

## TPA LEGISLATIVE OUTREACH SERIES

*Texas' midstream sector is a cornerstone of the state's economy – supporting jobs, driving investment and generating critical public revenues. As part of an ongoing effort to highlight the industry's role at the local level, the Texas Pipeline Association has asked state lawmakers to share their perspectives on how pipelines support the communities they represent.*

*Here, Texas State Rep. Paul Dyson (R-Bryan) offers his view. Rep. Dyson represents Texas House District 14, which includes much of Brazos County, encompassing Bryan and College Station – home to Texas A&M University. He serves on the House Energy Resources Committee, where he helps shape policy affecting Texas' energy and midstream infrastructure.*



### REP. PAUL DYSON ON HOW PIPELINES DELIVER PROSPERITY TO HIS HOUSE DISTRICT, THE STATE AND THE NATION

- Q. How does the midstream industry support economic activity and reliability in House District 14 – from powering a growing university community like Texas A&M to supporting local employers, utilities and consumers across the Brazos Valley?**
- A.** The midstream energy sector is vital to House District 14 and the Brazos Valley's continued growth and reliability. By transporting, storing and conditioning natural gas and liquid fuels, midstream infrastructure ensures that homes, hospitals, campus facilities and businesses – including a rapidly expanding Texas A&M – have dependable energy for heating, power, research and operations. That reliability significantly reduces outages and price volatility, lets utilities meet seasonal and peak demand and provides the fuel security that manufacturers, agribusinesses and service industries need to plan and grow.

Midstream operations also support good local jobs, contract opportunities for small businesses and tax revenues that fund schools, roads and public services. In addition, these companies work with local officials and utilities on emergency response and

resilience planning, and partner with our universities and technical programs on workforce training and internships so Brazos Valley students can access well-paying careers. Ensuring responsible, well-regulated midstream development is essential to sustaining our community's economic strength and energy reliability.

**Q. Texas continues to attract new residents, manufacturers and data-intensive industries. From your perspective on the Energy Resources Committee, why is continued investment in pipeline and midstream infrastructure essential to keeping Texas competitive and energy-reliable?**

**A.** The continued investment in pipeline and midstream infrastructure is the cornerstone of Texas' economic and operational resilience. As we continue to see tremendous population growth across the state, we must ensure our energy delivery network is robust enough to move natural gas from the Permian Basin to the hardworking families and businesses that need it most. Additionally, with the influx of energy-intensive industries like semiconductor manufacturing and data centers, the demand on the grid has shifted from steady growth to a rapid surge. By expanding our midstream capacity, we ensure a steady, affordable fuel supply for dispatchable natural gas power plants, which provide the reliable, accessible power our grid requires during periods of peak demand or extreme weather. Without a robust and expanding midstream network, we risk localized energy shortages, volatile price spikes and the wasteful flaring of resources. By prioritizing this infrastructure, Texas not only secures its own grid reliability but also reinforces its position as a global energy leader, ensuring that the fuel we produce can be efficiently transported to the homes, factories and export terminals that drive our state's prosperity.

**Q. What role should the Legislature play in ensuring that permitting and regulatory processes remain predictable and science-based, while also improving public understanding of how pipelines operate safely and support everyday life in Texas?**

**A.** The Legislature's primary responsibility is to provide a framework that prioritizes scientific integrity over political whims. Our role is to ensure that the Railroad Commission and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) have the technical resources to conduct rigorous, data-driven reviews while maintaining a streamlined permitting process that provides the certainty needed for long-term capital investment. Beyond the technicalities of the law, we must serve as a bridge to the public, shifting the conversation from abstract infrastructure to tangible benefits. By championing transparency through enhanced digital mapping and public safety reporting, we can demonstrate that a robust pipeline network is not just a commercial necessity, but also a safe, reliable backbone for Texas that supports our schools, our jobs and our everyday way of life.

**Q. Is there any other relevant information you would like to share?**

**A.** At every level, from global to local, the oil and gas industry touches our economies. From upstream production to downstream refined products, Texas leads the nation and the world. Here in Brazos County, we receive around \$4.5 million in property tax revenues from oil and gas annually. Without robust midstream infrastructure, none of this would be possible. To maintain Texas' status as a global energy leader, we must ensure a regulatory environment that fosters stability and encourages capital improvements throughout the state.