



# 2025 RRC Regulatory Conference

## Speaker Bios

### Valerie Atkins

Program Specialist GAU, Oil and Gas Division

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Valerie Atkins is the Program Specialist and Team Lead for Admins in GAU. She has worked at the Commission for almost 34 years and started in the Drilling Permits Section for 28 of those 34 years. She retired and came back to continue her help & experience in the GAU Dept in 2020.

### Travis Baer

Director – San Antonio Field Office, Regional Director-South Region, Oil and Gas Division

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Travis Baer is the District Director at the San Antonio District Office and Regional Director of Field Operations (South Region). In his 15-year tenure, Travis' primary focus and duties have been on oil and gas well drilling, completion, production, and plug & abandonment operations in the Eagle Ford Shale and south-central Texas region. Travis graduated in December 2008 with a BS in Petroleum Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin and became a licensed Professional Engineer in December 2015.

### Diane Beckham

Assistant Director – Abilene, Oil and Gas Division

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Diane Beckham is the Assistant Director of the Abilene District for the Oil & Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. In this role, she oversees regulatory activities in 24 counties in west central Texas including cleanup, emergency response, and complaint investigation. Diane was previously Assistant District Director and District Cleanup Coordinator in the San Antonio District. Diane has a Bachelor of Science in Biology and a Master's in Environmental Management.

### Miriam Borrego

Staff Services Officer, Oil and Gas Division

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Ms. Borrego has 30 years of experience with the RRC. Her experience and growth continued with the processing of well completions including contributing to the development of the District Office Completion Auditing Procedures manual implemented statewide in the RRC's nine Field Operations Districts. For over 17 years, she has also been assisting with RRC Regulatory Conference and O&G Seminars.

### David Bullard

Lieutenant, HAZMAT Training Officer, Columbia County Fire and Rescue

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David is a 25-year member of the fire service and currently serves as a Lieutenant and HAZMAT Training Officer with the Columbia County Fire Rescue and a Firefighter with Grovetown (Ga) DPS. In addition, he serves on the Board of Directors for the Georgia State Firefighter's Association, National Volunteer Fire Council State Director, GA PERI Emergency Response Initiative Board of Directors, and Pipeline Emergencies 3rd Ed Curriculum Committee and PHMSA's Pipeline Response Toolkit.

### Adam Calvin

Senior Director of Engineering, TETRA Technologies

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Adam Calvin is the Sr. Director of Engineering for TETRA Technologies. Earlier in his career he held various management positions for Water Management, Completion Fluids, and Production Testing operations. Today, he oversees TETRA's Oil and Gas engineering functions, including new technology development and commercialization. The past few years, his team has been developing

solutions to address the challenges of desalinating produced water for beneficial reuse.

### **Laura Capper**

President and CEO, Energy Makers Advisory Group  
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As President of EnergyMakers Advisory Group, Laura Capper's expertise includes water management, treatment technologies, beneficial reuse and agricultural resource development, disposal well health and risk management, bottomhole pressure assessments, seismicity, regulatory permitting strategies and policymaking, subsurface infrastructure integrity, landowner development strategies, mineral harvesting strategies, geothermal and carbon sequestration, and related due diligence and M&A support. EnergyMakers offers detailed Bottomhole Pressure Studies and reservoir capacity indicators for SWD, carbon sequestration and critical ESG water metrics.

### **Leo Castro**

Engineering Specialist V, Oil and Gas Division  
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Leo Castro has over 35 years of oilfield experience in the service company sector. He holds a B.S. in Petroleum Engineering from Texas Tech University.

### **Adrian Charles**

Engineering Specialist, Oil and Gas Division  
[adrian.charles@rrc.texas.gov](mailto:adrian.charles@rrc.texas.gov)

Adrian Charles is an Engineering Specialist with the Environmental Permits team at the Railroad Commission of Texas. Previously, he was the Project Manager at Quantum Environmental for two years. He received his B.S. in geology at Baylor University.

### **Chris Conn**

GIS Analyst III, Information Technology Services Division

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Chris Conn joined the Railroad Commission of Texas in 2020 and has over eight years of GIS experience. He works in the Information Technology Services Division, focusing on the development and support of GIS platforms for pipeline safety and regulatory oversight. Passionate about GIS, he advocates for its role in decision-making, problem-solving, and

emergency response to inform the public on critical issues.

