



RRC ENERGY MINUTE

For the 87th Legislature & the Texas Congressional Delegation

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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.

RRC Receives Groundwater Protection Council Award

The RRC has been forging ahead over the last several years with a variety of technological improvements to make the agency’s functions more efficient. A recent example is staff’s use of machine learning in seismicity reviews to protect residents and the environment.

Seismicity reviews are conducted by the Underground Injection Control (UIC) Department for injection/disposal well permits in areas susceptible to earthquakes. UIC staff programed a machine learning algorithm to help

automate the large amount of information that needs to be processed and digested and was highlighted in the **May 2022 Energy Minute**. That innovative work caught the attention of the national Ground Water Protection Council which recently awarded the RRC its Excellence in UIC Award.

A great explanation of how staff developed the program and can now save time in their work is in this video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UdpnZHghO18>



Commissioners Approve Enforcement Plan

In FY 2023, RRC will continue its strong work to improve transparency and build upon efforts that protect public safety and the environment in its oversight of the oil and gas industry. On June 7, 2022 RRC Commissioners approved the **Fiscal Year 2023 Oil and Gas Monitoring and Enforcement Plan**, which outlines strategic priorities and provides statistical data highlighting the agency’s enforcement efforts, including violations cited by rule.



RRC Accepting Comments on New Weatherization Rule

RRC is accepting public comment on proposed new rule 16 Texas Administrative Code §3.66, relating to Weather Emergency Preparedness Standards. The proposed rule implements a process for the weatherization of energy infrastructure as specified in SB 3 (87R). The weatherization rule covers critical gas facilities that are on the state’s Electricity Supply Chain Map at the time of adoption of the rule, and any subsequent iterations of the map. To view the proposed rule and submit comments online, visit the RRC website at <https://www.rrc.texas.gov/general-counsel/rules/proposed-rules/> under “Chapter 3: Oil and Gas”.

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