

**From:** [Hector Ortega](#)  
**To:** [Rules Coordinator](#); [Christi Craddick](#); [Wynn B. Baker](#); [Wayne Christian](#); [Jeremy Hagen](#); [Jim Wright](#); [Christopher Hotchkiss](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Statewide Rule 8 Public Comment  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 15, 2024 4:36:53 PM

---

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Do NOT click links or open attachments from unknown sources without first confirming the message is legitimate. If you believe this to be a malicious and/or phishing email, please contact the ITS Help Desk at 512-463-7229. Do not respond to or forward the email, click on any links or open any attachments without guidance from the Help Desk

10/14/2024

The Railroad Commission of Texas

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing regarding oil and gas waste management practices in Texas. I urge you to create regulations that protect our water, air and land. The Railroad Commission's proposed new rules released on August 15th do not limit how close a reserve pit can be to groundwater, and there is no groundwater monitoring required.

This leaves our water exposed to contamination from all the toxic chemicals in oil and gas waste.

Other states, such as North Dakota, have enacted reasonable reserve pit requirements – why can't Texas do the same?

Most landowners only own surface rights, and do not own the minerals under the land, which is not their fault. Surface owners should be notified before a reserve pit is dug on their land. This way, landowners can know what is going to happen on their land and be allowed to make informed decisions.

Please adopt better regulations for reserve pits to ensure that our water is protected from pollution.

Thank you,

Hector Ortega

1502 Aldrich

Houston, Texas 77055

[hector.ortega.ramirez@gmail.com](mailto:hector.ortega.ramirez@gmail.com)