



2025 RRC Regulatory Conference

Session Descriptions

49 CFR Part 195 Hazardous Liquids

Brad Cox

This session will allow the attendee to understand what to expect in a standard comprehensive hazardous liquids inspection. We will discuss the form that is used and what records will be expected to be available for review.

Advanced P-16 Practices: An Interactive Workshop

David King

An interactive workshop focused on advanced practices of the P-16 and how to enter information on the form to support complicated development scenarios and cascading acreage effects through interactive exercises (computer is needed).

Applying Real Time Data to Address the Challenges of Hydrotesting

Stuart Mitchell

Hydrotesting methods have remained in the most part unchanged from the 1950's. Real time data insights including live data trending, true "temperature corrected pressure" and real time leak detection and location can improve the accuracy and reliability of pipeline hydrotesting, whilst reducing the time and cost of second-guessing results and chasing leaks.

Ask an Oil and Gas Assistant Director

Paul Dubois, David Lindley, Joe Stasulli

Join us for an engaging session where you will have the opportunity to meet the Assistant Directors of the Oil and Gas Division. Gain insight as they share and you ask questions about the agency and the industry.

Breaking the Bottleneck: Collaborating to Solve the Permian's Produced Water Crisis

Michael Grossman

As the Permian Basin reaches new production highs, the oil and gas industry faces mounting challenges in managing the unprecedented volumes of produced water. With seismicity, regulatory scrutiny, and infrastructure limits intensifying, the need for innovative, collaborative solutions has never been more urgent. This session spotlights how open information sharing and cross-sector partnerships – industry, academia, and regulators – are essential to unlocking practical, scalable strategies for reuse, treatment, and risk reduction in produced water management.

Breakout Tanks Summary

Godspower Oniovosa

This session will define a breakout tank from the perspective of the code including the jurisdiction associated with regulated pipelines. It will also define the code requirements applicable to breakout tanks.

Chapter 4: Where did Statewide Rules 8 & 57 Go?

Christine Peters, Sandra Forbes

This will be an informational roadmap of where the newly adopted EPS rules are in Chapter 4. On July 1, 2025, the RRC implemented a major modernization to SWRs 8 and 57 which are now in Chapter 4 Subchapter A. We'll discuss how staff are working with operators to successfully process permits with updated rules.

Class VI Permitting Process

Bryce McKee, Leo Castro, Atia Rahman

This session provides an overview of the requirements of Class VI, Geologic Storage and associated injection of anthropogenic CO₂, which falls under TAC Chapter 5 (Subchapter B) Statewide Rules. Discussion topics include application requirements and the process of issuing the permit.

Common Mistakes in Production Reporting

Hamilton Jones

This session will define the most common discrepancies found in production reporting as it relates to the Form PR and how to resolve those issues.

Completions for Injection/Disposal Wells

Aaron LeJeune

An introductory course on Underground Injection Control (UIC) Completions, including terminology, best practices, and examples of when and how to file.

Control Room Management Outline

Mark Herrin

This session will provide a brief overview of the control room management requirements for 49 CFR 192.631 and 49 CFR 195.446.

Corrosion Control and the Mega Rule: Aligning with PHMSA

Charles Ratts

This session will provide a summary of how the updated PHMSA regulations, particularly the Gas Mega Rule, affect corrosion control procedures. It will focus on the practical steps operators can take to align their corrosion control strategies with these new regulatory requirements.

Critical Infrastructure Division (CID) Attestations and Inspections

Nicolas Stasulli

This presentation will cover what information is required to be included in your Critical Infrastructure attestation, the common mistakes/missing information that we see and how these attestations are important to our inspections.

Decoding the Myths of Pipeline Safety Emergency Response

David Bullard, John Holtan

Communication and coordination between an operator and emergency responders is critical during an event. But lurking is a laundry list of myths that introduce dangers and risks that impact the ability to safely resolve an event of any size.

