



RRC ENERGY MINUTE

For the 88th Legislature & the Texas Congressional Delegation

VOL. 63

September 2024

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.

RRC Extends Successful Orphan Well Plugging Streaks

The Railroad Commission's **State Managed Well Plugging Program** successfully plugged 1,012 orphan wells in Fiscal Year 2024, exceeding our goal of 1,000 wells! This marks the eighth consecutive year in which the RRC has surpassed its legislative performance measure.

"The RRC continues to be a national leader in addressing orphaned wells," said Danny Sorrells, RRC Deputy Executive Director. "Our extensive well plugging experience dates to 1984, and elements of our program, such as a prioritization system that ensures high-risk, high-priority wells are plugged, have

been copied by other states. The design of RRC's plugging program and our dedicated staff help us quickly work to protect groundwater around the state."

Watch this video from the field to learn more about how the RRC's decades of well-plugging experience help protect Texas communities and the environment.

Bonus Fact: Orphan well plugging funds are derived from revenue generated by the oil and gas industry.

RRC Public Engagement Team Sees Miles & Miles of Texas!

Nearly 50 years ago, the Austin-based group Asleep at the Wheel released their song, Miles and Miles of Texas. The song states, "I saw miles and miles of Texas, every star up in the sky." RRC's Office of Public Engagement and outreach teams have been living those same lyrics lately! They have seen miles and miles of Texas by traveling from north Texas to the Rio Grande Valley and several other stops in between.

This year, the RRC Office of Public Engagement has participated in numerous conferences, expos, community organization gatherings, rotary clubs, military career fairs, and more across the great State of Texas. These outreach efforts have provided great opportunities for RRC staff to meet with and inform communities about RRC's work and mission. RRC's outreach has included events such as: RigZone Permian Basin & West Texas Job Fair in Midland; Texas Land Conservations Conference in Austin; Texas Southwestern Cattle Raiders Convention in Fort Worth; Military Career Fair in Houston; South Texas All Hazards Conference in McAllen; Brownsboro ISD Intermediate Career Fair in Chandler; Roseland Oil & Gas Convention in

Midland; West Texas County Judges and Commissioners Conference in Amarillo; Hildgo County Urban Leadership Conference on South Padre Island; DUG (Developing Unconventional Gas) Conference in Fort Worth; South Texas County Judges and Commissioners Conference on South Padre Island.

These and many other outreach efforts have been well received by oil & gas operators and the public has appreciated the RRC's presence and expertise at these events.



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