### **Samuel Copeland**

Manager - Gulf Coast Region, Oversight and Safety Division

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Samuel Copeland is a qualified PHMSA inspector with 16 years of experience.

### **Brad Cox**

North Central Region Manager, Oversight and Safety Division

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Brad Cox has 10 years with the Railroad Commission of Texas working in Pipeline Safety.

### **James Cross**

Chief Experience Officer, Energy World Net  
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James Cross has spent over 20 years in the software industry, including helping grow a startup from nothing into a multimillion-dollar business as CIO. But what drives him isn't just the tech. As Chief Experience Officer, James is responsible for how the industry experiences EWN. His work centers on ensuring that every interaction with the company reflects its values and delivers a consistent, meaningful experience - internally and externally. Beyond tech, James co-hosts the award-winning podcast "Coffee with Jim and James," where conversations go beyond headlines and highlight the heart of the industry. James believes the most important lessons come from life. He excels at moving people and teams toward clarity, culture, and lasting momentum.

### **Kaitlyn Cunningham**

Manager - API/Production Audit, Oil and Gas Division

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Kaitlyn Cunningham is the manager of the API/Production Audit unit, a part of the RRC's Oil & Gas Division, and has been with the agency for almost 4 years. Kaitlyn started her career with the Commission in the P-5 Financial Assurance unit and now manages the API Research/Production Audit Department.

## **Linda Daugherty**

Deputy Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety, PHMSA

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Ms. Daugherty is currently the Acting Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety within the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) and serves as the senior federal career official for pipeline safety in the United States. With 34 years of experience at PHMSA, Ms. Daugherty is responsible for leading PHMSA's Pipeline Field Operations, managing inspection and enforcement staff across all five Region Offices and two District Offices. Additionally, she leads the Accident Investigation Division, Inspection Development and Support Division, Operation Standards Division, and Public Engagement Division. Ms. Daugherty also oversees pipeline safety efforts across various divisions, including Enforcement, Engineering, Regulatory, Training and Qualifications, State Program, and Program Development. A chemical engineer by training, Ms. Daugherty began her career at PHMSA as an inspector/investigator.

## **Jennifer De La Cruz**

State Program Accident Lead, Oversight and Safety Division

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Jennifer De La Cruz is the State Program Accident Lead and is based out of the Houston region. She started with the Commission in 2016, became the Integrity Management lead for hazardous liquids from June 2019 through December 2023, and has been in her current role since January 2024. She received her Bachelor of Science in Metallurgical and Materials Engineering from the University of Texas at El Paso.

## **Paul Dubois**

Assistant Director for Technical Permitting, Oil and Gas Division

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Paul Dubois is the Assistant Director for Technical Permitting in the Oil & Gas Division. The Technical Permitting Section has five operational units: Geological Advisory, Injection and Storage Permitting, Environmental Permitting, Engineering, and Special Injection Permits. Together, these units provide vital functions for the

protection of freshwater resources, preventing pollution, and preventing waste. In this role, Paul has been deeply involved in the Commission's regulatory response to induced seismicity, flaring, and produced water recycling.

## **Sandra Forbes**

EPS Compliance & Data Manager, Oil and Gas Division

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Sandra Forbes is a Geotechnical Engineer with a background in civil construction and data analysis. She graduated from the University of Alaska Fairbanks and has worked on transportation projects in Nevada and Texas. She pursued a master's degree in ArcGIS and data analysis from the University of Maryland. In 2022, Sandra joined the Railroad Commission of Texas and now serves as a Compliance and Data Manager at EPS.

## **Isaac Franco**

Compliance Team Lead, Oil and Gas Division

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Isaac Franco holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Management from Columbia Southern University. He joined the Commission in 2023 as the Compliance Team Lead. During his time with the Commission, he has helped establish the Compliance section and implement new procedures to support the EPS section. He serves as the lead inspector for compliance and works closely with District field staff to support the agency.

## **Sharon Frischen**

Well Compliance Manager, Oil and Gas Division

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Sharon Frischen has been with the Railroad Commission for 26 years and is the manager of the Well Compliance department. She currently leads a group of 12 dedicated team members and enjoys the daily challenges they face while working on completions. Sharon has played an active role in the Oil & Gas Seminars and Regulatory Conferences since 2007.

