



THE TIPRO TARGET



**Texas
Independent
Producers and
Royalty Owners
Association**

Permitting reform in the spotlight on Capitol Hill – but can a deal be reached on permitting legislation?

When final negotiations were made this summer for the *Inflation Reduction Act* (IRA), officials reached an agreement to work on separate policy focused on reforming federal energy project permitting. Accordingly, in September, such legislation has been a major focus of discussions in the nation's capital, as lawmakers look at making good on promises tied to the passage of the IRA.

U.S. Senator Joe Manchin (D-West Virginia), whose vote on the IRA was deemed critical in order to move the bill forward in the legislative process, was a key proponent requesting for legislation that would address the nation's flawed permitting system. The lawmaker from West Virginia in mid-September unveiled his proposed bill for permitting reform, which has been met with opposition on both sides of the aisle. Some Republicans who fought against the IRA have pushed back to Senator Manchin's permitting reform policy as political payback for his support of the IRA, while other policymakers from the Democratic Party have also come out against provisions included under the permitting bill.

Given the lack of support to his bill, on Tuesday, September 27, Senator Manchin asked senior leaders in the U.S. Senate to remove the comprehensive permitting reform language from the government spending bill being considered by federal legislators, which had featured the reform package, and allow more time to work to achieve consensus on the legislation. "It is unfortunate that members of the United States Senate are allowing politics to put the energy security of our nation at risk. The last several months, we have seen firsthand the destruction that is possible as Vladimir Putin continues to weaponize energy. A failed vote on something as critical as comprehensive permitting reform only serves to embolden leaders like Putin who wish to see America fail," commented the senator. "For that reason and my firmly held belief that we should never come to the brink of a government shutdown over politics, I have asked Majority Leader Schumer to remove the permitting language from the *Continuing Resolution*."



Senator Schumer said Tuesday that he had agreed to Senator Manchin's request. It remains uncertain whether Senator Manchin's permitting bill, or other proposals on permitting reform from other lawmakers, can gain enough support to achieve passage into law. Talks on how to advance the measure are expected to continue in attempts to improve permitting reviews by the government and accelerate the construction of energy infrastructure in America.

In Fiscal Year 2022, Texas collected more than \$10 billion in oil and gas production taxes

Oil and natural gas production tax revenue topped \$10 billion during the state's last fiscal year, Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar reported in September. Yearly revenues from oil and gas taxes were nearly double the amount that had been collected during the prior fiscal year, when oil and natural gas production taxes generated revenue slightly above \$5 billion.

The state's 2022 Fiscal Year, which ended on August 31, was particularly strong for the Texas economy, after rebounding from the economic downturn caused during the coronavirus pandemic. Many tax revenue categories, including oil and natural gas production taxes, reached their highest collections on record during Fiscal Year 2022, observed Comptroller Hegar. Specifically, oil production tax revenue went up 84.4 percent from Fiscal 2021, while natural gas production tax revenue surged by 185 percent from Fiscal 2021, according to the comptroller. This past fiscal year also experienced the largest one-year increase in total tax collection, as compared with the prior fiscal year, in Texas history.

"Over the last many months, economic growth and inflation have driven higher sales tax collections as demand remains strong and businesses and consumers continue to pay elevated prices for goods."

Record-high tax revenue collections will give the state legislature more funding to spend during Texas' upcoming legislative session. As a result, this Summer, Comptroller Hegar made upward revisions to his revenue forecast that is used to guide funding allocations for the state budget, projecting that the state will have \$149 billion in GR-R funds available for general-purpose spending for the 2022-23 biennium.

Further, growing oil and natural gas severance tax revenue, which heavily supports Texas' Rainy Day Fund and the State Highway Fund (SHF), also is pushing funding higher for the two accounts. In Fiscal 2023, the Economic Stabilization Fund and SHF each will receive \$3.58 billion in transfers from the General Revenue Fund for severance taxes collected in Fiscal 2022, said Comptroller Hegar.

President's message

TIPRO Members,

In less than two months, state lawmakers will begin to file legislative proposals to be considered by the 88th Texas Legislature in 2023. Bill filing will follow work that has been done by officials this year during the state's interim legislative session, when members of both legislative chambers have been studying policy recommendations addressing a broad range of issues facing the state of Texas. In recent months, lawmakers have been participating in legislative hearings in Austin and around the state, and committees are now compiling reports detailing legislative solutions, which are expected to be completed before the end of the year so the legislature can hit the ground running come January when the House and Senate officially gavel in.

Interim charges assigned by Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick in the state Senate and Speaker Dade Phelan in the Texas House emphasize policy areas including the economy, infrastructure and weatherization, to name a few topics of focus. On behalf of independent oil and gas producers and royalty owners part of TIPRO, our association has been diligently monitoring all policy activity and legislative developments on issues of priority for our industry throughout the interim legislative period. As a result of the work done during the interim, below are a few of the legislative issues which TIPRO expects to see movement on during the upcoming 88th Legislative Session.

