

Robbie Querner

From: tlma@memberclicks-mail.net on behalf of Texas Land & Mineral Owners Association <tlma@memberclicks-mail.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 10:45 AM
To: Robbie Querner
Subject: TLMA Member Update - March 2026



Oral Arguments Held in *Fasken v. Puig*

The Supreme Court of Texas heard oral arguments in the latest post-production cost case – [Fasken Oil v. Puig](#). At the center of the dispute is the interpretation of the phrase “free of cost forever.” Lower courts ruled in favor of the Puigs, and TLMA submitted an amicus brief in support of their position.

You can watch the oral arguments on the [Supreme Court of Texas’ Youtube page](#).

Lt. Governor Dan Patrick Updates Senate Committees

Following recent retirements and member transitions, Lt. Governor Dan Patrick has announced updates to Senate committee assignments and leadership.

Lt. Gov. Patrick announced that Senator Kevin Sparks (R-Midland) will serve as the Chairman of Senate Natural Resources, following Senator Brian Birdwell’s retirement announcement in 2025. Chairman Charles Perry will continue to serve as Chairman of the Senate Water, Agriculture, and Rural Affairs Committee.

The press release is available on the [Lt. Governor's website](#).

Senate Interim Hearings Begin

The [Senate Business and Commerce committee](#) kicks off interim hearings on Wednesday, April 1, 2026. The hearing will focus on the “Securing Critical Infrastructure and Supply Chain Integrity” charge.

The [Senate Water, Agriculture, and Rural Affairs Committee](#) will have their first hearing on Monday, May 11 on the following charges:

- Prioritizing Utility Revenue for Infrastructure Maintenance
- Evaluating Desalination Viability and Regulatory Efficiency
- Safeguarding the Texas Livestock Industry

You can watch all hearings live online at <https://senate.texas.gov/av-live.php>.

House and Senate Interim Charges Released

The much-anticipated interim charges were released last week. You can view the full listings for the [House](#) and [Senate](#) at their respective links. TLMA will be following charges in the following committees.

House: Energy Resources; Natural Resources; State Affairs

Senate: Business & Commerce; Natural Resources; Water, Agriculture, and Rural Affairs

If you would like a listing of the charges we will follow, please visit our [Recent News](#) webpage.

Oil and Gas Lawyer Blog Republishes Series on the Oil and Gas Lease

Oil and gas attorney John McFarland has begun republishing a series of blog posts originally written more than a decade ago, offering a practical breakdown of key oil and gas lease provisions.

Parts [I](#) and [II](#) are now available, with additional installments expected.

Save the Date! October 6, 2026

Earlier this month, we announced the 2026 TLMA Statewide Members Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2026 at the McNay Art Museum. We hope that you will join us! Registration is not yet open and additional details will be shared as they are available.

WE WANT YOUR IDEAS! If you have heard a great speaker or want to learn more about a specific topic, please submit your ideas using this [form](#) or email Jennifer at info@tlma.org.



Articles Of Interest

[“A plan to get more electricity to West Texas may come undone”](#)

[RRC Energy News – March 2026](#)

[Important Reminders on Contract Interpretation from Texas Supreme Court](#)

[Appellate Court Reverses Million Dollar Verdict in Dispute Over Wind Rights](#)

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, April 14 – [A Conversation with Don Huffines](#), Republican Nominee for Texas Comptroller (Texas Tribune Event)

Tuesday, April 14 – RRC Open Meeting, Austin and online

July 14-18, 2026 - [NARO TX Convention](#), Omni Barton Creek, Austin

Tuesday, October 6 - [TLMA Statewide Members Meeting](#), McNay Art Museum in San Antonio

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