

# RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS

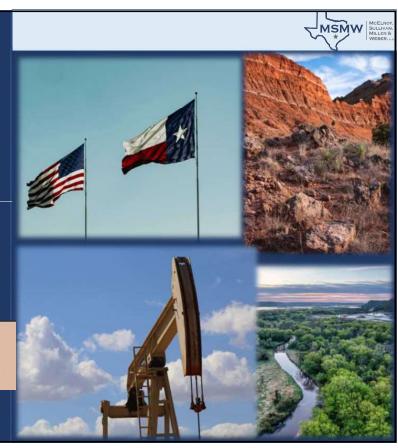
A summary of bringing or presenting cases before the Railroad Commission of Texas, including filing and providing notice, conducting discovery and a breakdown of the formal hearing process.





Continuing Legal Education

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## What is the Railroad Commission of Texas

- State Agency that Regulates Oil and Gas Industry
  - Established in 1881
- Mission Statement: "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."
- Duty to Protect Environment, Prevent Waste, and Protect Correlative Rights.

### **JURISDICTION**

HEARINGS FOR THE FOLLOWING CASES ARE HANDLED BY THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS ("RRC")

- GAS UTILITY DOCKETS
- PIPELINES
- ENFORCEMENT (VIOLATIONS/FINES) MATTERS
- SURFACE MINING
- OIL AND GAS DIVISION MATTERS
- CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE
- ALTERNATIVE FULES
- (FYI- NOT RAILROADS)

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## HEARINGS ARE HANDLED AT RRC

# Not the State Office of Administrative Hearings ("SOAH")

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# Commissioners

### Commissioners



Wayne Christian Commissioner



Christi Craddick Chairman



Jim Wright Commissioner

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# How to get a hearing?

- File an Application
  - Examples:
    - GUD Rate Ratemaking
    - Change Oil Field Rules
    - Injection Application
    - H<sub>2</sub>S Safety Rule Compliance
- Referral from Enforcement Division
  - Spills or failure to maintain financial assurance or propane violations
- File a Complaint
  - Violation of RRC Rules or certain provisions of Natural Resource Code

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#### Title search: Railroad Commission of Texas Hearing Procedures

Also available as part of the eCourse

<u>Navigating Various Agencies and Processes: Secretary of State, Agency Hearings, and More</u>

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the  $19^{\text{th}}$  Annual Advanced Texas Administrative Law Seminar session "Agency Hearing Processes"