DIMP/Distribution Facility Replacement Program

Mario Solis

This session will cover the Texas Administrative Code Requirements for TAC 8.209 Distribution Facilities replacements and Distribution Integrity Program. It will include information on common mistakes, filing deadlines, and offer the opportunity for discussion and questions.

Ensuring Safety Through Culture

James Cross

Delve into the crucial role of cultivation a strong safety culture to ensure the integrity and reliability of utility systems. In this session, we will emphasize that safety culture extends beyond rules and procedures – it's a collective mindset and behavior embedded within the organization, from top management to frontline workers. Through insightful examples and experiences, the session will explore how organizations can initiate and sustain a positive safety culture, enhancing overall safety performance and mitigating risks associated with utility operations.

Environmental Permits: New Compliance Reporting Requirements

Cassandra Quiroz, Isaac Franco

Join this session for a detailed walk-through of the Monthly R-2 form to understand the format requirements and submission deadlines. Gain understanding through step-by-step guidance on the form template and best practices for organizing data and supporting documentation. Learn about frequent errors, when and how to reach out for guidance, and how to proactively address compliance concerns.

Environmental Permits: New Forms, New Guidance

Misti Kinnison, Christine Peters

Participants will have the opportunity to view the new and revised forms for Environmental Permits. The session will describe the forms and discuss where to find updated Online guidance and what the processes are for filing specific forms.

Filing and Interpreting Groundwater Letters GW-1 & GW-2

James Harcourt, Valerie Atkins

Streamline your processes with expert insights on how to navigate GW-2 letters for casing, cementing operations in Class II injection permitting. Learn how to interpret the information in GW-2's for Class VI CCS permitting and understand how to utilize the online GW-1 system to order or look up letters.

Filing New Construction Reports

Steven Rios

Learn the process of navigating through the PIPES system as you understand how and when to file Form PS-48 (New Construction Report).

Filing a Plan of Correction Utilizing the RAMP Process

Nicholas Owojori

This session trains pipeline operators how to submit a Plan of Correction (POC) online using the Pipeline Inspection Permitting Evaluation System (PIPES) and provides an overview of the RRC Access Management Process (RAMP).

Focus on Pressure: Permitting Disposal Wells in the Permian Basin

Austin Gaskamp, Paul Dubois

Management of produced water has become one of the greatest challenges facing the oil and gas industry. This presentation will convey RRC Staff's understanding and position and potential changes to the UIC permitting process for disposal wells in the Permian Basin.

Form P-17/P-17A Surface Commingling Applications

Kaitlyn Cunningham

What is a Commingle Permit? What does it accomplish and when is it filed? This session will give answers to these questions as we discuss completing Surface Commingling Applications and filing their required documentation. Learn about the differences between the Form P-17 and P-17A and uncover common errors our staff encounter on these forms.

Form P-18 Online Filing through LoneSTAR

Kaitlyn Cunningham

Learn how to successfully file a P-18 Skim Oil/Condensate Report using the LoneSTAR system. This informational session will highlight the various validations and warning/error messages operators may receive when submitting these forms. Additionally, you will uncover some of the perks and abilities the LoneSTAR system has to offer in relation to the Form P-18.

Form W-3A and W-3 Submission and Review

Miriam Borrego, Diane Beckham

This session will cover the requirements to submit Forms W-3A and W-3 both hard copy and Online to the district offices. It will cover the required information to be included and attachments to make the review process quick and seamless so that the district offices can return approved documents as quickly as possible.

Gas Gathering Rules – RRC Implementation

Nicholas Owojori

This session will highlight key components of the PHMSA gas gathering rule while reviewing compliance documentation including both PHMSA and RRC data for all gathering types. It will explain recent changes to RRC regulations impacting gas gathering systems, inspection checklists, and RRC expectations.

General UIC Applications – Injection and Disposal Well Permits

Jason Lockie, Thanh Nguyen

A discussion about UIC application filing procedures. Covers application fees and materials needed to apply for an Injection or Disposal Well

permit. Will discuss administrative and technical requirements for the review process as well as timelines for reviews and the protest and hearing process for general UIC applications.