### **Ricardo Gamez**

Compliance Analyst IV, Oversight and Safety Division

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Ricardo Gamez has been with the Pipeline Damage Prevention Program (PDPP) since October of 2017. In addition to reviewing TDRFs for violations of Chapter 18, he is also the Outreach Coordinator for the PDPP; attending Safety Day Workshops, Damage Prevention Council of Texas' meetings whenever possible, and larger Damage Prevention Expos and Conferences, like the Damage Prevention Summit this October.

### **Austin Gaskamp**

Engineering Specialist, Oil and Gas Division

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Austin Gaskamp is an Engineering Specialist in UIC. Austin has a degree in Petroleum Engineering from Texas A&M. Austin has served roles as a Directional Driller, Senior Engineer, and Technical Examiner in the Hearings Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

### **Rajendra Ghimire**

Director of Business Development, Bad Water Alchemy

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Dr. Rajendra Ghimire is a recognized thought leader in the water, energy, chemicals, and sustainability sectors. He currently serves as the Director of Business Development for Produced Water at Badwater Alchemy, where he leads global business development initiatives within the energy industry. He also works as an independent contractor/consultant in a strategic advisor role.

Dr. Ghimire holds an Executive MBA from the UCLA Anderson School of Management, a PhD in Physical Organic Chemistry from the University of Nevada, Reno, and a Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Science from Fairleigh Dickinson University.

### **Jennifer Gilmore**

Manager, Oil and Gas Division

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As the Manager of the P-5 Financial Assurance section, Jennifer Gilmore has served as the subject matter expert related to the

implementation of the LoneSTAR system within the P-5 Department. She processes and oversees the staff's processing of P-5 filings, financial assurance documents, and inactive well filings. Ms. Gilmore has been with the Railroad Commission for 17 years.

### **Michael Grossman**

Technical Committee Chair, Produced Water Society

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By day Michael Grossman leads business development for Aquafortus, Inc., specializing in produced water and other industrial wastewaters; simultaneously, he also volunteers as the Technical Committee Chair for the Produced Water Society. Michael has previous experience with thermal evaporation and membrane solutions for industrial and municipal water. He holds two patents, has authored numerous technical papers, and earned a chemical engineering degree from Cooper Union.

### **James Harcourt, P.G.**

Manager Geologic Advisory Unit, Oil and Gas Division

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James Harcourt is the Manager of the GAU. He has a B.S. in geology from Utah State University, an M.B.A. from the University of Phoenix, and a P.M.P. from the Project Management Institute. He has been employed by RRC for nearly 10 years and worked in the Oil and Gas Industry for over 30 years across 5 states with operators and service companies including Chevron, Brown & Root, XTO and for the Florida Geologic Survey and DEP Oil & Gas Division.

### **Alberto Hernandez Jr**

Team Lead Region 4/7, Oversight and Safety Division

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Albert Hernandez Jr has been with the Railroad Commission since June of 2021 and has held various roles including Pipeline Inspector and is currently the Specialized O&M lead and Region 4/7 Team Lead. Albert holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Natural Gas Engineering from Texas A&M University – Kingsville.

## **Mark Herrin**

Region 5 Field Inspector, CRM Lead, Oversight and Safety Division

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Mark Herrin is a graduate of McNeese State University and has been with the Railroad Commission of Texas since 2016.

## **Jen Holmstadt**

CEO and Founder of Renegade Energy Advisors, LLC.

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Jen began her 18-year energy industry career characterizing and remediating contaminated soils/sediments on large river projects, including the Marshall, MI incident. That experience led Jen to focus on designing and implementing geohazard risk assessment programs for midstream and downstream companies, as well as integrity management and operational needs. She has an MS in Geomorphology from MSU, is a certified Project Management Professional, and sits on the Gas Piping Technology Committee.

## **John Holtan**

Director of Outreach, Sander Resources  
John Holtan is the Director of Responder Liaison Services & Outreach at Sander Resources, with extensive experience in hazardous materials training and emergency response. John has over 20 years of experience in training, curriculum development, and industrial safety. His expertise includes developing courses for energy-related fields and specializing in air monitoring training and tactics. John's contributions to safety training have been recognized by NIOSH, and he is dedicated to improving responder safety through innovative training solutions and technologies.

