Our mission is to serve Texas by our stewardship of natural resources and the environment, our concern for personal and community safety, and our support of enhanced development and economic vitality for the benefit of Texans.

Railroad Commission Receives National Award for Work on East Texas Mine

The Railroad Commission's Abandoned Mine Land Program earned national recognition for work addressing an abandoned lignite mine in East Texas last year.

This award extended the Commission's track record after receiving three national awards last fiscal year for injection well permitting using artificial intelligence, drone inspections, and the State Managed Well Plugging Program.

The U.S Department of the Interior's Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement presented the RRC with its Small Project Award during the National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs conference in Grand Junction, Colo.

The $380,000 project, which was less than a half mile south of the historic courthouse in Center, Texas, addressed voids left by a hand-dug mine dating back to the 19th century.

Among the challenges of the project under the properties of two homes included a 20-foot-deep sinkhole that opened up in one of the backyards and damaged part of a fence. Extensive geotechnical work was conducted to locate voids, which were filled with cement.

An abandoned lignite mine was filled in by the RRC in Center in East Texas

RRC Approves Changes to Critical Designation of Natural Gas Infrastructure Rule

Commissioners recently approved amendments to 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §3.65, relating to Critical Designation of Natural Gas Infrastructure.

The RRC proposed these amendments on August 30, 2022, seeking to simplify the rule, address points of confusion among oil and gas operators, and ensure the rule focuses on truly critical natural gas facilities.

More information on the amended rule.