Geohazards Integrity Management

Jen Holmstadt

This presentation will introduce operators to the regulatory requirements related to geohazards, the geohazards that may impact their pipelines, and will provide a science-based method for designing a geohazards program to proactively manage the hazards that may affect their systems.

Hybrid Desalination Systems

Adam Calvin

This session will explore some of the technologies used within the global desalination industry and why produced water is particularly challenging to treat. It will outline the benefits and limitations of electrically driven membrane based systems, and provide insights into optimizing pretreatment requirements. Finally, it will touch on applying membrane and thermal systems in a hybrid approach across the salinity ranges for minimum liquid discharge arrangements.

Injection Well Permitting Challenges (W-14, H-1/H-1A)

Jim Moore

This session will provide an overview of 3 main challenge categories that you may encounter when filing for an injection well permit: 1) aquifer exemptions, 2) elevated formation pressure, and 3) seismicity.

Introduction to H-5 Online

Aaron LeJeune

Learn everything you need to know to file the Form H-5, Mechanical Integrity Test Reports.

Introduction to LoneSTAR

Jennifer Gilmore

In this session, staff will discuss how to file your P-5 forms (New, Renewal, and Record-Only) as well as Inactive Well (W-3C and W-3X) forms in LoneSTAR. In addition, we will be discussing how financial assurance functions in the new system and providing a new form update.

Introduction to Part 192: Gas Pipeline Code

Carlos Jaime

The presentation will cover an introduction of 49 CFR Part 192 and common violations that have been cited by RRC field inspectors.

Jurisdictional Determination of Hazardous Liquids Pipeline Systems

Karl Leger

The jurisdiction of Hazardous Liquids pipelines seems simple enough. In reality though, determining what is and what is not regulated under the hazardous liquids pipeline safety rule (49 CFR 195) can be confusing and complex. And, with the recently withdrawn Carbon Dioxide NPRM, performing jurisdictional determinations could become more complex in the future. This presentation will define what hazardous liquids pipeline systems are currently regulated along with insight into what to expect with emerging regulatory oversight. This includes, but is not limited to gathering and transmission pipelines, in-plant piping, facilities, and break-out tanks. Special consideration will be given to notices of proposed rule-making proceedings to better understand expected future regulatory action.

Key Factors for Selecting the Appropriate Field

Victoria Ortiz, Rimanda Whitehead

The session will cover basic geological concepts and how they are used in selecting an appropriate field for an oil or gas well.

Leak Detection and CPM

Alberto Hernandez Jr.

This session will cover 49 CFR 192 & 49 CFR 195 regarding leak detection the equipment used and Computation Pipeline Monitoring (CPM). This will include the specific regulatory requirements for the respected code references. It will discuss the Incorporated by Reference material for CPM, frequently asked questions, and enforcement materials.

Lessons Learned: Delaware Basin Permit & Performance Parameters Report

Laura Capper

This session will provide takeaway findings from in-depth studies addressing SWD permit parameters, performance parameters, and subsurface risk avoidance in the Delaware Basin DMG.

Liquid Gathering Rules / Jurisdiction

Sam Hughes

Overview of hazardous liquid rules as they apply to jurisdiction of gathering pipelines. Session addresses: Do I have a gathering line, do I have a regulated gathering line, do I have a reporting only gathering line.

Mastering Well Compliance and Website Queries

Samantha Rivera

This session is intended to provide an overview of the Railroad Commission's website focusing on regulatory compliance by demonstrating the tools available to the public. In addition, an in-depth review of the RRC Online Queries will be demonstrated to show data available to the public through the RRC website. Topics to be discussed: proration schedules and Online research queries associated with the Well Compliance Department.