## **Sam Hughes**

Region 2 Manager, Oversight and Safety Division

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Sam Hughes has thirty years of industry experience in both gas and liquid pipeline operations, maintenance, and compliance. Also, six years with the Railroad Commission of Texas.

## **Hamilton Jones**

Research Specialist, Oil and Gas Division

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Hamilton Jones is a Research Specialist in the API/Production Audit unit, a part of the RRC's Oil & Gas Division, and has been with the agency for a little under a year. Hamilton's role currently encompasses auditing and working with industry on both Production Reports and P-18 Skim Oil/Condensate Reports.

## **John Jacobi**

Of Counsel, RegSafe

John Jacobi is a licensed Professional Engineer and a licensed attorney with over 45 years of energy industry experience. Since 2018, Mr. Jacobi has been Of Counsel to RegSafe, LLC. Mr. Jacobi received his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, his Master of Science in Industrial Engineering from Texas A&M University, and his Juris Doctorate from the University of Missouri - Kansas City.

## **Chad Hultman**

Supervisor GIS Services, OneOK

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Experienced Supervisor with a demonstrated history of working in the oil & energy industry. Skilled in ArcGIS, Analytical Skills, Databases, Geography, and Cartography. Strong professional with a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) focused in BCIS from Saint Cloud State University - G.R. Herberger College of Business.

## **Carlos Jaime**

Pipeline Safety Region 3 Manager, Oversight and Safety Division

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Carlos Jaime graduated from Kilgore College in 2017 with an associate in applied science process technology. He joined the Railroad Commission of Texas in 2017 as a Pipeline Safety Inspector. He is currently the Pipeline Safety Region Manager for the East Texas Region. Prior to this, he was the Specialized Lead for Public Awareness and Damage Prevention and Pipeline Safety Team Lead for the East Texas Region.



## David King

Manager, Oil and Gas Division

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David King has been with the RRC for 11 years and has extensive knowledge of the W-1 application and related forms, RRC web query research, interpreting and using the Public GIS Viewer, Statewide Rules, and the process of permitting a well under complicated developmental setups. David attended The University of Texas at Austin and received a Bachelor of Arts in Geography and a Bachelor of Arts in History, as well as over 20+ years of experience working with GIS software.

## Misti Kinnison

Program Specialist III, Oil and Gas Division

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Misti Kinnison has a background in management, operations, and training. She joined the Commission in 2023 with the EPS Administrative Team. Misti has been instrumental in the implementation of waste hauler permitting through LoneSTAR and has collaborated in writing the FY25 Monitoring & Enforcement Manual for Technical Permitting, the revisions to the Surface Waste Management Manual, web pages, and new forms for Environmental Permits. Misti is currently the EPS Program Support Coordinator.

## Karl Leger

President, RegSafe

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Karl Leger is president of RegSafe and has 44 years in the energy industry including drilling, production, pipeline, and underground gas storage. Mr. Leger has been involved with the development, construction, operations, maintenance and regulatory compliance of assets across the United States. Mr. Leger continues to assist oil and gas operators, pipeline operators, underground gas storage facilities and LNG assets in pipeline safety and LNG compliance and inspections.

## Aaron LeJeune

R & M Team Lead, Oil and Gas Division

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Aaron LeJeune has been an engineering specialist for the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC) since 2018. Aaron is the team lead of the reporting &

monitoring team that reviews mechanical integrity tests and completions for injection/disposal wells. He graduated from the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) with a B.S. in geology.

## Jeffrey Levens

Engineering Specialist, Critical Infrastructure Division

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Jeffrey Levens is an Engineering Specialist in the Critical Infrastructure Division's West Region located in Lubbock. His responsibilities include reviewing and approving CID field inspections and providing technical expertise on CID programs and projects. He was previously a CID Field Inspector in the West Region. Before his employment with the RRC, he spent seven years as an Engineering Technician in the Regulatory Division at Kinder Morgan Production Co.

## David Lindley

Assistant Director of Field Operations, Oil and Gas Division

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David Lindley joined the Railroad Commission of Texas in 2024 and is the Assistant Director of Field Operations. He has a B.S. in Petroleum Engineering from Montana Technological University and an M.E. in Petroleum Engineering from Texas A&M University.

