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**Subject:** Proposed Statewide Rule 8 Public Comment  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 25, 2024 1:38:04 PM

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09/25/2024

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. With more frequent drought conditions in TX, we must do all we can to protect our groundwater.

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.

Landowner rights are important to Texans and at a minimum landowners should be notified of activity on their land. We owe it to future generations to protect the resources that are located on our land. Simple changes to Statewide Rule 8 can ensure Texans have clean safe water for generations to come. Better safeguards will also protect wildlife, cattle and people from being exposed to toxins.

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

Thank you,  
Cynthia Osborn

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