New Construction Insights

Michael Nuernberg

This session will provide information on how a pipeline inspector schedules, conducts and completes a New Construction inspection. During the session information will be provided for regulatory updates regarding Texas Administrative code Title 16 Chapter 8 section 8.115-New Construction Commencement Report and common issues found during a new construction inspection.

Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Inspections and Common Findings

Samuel Copeland

This session provides an in-depth overview of the importance of operations & maintenance (O&M) manual inspections, highlighting common findings and best practices for compliance. Participants will learn how to assess O&M manuals for accuracy, completeness, and regulatory adherence. This

session will also cover key industry standards, recurring deficiencies and effective strategies for maintaining comprehensive documentation to ensure operational efficiency, regulatory compliance, and equipment longevity.

Oilfield Remediation Programs and Resources

Dr. Andrea Pinon, Peter Pope

A review of the RRC's State Managed and Responsible Party Cleanup Programs. The presenters will discuss applicable Statutes and Rules, Definition of Responsible Party, Assessment and Cleanup Objectives, Regulatory Closure Options, and Enforcement Options for Non-Compliance.

PHMSA Headquarters Update

Linda Daugherty

Linda Daugherty, Acting Associate Administrator for PHMSA will share information about changes to that will affect how PHMSA conducts inspections and what the attendees should expect during a PHMSA inspection.

Pipeline Accident Investigations, Accident Trends and Lessons Learned

Jill Watson

This session will provide an overview of PHMSA's Accident Investigation Division and share expectation for operators conducting investigations. Accident trends and lessons learned will be shared.

Pipeline Damage Prevention Trends, Complete TDRFs and FAQs

Ricardo Gamez

The Pipeline Damage Prevention Program will present damage trends of recent years. They will assist you in completing TDRF submissions by providing both good and poor real-world examples. The session will allow you to engage with our experts in a dynamic Q&A and open discussion.

Pipeline Safety: How Did We Get Here?

Lane Miller

A detailed look at current regulations for Pipeline Safety. Lane will explain some of the rationale behind regulations found in 49 CFR Part 192 and 195.

Pipeline Safety Integrity Management

Joshua Snowdy

This session will discuss regulations pertaining to integrity management and provide insight into the different types of evaluations performed by the RRC.

Pipeline Safety Standard Comprehensive Inspections

Justin Markham

This presentation will demonstrate to attendees who have little or no experience, have not been a part of a standard comprehensive in a while, or would like additional information on standard comprehensive inspections and what information is covered/what to expect during these inspections.

Pipeline Safety Regulatory Focus Areas

Chris McLaren

This session will cover requirements imposed by Congress on PHMSA in current and past Pipeline Safety Reauthorization Acts to develop rule making or to undertake required studies which could lead to regulatory actions in the future.

Pipeline Safety: Response to Natural Gas and Hazardous Liquids Accidents & Incidents

Jennifer De La Cruz, Larry Snelson

What is a reportable accident or incident? What can an operator expect from the RRC after notification of an accident or incident? This presentation will include reminders of the situations that constitute reportable accidents and incidents, common issues at a glance, as well as a review of internal Railroad Commission requirements related to both natural gas and hazardous liquid accidents and incidents.

PIPES: Pipeline Integrity (PLI) Submissions

Pete Longoria

This session will cover a step-by-step process for operators to complete the PS-95 Submissions, Safety Related Condition Reports (SRCs), and Integrity Management Program (IMP) reports through the Pipeline Inspection Permitting and Evaluation System (PIPES), including gaining access to PIPES through the RRC Access Management Process (RAMP).

Pit Registration, Authorization by Rule and Permitting Standards

Adrian Charles

This presentation will cover the variety of pit types that the commission permits and will now be registered for activities authorized by rule. Also to be discussed, other actions authorized by rule and actions that require an issued permit. The goal is to provide clarity on the nature and properties of the surface waste pits, the changes that will impact pit construction and use, and a quick insight into the newly adopted rules as it pertains to the pits and authorized functions.