## Jason Lockie

Administrative Program Specialist, Oil and Gas Division

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Jason Locke graduated from Texas State with a B.S. in Geography and later received their M.S. in Environmental Geography. Jason joined the RRC as a temp in the Ground Water Advisory Unit, primarily doing digitization of old oil and gas field maps and was worked full-time in the Engineering Department doing form R-3 (Monthly Report for Gas Processing Plants) audits. Jason later moved to the Underground Injection Control (UIC) group and was promoted to be the administrative team lead of the UIC group.

## **Pete Longoria**

Ops Support & Lead Analyst, Oversight and Safety Division

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Pete Longoria is an Ops Support & Lead Analyst in the Oversight & Safety Division. He joined the Railroad Commission in June 2018 as a pipeline safety inspector and worked in the Corpus Christi region. He is currently part of the Pipeline Safety Operations & Analytics group. Prior to joining the RRC, Pete completed his studies at the University of Texas-Pan American and the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

## **Mark Maddox**

GIS Analyst III, Information Technology Services Division

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Mark Maddox began his career at the Railroad Commission in 2009. He has experience working on drilling permits and resolving discrepancies related to the placement of features and attributes in the Railroad Commission GIS database. He is currently a member of the GIS team in the information technology division which is tasked with managing and updating the application of GIS technology at the Railroad Commission.

## **Seyed Mahjour**

Engineering Specialist IV, Oil and Gas Division  
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Seyed Kourosh Mahjour is an Engineering Specialist IV at the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC) Oil & Gas Division, specializing in gas flare and vent exception management. At the RRC, he oversees regulatory compliance for Statewide Rule 32, which governs when operators may release gas through flaring or venting. His work includes reviewing exception requests for gas releases exceeding 24 hours, evaluating compliance, and ensuring appropriate safety measures are maintained throughout the exception period.

## **Justin Markham**

UGS Assistant Manager, Oversight and Safety Division

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Justin Markham is the UGS Assistant Manager and assists Mark Lay with the Underground Natural Gas Storage (UNGS) program. Mr. Markham joined the Railroad Commission of Texas in June of 2019. Throughout his time at the Railroad Commission of Texas, Mr. Markham has served as a Pipeline Safety Inspector in Region 3 and assisted in the creation and launching of the UNGS program.

## **Andy Martinec**

Senior Pipeline Permit Specialist, Oversight and Safety Division

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Andy Martinec is the Senior Pipeline Permit Specialist working with the T4 department under Oversight and Safety. He has been with the team for the past 4 years. Andy serves as a liaison between the team and the operators that the RRC works with.

## **Wallace McGaughey**

Sr. Principal Regulatory Consultant, Entrust Solutions

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Wally serves as Senior Principal Regulatory Consultant for EN Engineering, Gas Consulting, specializing in regulatory compliance consulting, inspections, audit support, and training based on Code of Federal Regulations requirements related to liquid and natural gas pipeline systems, chemical plants, and refineries. In addition, Wally has developed numerous compliance manuals & procedures, conducted mock inspections, facilitated federal and state regulatory inspections, assisted operators with required compliance filings, and served as a liaison with regulatory agencies.

## **Bryce McKee**

Geoscientist, Oil and Gas Division

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Bryce McKee has been with the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC) since 2019. He spent 30 years in the oil and gas industry as an exploration and production geologist (first with Amoco Production Company, and then with Shell Exploration & Production Company). Bryce graduated from Baylor University with BS and MS degrees in Geology and is a licensed Professional Geologist in Texas and Pennsylvania.

## **Chris McLaren**

Senior Executive Consultant, RCP

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Chris McLaren has over 30 years of experience in pipeline safety compliance, training, and consulting. His qualifications include direct involvement and oversight of the development of regulatory compliance programs while working at PHMSA/Pipeline Safety. As a metallurgical engineer, he has investigated incidents and accidents to determine cause(s), identify lessons learned, and provide recommendations to prevent recurrence. He joined RCP in January, 2025 after 23 years with PHMSA Office of Pipeline Safety.