Options for expanding the state's underground natural gas storage capacity, including using excess storage capacity for carbon capture projects, is one matter legislators will likely take up, particularly as Texas looks to position itself as a leader in carbon capture and storage technologies. In addition, as we've seen in other legislative cycles, lawmakers are also expected to continue to review the plugging of orphaned oil and natural gas wells. House Bill 3973 was passed during the last legislative session requiring a study on abandoned oil and gas wells in this state and the use of the oil and gas regulation and cleanup fund. The monitoring of this bill was issued as an interim charge for the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Economic Development and will inevitably lead to further legislative discussion next session.

The sunset review of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), as well as the Texas Water Development Board and other relevant regulatory bodies including ERCOT and the PUC, is another area of important focus for the legislature in 2023. The Sunset review process provides comprehensive assessment of the continuing need for a state agency or program to exist. With few exceptions, an agency undergoing sunset review is automatically abolished unless the state legislature passes a bill to continue it, typically for 12 years.

Next year during the legislative session, lawmakers also could consider legislation centered on promoting the production of oil and natural gas within the state and recommendations for strengthening Texas' energy independence. Energy production in the Lone Star State has experienced strong gains this year, with projections for further increases in the months to come. For the month of September, oil production in the Permian Basin was expected to reach a record 5.408 million barrels per day (bpd), while in the Eagle Ford in South Texas, output also was estimated to top 1.230 million bpd, its highest since April 2020. Still, to further bolster Texas production during periods of extreme market volatility and to counter the growing list of federal policies designed to hinder domestic production, we anticipate legislative leaders may also explore other options or programs to expand energy development and production in the Lone Star State.

In a typical legislative session, our organization tracks an average of 300 bills of relevance to the oil and natural gas industry. We expect another active legislative cycle next year with lawmakers planning to tackle many issues that could impact our industry. If you haven't done so already, please also be sure to review our [latest regulatory update](#), which encompasses a number of issues that we are directly involved in on behalf of our members. We appreciate your continued involvement and support as we work to effectively represent the Texas oil and natural gas industry. Regards,

Ed Longanecker

Energy Department to offer additional oil reserves from the SPR ahead of Europe's Russian oil ban

In a move designed to add more oil supplies to energy markets, officials in September announced that up to 10 million additional barrels of crude oil will be sold this November from the nation's Strategic Petroleum Reserves (SPR). The timing aligns with plans from the European Union to ban most imports of Russian crude oil in early December.

The White House has already on multiple occasions this year authorized withdrawals from the SPR in an attempt to address rising oil and gasoline prices by increasing the supply of oil. This strategy has entailed the largest release of oil reserves in history, which has since left the SPR at its lowest level recorded since 1984.

The SPR, which was created to maintain an emergency oil supply for the U.S., also can be utilized by leaders to alleviate impacts of market disruptions. The decision by the president to release vast quantities of oil from the SPR, however, has been criticized by congressional leaders, who argue that before tapping the reserve for political reasons, the administration first should pursue policies that boost domestic oil and natural gas production. Legislation has even been introduced by lawmakers that would prohibit the secretary of Energy from tapping the SPR for reasons other than a severe energy supply interruption until the secretary of the Interior issues a plan to increase oil and gas production on federal lands and waters.

TIPRO CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER 18, 2022

HOUSTON — TIPRO/IPAA/HPF
"Leaders in Industry" Luncheon.

For information, email

info@houstonproducersforum.org.

NOVEMBER 15, 2022

HOUSTON — TIPRO/IPAA/HPF
"Leaders in Industry" Luncheon.

For information, email

info@houstonproducersforum.org.

JANUARY 17, 2023

HOUSTON — TIPRO/IPAA/HPF
"Leaders in Industry" Luncheon.

For information, email

info@houstonproducersforum.org.

Texas comptroller asks federal offices to evaluate economic impact of EPA Permian redesignation

Glenn Hegar, the state's comptroller, recently spoke out against plans being worked on by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that could lead to the Permian Basin being reclassified as out of compliance with National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).

In 2017, the EPA originally determined portions of the Permian Basin were in compliance with NAAQS for ozone, explained the comptroller, though in the spring of 2022, the EPA published its intent to revisit this decision and find the Permian Basin out of compliance with these same federal standards. Comptroller Hegar noted that the EPA has deemed its proposal "nonsignificant" so it can accelerate issuing a final decision and avoid a review of its impact on the Texas economy or jobs.