PODS Data Management for Reporting

Monique Roberts, Chad Hultman

Now more than ever, visibility and optimization of in-ground assets are vital to our industry. The rising cost of failure, the public's focus on pipelines and the energy future, and the need for data transparency and accuracy to meet new regulations and newly regulated assets... everything is changing, so PODS is also!

The PODS Data Model was built for regulated pipeline and is continuously updated as new regulations are published. In fact, PHMSA is a PODS Member and uses the model as a baseline for NPMS, so having your data in PODS is the easiest way for operators to submit their annual reports and NPMS uploads. Learn how the Integrity Regulatory Module supports the submission of annual reports (192, 195 and TX RRC) thus improving project prioritization, identifying why you performed a task, and supporting risk analysis and calculations.

Produced Water's Role in Energy Expansion

Rajendra Ghimire

Unlock the hidden potential of treated produced water! Discover how this resource can be transformed into hydrogen and support Direct Air Capture for carbon removal. Explore innovative pathways to extract valuable minerals and create commodity chemicals from concentrated brine. We'll even touch upon its intriguing, albeit smaller-scale, role in nuclear energy. Join us to explore a

sustainable future powered by unconventional resources.

Produced Water Today and Tomorrow: A Panel Discussion

Ted Wooten

Join RRC's Chief Engineer as he welcomes a panel of experts to discuss how the oil and gas industry in Texas is managing produced water and plans for future management including technologies for treating and re-using produced water.

Panelists Include:

Steve Cole – Five Point Energy

Doug White - NGL

Rick McCurdy – Select Water

Cari-Michel La Caille – TCEQ

Zacariah Hildenbrand – Medusa Analytical

Shane Walker – Texas Tech University / Texas

Produced Water Consortium

Public Awareness and Pipeline Safety Damage Prevention Summary

Jas Villanueva

This presentation will provide pipeline operators with a summary of the process in which an inspector schedules, conducts, and completes a Public Awareness and Damage Prevention Program inspection.

RMV Impacts to Control Room Management and Team Training

Wallace McGaughey

A discussion on the impacts to your Control Room Management Program, Team Training, and the processes and procedures required by the Rupture Mitigation Valve regulation. Topics will include RMV requirements, automated and manual actions to meet RMV regulations, and time requirements.

RRC Class V Geothermal Injection Well Update

Leslie Savage, Jared Ware

This session will provide an update on the Class V closed loop geothermal injection well rules. The presentation will cover information for the shallow and deep geothermal wells, address statutory requirements, and update attendees on actions RRC has taken to implement regulatory processes.

RRC Mapping Automation Portal Live Demo

Nicolas Stasulli

This session will be a live demonstration on the RRC Mapping Automation Portal, allowing operators to learn how to navigate the system, see how the system is intended to function and to learn/narrow down their requirements within RRC Map. This session will also cover any updates/enhancements made to the system since inception.

RRC Pipeline Safety Updates

Stephanie Weidman

This presentation will provide an overview of changes to the federal and state Pipeline Safety Laws and operational changes to the RRCs Oversight and Safety Division since the last conference.

RRC Pipeline Safety Violation Trends for 2024

Jonathan Saucedo

This session will highlight Texas' top 2024 pipeline safety violations and provide best practices on how to address them moving forward.

RRC Public GIS Viewer Tool

Chris Conn, Mark Maddox

Bring your laptops or tablets and join in this interactive walkthrough of the RRC Public GIS Viewer. This workshop will include topics such as API# or Address Search, Searching for Surveys, Viewing Coordinates, and Locating Pipelines. Presenters will also share how users can navigate to the Open Data Portal for more in-depth use and how to utilize the RRC website's Data Sets for Download page.

RRC Wildfire Mitigation and Response

Dana McClendon, Travis Baer

An overview of RRC regulations in fire prevention in oil and gas operations with details on what to look for in the field and how the RRC enforces the regulations.

