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Sent: Monday, June 16, 2025 9:42 PM
To: Jennifer Bremer
Subject: TLMA Monthly Newsletter - April 2025

[Texas Legislature Online](#) | [Texas House](#) | [Texas Senate](#)



April 2025 Monthly Update

A personal note from Jennifer:

April has been a life changing month! My husband and I welcomed our first baby, James Wade, on April 3. We are blessed to be his parents and look forward to the adventures ahead.



Legislative Update

As we enter May, we are quickly approaching the end of the legislative session. April is often marked by heightened tensions, and this year has been no exception. Personality clashes and partisan frustrations are increasingly apparent.

Republicans have expressed dissatisfaction over what they view as a lack of progress on conservative priorities.

Meanwhile, Democrats remain frustrated in the wake of the Educational Savings Accounts vote. Both parties are now engaging in procedural tactics to delay legislation—a strategy that could determine whether a bill ultimately

reaches the Governor's desk for signature. With time running short, even minor delays can be consequential.

The committee phase is winding down, and activity is shifting to the floor. As legislative deadlines loom, uncertainty around the fate of key bills is growing, and tensions are expected to escalate further in the coming weeks.



TLMA Testifies on Bills

TLMA has maintained a strong presence throughout this session. The initial expectations for a relatively quiet year for our members has proven to be quite active.

Below is a summary of the bills on which TLMA either testified or registered support or opposition during the session. Many of these measures continue to progress through the legislative process. Our annual magazine will feature a detailed recap this summer, but, in the meantime, you can find an up-to-date list and bill tracking information on our website.

TLMA remains actively engaged in monitoring committee activity, advocating for our priorities, and negotiating improvements to proposed legislation.

[HB 2790](#) - Darby - Grants liability releases for carbon sequestration projects, . *TLMA testified in opposition.*

[SB 2658](#) - Relating to the production and study of brackish groundwater. *TLMA filed a card in opposition.*

[HB 5105](#) - Relating to the imposition of a duty to notify a payee by a payor of proceeds of production from an oil or

gas well when payments to the payee are suspended. *TLMA filed card of support.*

[HB 5106](#) - Relating to the information a payor of the proceeds of production from an oil and gas well is required to provide a payee. *TLMA filed card of support.*

[HB 4572](#) - Relating to the regulation by the Railroad Commission of Texas of certain pits used for the storage and disposal of oil and gas waste. *TLMA filed a card of support.*

[HB 2349](#) - Relating to exempting certain transactions from regulation by the Texas Real Estate Commission. *TLMA filed a card of support.*

[SB 291](#) – Makes a condemning entity liable for a property owner’s attorney fee if they do not disclose appraisal reports when an offer is made. *TLMA filed a card of support.*

[SB 292](#) – Updates requirements for surveying property and an offer to acquire additional property not through condemnation. *TLMA filed a card of support.*

[HB 49](#) – Darby – Produced water liability bill that creates a definition of “treated product,” addresses ownership of the treated product, and releases a person who handles the product from tort liability. *TLMA testified against this bill .*

[HB 2663](#) – Darby – Adds the requirement that all electrical equipment to a well that has been inactive for at least 10 years is removed in addition to surface equipment. The bill gives the RRC authority to impose an administrative penalty of not more than \$10,000 for each violation. *TLMA testified in support of this bill.*

[SB 1759](#) – Birdwell – Creates a definition of “oil or gas emergency” and allows the RRC to declare an emergency

has occurred for 30 days. Removes civil liability for giving assistance during an oil or gas emergency.

[SB 1763](#) - Codifies the ownership of brine minerals. *TLMA testified in opposition to this bill.*

[SB 1172](#) - Perry - Hearing in the Senate Business & Commerce Committee for this bill iresulting from an Attorney General opinion that stated you must be an attorney to negotiate a wind or solar lease. This bill will exempt transactions for “other energy sources” as defined in the bill from requiring an attorney to negotiate. *TLMA filed a card of support.*

[HB 143](#) - Codifies an MOU between the Railroad Commission and the Public Utility Commission regarding discovery and notification of an electrical condition that does not meet the National Electrical Code standards. *TLMA filed a card of support.*

[HB 144](#) - Creates a requirement for electric utilities to develop a management and inspection plan for electric distribution poles. The plan must be submitted to the PUC for approval with updates every 3 years. Both this bill and HB 143 are result from the 2024 panhandle wildfires but would apply statewide. *TLMA filed a card of support.*

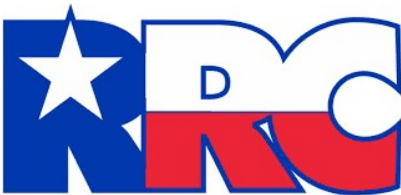
[SB 1150](#) - Middleton This bill is an effort to combat the inactive well issue in Texas. It creates a timeline for plugging inactive wells and creates a process for an operator to request RRC approval of a compliance plan for not plugging the inactive wells. The bill requires the RRC to submit an annual report on inactive wells to the Governor, Lt. Governor, and each member of the legislature. *TLMA testified neutrally on the bill.*



Oxy Granted Class VI Permit by EPA

In early April, Occidental Petroleum (Oxy) received the first Class VI permits for geologic carbon sequestration in Texas marking a significant milestone in the state's efforts to advance carbon capture and storage. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued these permits as the Texas Railroad Commission does not yet have primacy over the Class VI permitting process.

You can read more in the [EPA's official press release](#).



Railroad Commission Now Accepting Public Comments on Waste Management Forms

The Texas Railroad Commission is now accepting public comments on proposed forms related to the Chapter 4 Oil and Gas Waste Management rules adopted last fall. Stakeholders are encouraged to review the proposed forms and submit feedback during the public comment period.

For details on the proposed forms and instructions for submitting comments, please visit [this link](#).

Upcoming Seminar: 2025 GDHM Land & Mineral Owner Seminar

Our friends at **Graves Dougherty Hearon & Moody** have announced the 2025 **Land & Mineral Owner Seminar**

this May! Don't miss this valuable opportunity; purchase your tickets by clicking the link below:



GDHM LAND & MINERAL OWNER SEMINAR

Register Today!

MAY 16, 2025
WWW.GDHMOILANDGAS.COM



Do you have a topic or issues you want to be included in the monthly newsletter?
Please email it to info@tlma.org for review and potential inclusion.

Upcoming Dates of Interest

Tuesday, May 13 – RRC Open Meeting

Friday, May 16 – [GDHM Land & Mineral Owner Seminar](#), Austin

Monday, June 2 – Sine Die of 89th Legislative Session

[89th Legislative Session End of Session Deadline Calendar](#)

Additional Articles and Links

[Bipartisan bill to cap unplugged Texas oil wells could create up to 150,000 new jobs](#)
[Bill would stop Texas oil drillers from secretly burying toxic waste on private property](#)

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