The impact of such a regulatory proposal to the economy, however, could be severe. The comptroller has warned that if the EPA finalizes its plan, it could impose burdensome permitting requirements on any facility that emits ozone, including oil and gas production facilities located in the Permian, a region responsible for producing 60 percent of the nation's oil and almost a quarter of its natural gas. In addition to stifling and costly new regulatory standards, the comptroller said the EPA's proposal also could deter regional job creation, delay new construction projects in the Permian Basin and reduce oil and natural gas development in West Texas.

As such, in mid-September, the comptroller sent requests to federal agency directors at the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) asking for additional economic reviews assessing the impact of the EPA's proposal.

"EPA's proposed reversal prioritizes Green New Deal politics over the jobs and the Texas economy," observed Comptroller Hegar. "This is exactly the type of bureaucratic red tape that has come to exemplify federal overreach coming out of Washington, D.C. All Americans are suffering from historic inflation while the Russian invasion in Ukraine and supply chain bottlenecks have created a global energy crisis. This tone-deaf proposal could raise gas prices nationwide, undercut our allies abroad and add to global supply chain issues."

As TIPRO has previously reported to members, other state leaders from Texas are also challenging the potential non-attainment designation of portions of the Texas Permian Basin by the EPA. Texas Governor Greg Abbott, U.S. Congressman August Pfluger (TX-11), and state lawmakers have repeatedly called on President Joe Biden to intervene and stop the EPA from taking discretionary action that would threaten oil and gas production in Texas and present unjustified economic harm. At an event last week, Texas House Speaker Dade Phelan (R-Beaumont) and State Representative Brooks Landgraf (R-Odessa) spoke to a crowd of oil and gas workers in Odessa about the potential non-attainment designation of portions of the Texas Permian Basin by regulators, criticizing the effort as federal overreach. "The EPA is acting against U.S. economic and national security interests, and, ironically, environmental interests as well," Representative Landgraf commented. "I'm thankful Speaker Phelan is fighting for Texas energy and defending the Permian Basin. When the game is on the line, you want your best players out on the field, so I'm thankful we have the speaker of the Texas House of Representatives on our team," he affirmed.

Reminder: Railroad Commission still accepting comments on Rule §3.65

Don't forget stakeholders have until Friday, October 7th to provide input to the Texas Railroad Commission on the agency's proposed amendments to 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §3.65, relating to *Critical Designation of Natural Gas Infrastructure*. The proposed rule amendments seek to simplify the rule language and process for designating certain natural gas facilities and entities critical during energy emergencies as specified in House Bill 3648 and Senate Bill 3 (adopted during the 87th Legislative Session):

- 16 TAC §3.65(a) — Provide more certainty regarding the definition of "energy emergency."
- 16 TAC §3.65(b)(1) — Amend the list of critical gas suppliers.
- 16 TAC §3.65(c), (e) and (f) — Revise requirements triggered by a critical gas supplier's inclusion on the electricity supply chain map produced by the Texas Electricity Supply Chain Security and Mapping Committee.

To view the proposed rule amendments and submit comments online on the rulemaking, TIPRO members may visit the Railroad Commission's website at <https://www.rrc.texas.gov/general-counsel/rules/proposed-rules/> under "Chapter 3: Oil and Gas."

Sunset Advisory Commission postpones next hearing until November 10th

Members of the Texas Sunset Advisory Commission will next meet in Austin on Thursday, November 10, the commission said, after announcing the panel was postponing its public hearing originally scheduled for October 12, 2022. During the November meeting, leaders of the Sunset Advisory Commission are expected to report final recommendations on the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), which is currently undergoing review by the state government.

Staff of the Sunset Advisory Commission published a report on the TCEQ in May that outlined recommendations to the Sunset Commission regarding the need for, performance of and improvements to the TCEQ. Inside of the report, Sunset staff agreed that the state has an ongoing need for the work performed by the agency and recommended the continuation of the TCEQ by the state legislature for another 12 years. Staff, however, did cite several suggestions to improve regulatory transparency, provide greater opportunities for public involvement and engagement, and revise existing policies to make TCEQ's compliance monitoring and enforcement processes better. The full report prepared by the staff of the Sunset Commission can be viewed at: <https://bit.ly/3Ce2Tqd>.

In June, the Sunset Advisory Commission heard public testimony on the TCEQ and was able to question and critique recommendations from the Sunset Commission's staff report. Next, the commission will meet in November to vote on its decisions on which statutory recommendations to propose to the full legislature and which management recommendations the agency should implement. The Texas Legislature then next spring will consider a Sunset bill filed on the TCEQ, which will follow the normal legislative process and be considered by the Texas House and Senate.



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Texas congressman files 'Protecting the Permian Basin' Act in defense of oil and gas industry

U.S. Representative August Pfluger (TX-11) recently introduced new legislation in Congress titled "*Protecting the Permian Basin Act*" to stand up for oil and gas workers. The bill specifically seeks to repeal a methane tax for oil and natural gas facilities that was included in the *Inflation Reduction Act* from August 2022, which would be applied to those facilities reporting more than 25,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent per year. Fees begin at \$900 per metric ton starting in 2024 and later are set to rise to \$1,500 at the beginning of 2026.

