

RRC Energy Minute

For the 88th Legislature & the Texas Congressional Delegation

VUL. 60 June 2024

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.

CID Summer Weatherization & Site Visits

From July through September the RRC's Critical Infrastructure Division (CID) will conduct annual summer weatherization inspections. During that time, the team of approximately 50 inspectors will inspect roughly 1,000 facilities across the state to ensure they have been properly safeguarded against the Texas summer heat. Resiliency through the hot summer months is of utmost importance to the RRC, operators, and Texans. Around 67% of Texas' energy grid runs on gas, and Texas operators supply about 40% of the gas used across the country. That's why maintaining production and service on these resources is so crucial.

Preparation for winter begins December 1st and every even numbered year CID reviews and inspects all operators' Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs) to ensure compliance with RRC rules and regulations.

Earlier this month, the RRC CID staff based in Austin had the opportunity to visit facilities in the field to better understand their role in ensuring power is provided where it's needed most. The Austin-based staff also visited with industry experts and CID field personnel to better understand the operators' processes. The CID was created 2.5 years ago after legislators passed SB 3 (88R) into law.



Meet the RRC's new GR Director, Nathan McDaniel

Nathan McDaniel was born in West Texas (Abilene), reared in North Texas (Keller), and educated in Central Texas (San Marcos/Austin), where he graduated with his bachelor's degree in political science from Texas State University and his Master of Public Leadership from the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin.

With over 10 years of experience working with local, state, and federal elected officials, Nathan is excited for the opportunity to engage leaders and decision-makers about the importance of the Railroad Commission's work.

"As a lifelong Texan, I'm thrilled for the opportunity to work with the Commissioners, agency staff, and leaders across the state to ensure Texas continues to lead the way in energy production and environmental stewardship," McDaniel said.

In conjunction with the RRC, operators work to appropriately maintain their infrastructure so they can continue producing natural gas. The RRC has a responsibility to make sure the natural gas supply is available so the state's utility providers can ensure Texans' lights stay on and air conditioners continue to cool through the hottest time of the year.

In addition to summer weatherization inspections, the CID team also inspects over 5,000 facilities for winter weatherization.

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