## **Dana McLendon**

RRC Trainer, Oil and Gas Division

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Dana McClendon brings 20 years of expertise from the Railroad Commission of Texas to her role as Oil & Gas division trainer. With a background in field inspection and leadership as a former assistant district director, Dana combines hands-on experience with academic prowess. She holds a BS in Chemistry with a Math minor. Her diverse skill set makes her a respected voice in the oil and gas sector. Dana enjoys outdoor activities with her family.

## **Lane Miller**

PHMSA Pipeline Director of Training and Qualifications.

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Lane joined the Office of Pipeline Safety as an inspector in 1987 and became a Pipeline Safety Specialist/Instructor in Oklahoma City in 1990. Prior to coming to DOT, Lane worked in the gas drilling/production industry. He earned a BS and AS in Petroleum Engineering Technology from Oklahoma State University.

## **Stuart Mitchell**

President, CTO, Pipesense

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29 years of experience of working in the pipeline integrity management sector of the Oil and Gas industry. With more than 20 years spent developing and commercializing innovative technologies to advance pipeline integrity

management both onshore and subsea, including advanced pipeline monitoring and leak detection.

## **Jim Moore**

Geoscientist III, Oil and Gas Division

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Jim Moore has thirteen years of experience at the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC) in the program for underground injection control (UIC). He has worked in permitting and well compliance and participated in Information Technology improvement including Public GIS, Internal GIS, Digital Well Log, Injection Formations, and LoneSTAR. Mr. Moore has a BS in 1981 and an MA in 1993 in Geology and Geophysics from the University of Texas at Austin.

## **Thanh Nguyen**

Engineering Specialist, Oil and Gas Division

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Thanh Nguyen is a technical reviewer in the Injection-Storage Permits section of the RRC. Prior to joining the RRC in 2023, Mr. Nguyen spent two years working in the field with the USGS as a field technician where he operated groundwater wells and water-quality stations. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Geology from the University of Texas at Austin.

## **Michael Nuernberg**

New Construction Team Lead, Oversight and Safety Division

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Michael Nuernberg is a pipeline safety inspector, based in the Corpus Christi Office, with the Oversight and Safety Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC). Mike is the lead of the new construction program and has been with the RRC for nine years. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Management and Technology from Texas A&M Kingsville University.

## **Godspower Oniovosa**

Program Specialist VI – Team Lead, Oversight and Safety Division

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Godspower Oniovosa joined Pipeline Safety group within the Oversight and Safety Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas in August 2017. Mr. Oniovosa worked as Pipeline Inspector out of Region 5, Houston, Texas, advanced in 2021 to the



position as Accident Investigation Lead in Operations and Analytics group and currently as Team Lead in the Southeast region. He joined RRC, after 15 years in the oil and gas industry as a Production Geologist and Field Technician. Mr. Oniovosa holds a bachelor's degree in Geology, applied technology degree in Petroleum Engineering and Master's in Business Administration (MBA -operations management).

### **Victoria Ortiz**

Engineering Specialist III, Oil and Gas Division  
[victoria.ortiz@rrc.texas.gov](mailto:victoria.ortiz@rrc.texas.gov)  
Victoria Ortiz graduated with a B.A. from the University of Texas at Austin and has spent 4 years in Well Compliance and 4 years in the Engineering Unit at the Railroad Commission of Texas.

### **Nicholas Owojori**

Project Manager, Oversight and Safety Division  
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Nicholas Owojori joined the RRC in January 2017 and currently works as a Project Manager in the Operations & Analytics group within the Pipeline Safety department. Prior to joining RRC, he worked as a Field Engineer with Schlumberger, and Field Operations Technician at SHELL Refinery & Petrochemical. He holds a bachelor's degree in mining engineering and a master's degree in geology.

### **Christine Peters**

EPS Manager, Oil and Gas Division  
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Christine Peters holds a Bachelor's Degree in Geology from Sul Ross State University and a Masters of Applied Geography with an emphasis in Resource & Environmental Studies from Texas State University. She started her career focused on water resource management and work in Texas, New Mexico, and Colorado. Christine joined EPS as the Manager in 2022.

