just one piece of the puzzle to help gas flowing to Texans and electrical power producers throughout the state. Gas storage plays a very important role, as well."

The RRC took issue with the first media outlet to claim significant problems from the cold weather. Bloomberg, however, has now revised some of its claims, RRC said. "Their early week article stated that nearly 1 billion cubic feet of natural gas had to be flared due to cold weather issues. But they have issued a correction that it was nearly 1 million cubic feet that was flared, a thousand-fold drop. One million cubic feet represents about 0.0035 percent of Texas production statewide."

See RRC's [Statement on Reports of Cold Weather Impact on Natural Gas Production](#) for more information.

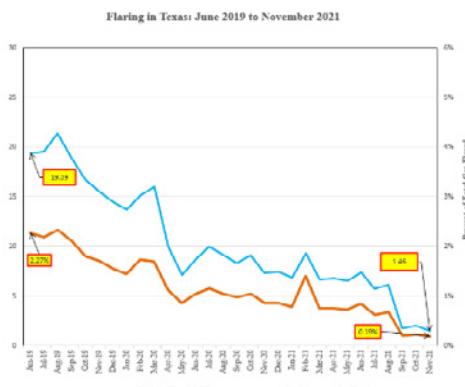


### NEW PIPELINE 101 HANDBOOK AVAILABLE

For a comprehensive look at essential infrastructure in one of the fastest growing states in the nation, take a look at TXOGA's new [Landowner Handbook: Pipelines 101](#).

# INDUSTRY NEWS

## NEW DATA SHOWS CONTINUED DROP IN FLARING IN TEXAS



New data from the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC) reveals that Texas' statewide flaring rate fell to an even lower record level at the end of 2021. The percentage of natural gas flared in Texas dropped to a new record low of 0.19 percent in November. In fact, Texas has one of the lowest flaring rates of large oil and gas producing states in the country, with an average rate of flaring that has remained significantly less than 2 percent for more than two years, according to RRC's production report.

"Report after report shows that Texas is on the right track to reducing and maintaining low levels of flaring," said RRC Chairman Wayne Christian. "Although the mainstream media often ignores this record-achieving accomplishment by government and industry, it's proof that a cooperative collaboration can bring positive results, and I continue to be proud of the effort and its outcome."

## TPA 2022 BOARD MEETING DATES AND LOCATIONS

Friday, April 7, 2022

San Antonio, NuStar

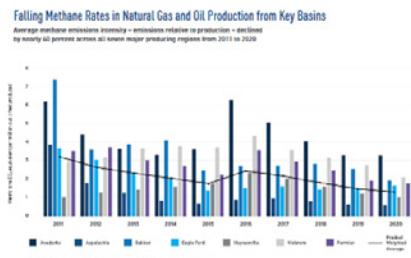
Friday, July 22, 2022

Lake Conroe,  
Margaritaville Lake  
Resort

Thursday, October 6, 2022 TBD

## API REPORTS A NATIONWIDE DROP IN FLARING

In January, the American Petroleum Institute (API) released its [2022 State of American Energy Report](#) showing significant reductions in emissions and flaring in the U.S. and around the world.



According to the report, U.S. energy-related CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are at generational lows, in significant part because of the increased use of natural gas to generate electricity. On the production side, average methane emissions intensity declined by nearly 60 percent from 2011 to 2020 across all seven major producing regions, according to data from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Energy Information Agency.

Said TPA President Thure Cannon, "The oil and gas industry, including pipelines, is hard at work taking voluntary steps to reduce methane emissions. If there is more pipeline capacity to handle the gas that is being produced," he said, "even further reductions are possible."

## RRC CREATES NEW FLARING/ VENTING DATABASE

In February, the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC) launched a [new online database](#) of flaring and venting applications for operators to apply for an exception to SWR 32. The Flare/Vent Exceptions Query, which is updated every night, makes available all applications for exception to Statewide Rule 32 (SWR 32) that were filed electronically with the agency from May 2, 2021 to present. SWR 32 specifies exempt and authorized flaring in which an operator can flare, including for safety reasons, without going through [the application process to obtain an exception to the rule](#). Any other flaring request would go through the application for exception to the rule and reviewed. The RRC has published a [User Guide](#) for the new query.



## NEW MEMBERS



WHITEWATER

## THIS ISSUE'S CONTRIBUTORS

Jennifer Coffee, Texas Pipeline Association

Don Lewis, Duggins Wren Mann & Romero, LLP

Allison Newsum, Graphic Designer

# TPA NEWS BRIEFS

## TEXAS NATURAL GAS ENERGY GROUPS SUPPORT GOV. ABBOTT CAMPAIGN



"Whether it's oil, natural gas, chemical products or the pipelines that carry them, Texas is THE energy state. I'm proud to have the support of energy groups from across the state," said Gov. Greg Abbott in Midland on Feb. 1. From left, Jason Modglin, president of Texas Alliance of Energy Producers; Todd Staples, president of TXOGA; and Thure Cannon, president of TPA.



From left, Thure Cannon, Todd Staples and Gov. Greg Abbott.

## TPA IN THE NEWS

**BELOW ARE SOME RECENT MENTIONS OF TPA IN THE NEWS.**

NOTE: SOME PUBLICATIONS REQUIRE A SUBSCRIPTION.

### mrt<sup>®</sup>.com

Midland Reporter-Telegram

TPA Coverage: [Governor: Protecting energy industry spurs reelection bid](#), *Midland Reporter-Telegram*, Feb. 1, 2022

### OA<sup>®</sup>online

TPA Coverage: [Abbott picks up energy endorsements](#), OA Online, Feb. 1, 2022

### North American ENERGY PIPELINES

TPA Coverage: [Texas Pipeline Association Elects Shay Bluntzer as Chairman](#), *North American Energy Pipelines*, Jan. 15, 2022

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