Safety of CO2 and Hazardous Liquid Pipelines, Current and What to Expect

John Jacobi

Current hazardous liquids pipeline safety rules regarding carbon dioxide are exclusive to CO2 in a supercritical state. While PHMSA's January Carbon Dioxide Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) was withdrawn, its contents are essential to understand current regulatory thinking regarding the regulation of all CO2 pipeline systems. This presentation will review the NPRM from the perspective of what should be expected relating to CO2 regulation and the far-reaching impact it may have on the regulations regarding hazardous liquid pipelines in general.

Statewide Rule 15 and Inactive Well Compliance

Jennifer Gilmore

Staff will be discussing SWR15 requirements pertaining to inactive well compliance and how it affects your P-5 renewal.

Statewide Rule 32: Exception to Flaring/Venting of Produced Gas

Sayed Mahjour

This session provides an overview of the requirements of Statewide Rule 32 regarding the venting/flaring of produced gas. Discussion topics include authorized flaring/venting and exemptions to the rule, as well as exceptions to the rule. The new on-line filing system for exception is included also.

Statewide Rule 37 & 38: Interactive Solutions to Identify and Resolve

David King

We will discuss how to identify and resolve SWR 37 and SWR 38 exceptions. Focus points will cover the regular and special rules, all development types, and common issues. There will an interactive exercise for the Service list (computer is needed).

Statewide Rule 40 (e)(2) Exception: How to request and is it required?

David King

This discussion will provide education of the optional SWR 40 section on the W-1. Focus points will be: data entry on the W-1 and P-16, requirements of the SWR 40 notification, and when does double assignment of acreage occur. A portion will be interactive (computer is needed).

T4 Pipeline Permitting and Mapping

Andy Martinec

The T-4 pipeline permitting and mapping team will recap rule updates and resource improvements that were officially implemented in the first half of 2025, as well as discuss frequently asked questions, and leave time for Q&A.

UIC Permitting Pressure Review

Ted Wooten

This informative session will discuss how to compare surface pressures to estimates for bottomhole pressures in injection wells. It will also cover information on how to interpret pressure records from a small injection test such as minifrac, stress test, DFIT, etc.

Understanding EPS Compliance Field Inspections

Isaac Franco, Sandra Forbes

Navigate environmental permitting compliance with confidence. Learn to understand permit requirements, conduct thorough record reviews, and identify potential challenges. Discover best practices for facility inspections and effective communication with regulatory inspectors. Ensure accountability through robust checks and timely responses to notifications, safeguarding against non-compliance.

Understanding Leak Detection Success for Belowground Natural Gas Pipelines Across Diverse Operating Conditions

Kathleen Smits

This session identifies how diverse operating conditions to include variations in weather, terrain and urban and rural environments impacts the success of leak detection solutions. Through a 3-

year experimental and data analysis study, findings provide insight into the optimization of leak survey practice to maximize detection success for belowground NG pipeline leaks.

Understanding the Capabilities of the Drilling Insight and Casing Estimator Website (DICE)

James Harcourt

The DICE website is a joint effort of UT's Bureau of Economic Geology and the RRC. Learn how to utilize the self-help groundwater maps, alerts, and drilling information available on the DICE site.

W-1 Application and P-16: Online Filing

David King

The primary focus of the session will be the form requirements, the rules that support those requirements, and the current features of the application. Supplemented throughout, will be highlights of common issues and how to identify, and correct, them prior to submission. Basic P-16 information will be presented through an interactive discussion at the end (computer is needed).

Waste Haulers and LoneSTAR

Misti Kinnison, Christine Peters

This presentation will provide guidance for the external waste hauler functions in LoneSTAR. Attendees will learn how to set up a RAMP account and access LoneSTAR.

Well Completions: When and How to File

Sharon Frischen, Miriam Borrego

This session will cover the filing of a completion packet Forms W-2/G-1 including other required forms using the RRC Online System. The objective of this presentation is to assist industry in understanding why and how to file completion packets avoiding common compliance issues.