### **Dr. Andrea (Andy) Piñon**

Voluntary Cleanup Program and Brownfields Response Coordinator, Oil and Gas Division  
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Dr. Andrea "Andy" Piñon serves as the Railroad Commission's Voluntary Cleanup Program and Brownfields Response Program Coordinator. She holds a Ph.D. in Geography, specializing in

geospatial data analysis and statistical modeling in environmental sciences. With extensive experience in publishing, scientific research, and grant writing across academic and the nonprofit sector-both in Texas and internationally-Dr. Piñon plays a key part in assisting landowners with revitalizing blighted properties.

### **Peter G Pope, P.G.**

Site Remediation Manager, Oil and Gas Division  
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Peter Pope joined the Railroad Commission of Texas in 2001. He holds a B.A. in Solid Earth Geosciences from Purdue University and an M.A. in Geology and Geophysics from Rice University.

### **Cassandra Quiroz**

Compliance Specialist II, Oil and Gas Division  
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Cassandra Quiroz holds a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science from Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi. She joined the Commission in the summer of 2023. During her career with the Compliance Team, she has supported operators in meeting and maintaining compliance with permits and inspections, played a role in creating new procedures for the team, and developed guidance for newly required forms.

### **Atia Rahman**

Engineering Specialist VI, Oil and Gas Division  
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Atia Rahman has 22 years of experience in regulatory matters. She holds a BS in Chemical Engineering from Bangladesh University of Engineering and an MS in Petroleum Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin.

### **Charles Ratts**

Corrosion Staff Engineer, Williams Companies  
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Charles Ratts is a Staff Engineer with over 20 years of experience in the energy industry, spanning both field operations and management roles. He holds a bachelors' degree in chemical engineering from Oklahoma State University and maintains certifications as an AMPP Senior Corrosion, Senior Internal Corrosion and Cathodic Protection Technologist.

## **Steven Rios**

Analytics Manager, Oversight and Safety Division  
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Steven Rios has 25 years with the Railroad Commission in various roles, from being an Inspector, Supervisor, & Regional Manager. Currently, Steven is in the Operations & Analytics group assisting in program gap analysis, process improvement, and special projects.

## **Samantha Rivera**

Compliance Analyst, Oil and Gas Division  
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Samantha Rivera has been with the Railroad Commission for 16 years. A few of her current duties as a Senior Analyst in the Well Compliance department include training new hires on Website Queries, W-10s and G-10s, and P-4 forms. Samantha has assisted with the RRC Regulatory Conference and Oil & Gas Seminars for over 5 years.

## **Monique Roberts**

Executive Director, PODS Data Management  
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Monique Roberts, PODS Association Executive Director, has 20 years of experience in energy operations, integrity management, regulatory compliance, and pipeline maintenance. Monique's career is rooted in pipeline safety through asset knowledge and technology focused on pipeline integrity, compliance, data management, and GIS. Monique is a multi-generation pipeliner, has a Bachelors in Public Relations and an MBA from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. She currently lives in Houston, TX.

## **Jonathan Saucedo**

Ops Support & Lead Analyst, Oversight and Safety Division  
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Jonathan Saucedo is an Ops Support & Lead Analyst for the Statewide Region 00 of the Pipeline Safety group within the Oversight and Safety Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Mr. Saucedo has been with the Railroad Commission for ten years and served as the Distribution Integrity Management Program Lead and now the Accident Lead since July 2022. Prior to working

with the Railroad Commission, Mr. Saucedo completed his academic studies at the University of Texas Pan American.

## **Leslie Savage**

Chief Geologist, Oil and Gas Division  
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Leslie Savage works in the Oil and Gas Division Program Support Branch as the Chief Geologist.

## **Kathleen Smits**

Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering and Fellow, SMU Maguire Energy Institute  
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Kathleen Smits is a professor at SMU, serving as the Solomon Professor for Global Development and SMU's Maguire Energy Institute co-director of research. Smits is an expert in underground gas transport and emission detection and quantification and has extensively investigated gas migration from NG pipelines as well as buried explosive ordinances. She also leads the pipeline experimental testing at CSU's Methane Emission Technology Evaluation Center and serves as an officer in the U.S. Air Force Reserves.

## **Larry Snelson**

Region Manager, Oversight and Safety Division  
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Larry Snelson is a graduate of Texas Tech University and has been with the Commission since 2011. He has held various roles in the Alternative Fuels Department and Pipeline Safety Department before taking the role of Region Manager.

## **Joshua Snowdy**

Inspector, Oversight and Safety Division  
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Joshua Snowdy has been a Pipeline Safety Inspector for six years. Prior to working with the Commission, he worked in various field-related roles in the Oil & Gas industry, specifically natural gas distribution. When he's not at a sporting event for his daughters, he is working on his to-do list at home in East Texas.

## **Mario Solis**

Regional Manager, Oversight and Safety Division  
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Mario Solis is the Regional Manager for Central and South Texas and has been with the Commission for almost 6 years.

## **Joe Stasulli**

Assistant Director, Oil & Gas Administrative Compliance

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Joe has been an integral part of the Railroad Commission of Texas for over 28 years in various positions. His experience includes Drilling Permits, GIS Mapping, API Research, Production and Well Compliance. Currently, as the Director of the Administrative Compliance Unit within the Oil and Gas Division, he oversees critical aspects such as Drilling Permits, P-5, Production, API Resolution, and Well Compliance, leading a team of 4 managers and over 60 staff members.

## **Nicolas Stasulli**

Attestations and Inspections, Critical Infrastructure Division

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Nicolas Stasulli, also known as Joseph, has been at the Railroad Commission since 2019. He started in the Pipeline Safety Division as an Administrative Assistant for the Pipeline Damage department. Since then, he has transitioned over to the Critical Infrastructure Division and is now the Compliance Manager. Outside of work, he enjoys watching sports and playing basketball.

## **Jas Villanueva**

Pipeline Safety Inspector, Oversight and Safety Division

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Jas Villanueva is a Pipeline Safety Inspector out of Lubbock, Texas, and has been with the Railroad Commission since May 2023. Jas holds a Bachelor of Business Management from Texas Tech University and brings over four years' experience to include: industrial material design, manufacturing, and application and safety equipment utilization.

## **Jared Ware**

Senior Engineer / Systems Analyst, Oil and Gas Division

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Jared Ware works in the Oil and Gas Division Program Support Branch as a senior engineer and systems analyst.

## **Jill Watson**

Operations Supervisor, PHMSA

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Jill Watson is an Operations Supervisor in the Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration's (PHMSA) Accident Investigation Division. Based in Houston, Texas, she brings over 25 years of experience in risk assessment, engineering design, process safety, and integrity management. Her extensive background spans high-hazard industries, including oil & gas, nuclear power, and offshore assets.

Ms. Watson holds an MS in Chemical Engineering and BS degrees in Chemical Engineering, Chemistry, and Applied Mathematics. She is an expert in regulatory safety and risk frameworks, specializing in risk-informed decision-making. She has also developed industry guidance and served on technical committees for various industrial sectors.

## **Stephanie Weidman**

Pipeline Safety Director, Oversight and Safety Division

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Stephanie Weidman is responsible for overseeing and directing the Pipeline Safety Field Operations department within the Oversight and Safety Division and has been with the Railroad Commission of Texas since 2010. She represents the Commission before the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), the National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives (NAPSR), and oversees the agency's pipeline safety inspectors. Ms. Weidman holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Petroleum Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin.

## **Doug White**

Executive Vice President, Water Solutions

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Doug White is Executive Vice President of NGL Water Solutions, LLC a diversified, public midstream energy company. He has spent his entire career in the energy industry and in his current role, Doug oversees the business and operations of one of the largest produced water transportation and management companies in the US. Since 2009, Doug has been instrumental in the growth of the Water Solutions business with over \$2.5 billion of acquisitions and divestitures. Doug received a BA in Economics from Regis University in 2001.

## **Rimanda Whitehead**

Engineering Specialist II, Oil and Gas Division

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Rimanda Whitehead graduated with a B.A. from the University of Texas at Austin and has spent 4 years in Well Compliance and 1 year in the Engineering Unit at the Railroad Commission of Texas.

## **Ted Wooten**

Chief Engineer, Oil and Gas Division

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Ted Wooten's career now spans four decades, beginning in the field with an oil field pumping service provider. He spent nearly 20 years working with industry leaders on the modeling and field experiments of hydraulic fractures. He then went overseas with a major service company for several years across 5 continents. Upon returning to the U.S., he worked for independent and public E&P companies.