"The current worldwide energy crisis is so bad that Europeans have returned to the pre-industrial days of burning wood chips to heat their homes. In the United States, energy costs are so high that 1 in 6 families cannot afford to pay their utility bills. Even still, President Biden and Congressional Democrats are so indebted to their Green New Deal lobbyists that they buried a NEW tax on Permian producers in the recently-passed Inflation 'Expansion' Act. Oil and gas produced in the Permian Basin are essential to affordable, reliable, and secure energy. The *Protecting the Permian Basin Act* ensures that the entrepreneurs and innovators in West Texas will not be burdened by yet another needless and harmful tax," explained Congressman Pfluger.

Congressman Pfluger spoke on the House floor on Tuesday, September 20th about his Permian Basin resolution – TIPRO members may watch his remarks here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=19t3rNJ4kkU>.

Despite the important policy provisions included under the legislative act, 219 House Democrats last week voted to block consideration of Representative Pfluger's legislation.

New bill in Congress would form a subset of the SPR, called the "Economic Petroleum Reserve"

New legislation was introduced in the U.S. House during the last week of September that would give the federal government greater authority to protect American consumers from potential market control and manipulation by OPEC and Russia. The '*Buy Low and Sell High*' Act, proposed by House Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-New Jersey), would establish the Economic Petroleum Reserve, a subset of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR), and empower the Department of Energy (DOE) to buy oil when prices are low and sell oil when prices are high.

"Americans are tired of bearing the burden of our dependence on a volatile, unpredictable oil market controlled primarily by foreign dictators and adversaries. It's time for new, innovative solutions to keep bringing prices down, and that's where the Economic Petroleum Reserve comes in. By empowering DOE to buy oil when prices are low and sell when they are high, my bill helps us regain control of domestic gas prices and protects drivers from future price fluctuations," said Chairman Pallone.



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U.S. government reinstates bids from offshore Lease Sale 257 in the Gulf of Mexico

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) announced on September 14th that 307 of the highest valid bids from Lease Sale 257 in the Gulf of Mexico have been accepted, in compliance with congressional direction provided under the *Inflation Reduction Act* signed into law in August by President Joe Biden. Lease Sale 257, which was originally held in November 2021, had been invalidated this past January by a federal court after a judge determined that the administration needed to complete additional environmental analysis on the leasing plan's potential contributions to global greenhouse gas emissions. The offshore drilling auction, which in total generated nearly \$190 million in bids, was one of the largest ever, before the court system blocked its results.



After the BOEM restored bids from Lease Sale 257, U.S. Senator Joe Manchin (D-West Virginia), chairman of the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, issued a statement commending the news, which he said would help deliver more American energy production. "The *Inflation Reduction Act* requires the Department of the Interior to issue these offshore leases and I am pleased they have done so, bringing in nearly \$190 million in bids," stated Chairman Manchin. "Our federal oil and gas leasing programs are critical to American energy security, and these offshore leases will provide the market signals necessary to help ease the pain Americans are feeling from record inflation and high energy prices. Our allies across the free world are also in desperate need of American oil and gas – which is among the cleanest produced in the world. I made sure the *Inflation Reduction Act* reinstated this lease sale to ensure we are able to provide our domestically produced energy, and I look forward to working with the Department of Interior and the entire Administration to continue implementing the *Inflation Reduction Act* policies to benefit all Americans."

Lease Sale 257 is the only offshore lease sale to be held by the Biden Administration. The White House is currently working to overhaul the federal oil and gas leasing program, and has yet to finalize a new Five-Year Offshore Leasing Plan. Over the summer, the Interior Department published its Proposed Program for the 2023-2028 National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program. The proposed program for federal offshore leasing includes no more than ten potential lease sales in the Gulf of Mexico and an option for one potential lease sale in the northern portion of the Cook Inlet of Alaska. The program, as proposed, also leaves open the possibility of the U.S. government not opening any areas to leasing. Public comments are still being accepted through Thursday, October 6th by the Interior Department – to submit input on the proposed five-year leasing program, navigate to <http://www.regulations.gov> and under the Search tab, in the space provided, type in Docket ID: BOEM-2022-0031. Or go directly to: <https://www.regulations.gov/search?filter=BOEM-2022-0031>. To date, more than 6,000 letters have been posted by the public commenting on the administration's plans for administering the federal leasing program offshore for oil and gas resources.

Biden Administration moves to tighten regulatory standards under offshore well control rule

The Department of the Interior, through the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE), in September issued a new regulatory proposal seeking to expand the federal well control rule for offshore drilling. The rule would restore 2016 Obama-era safety provisions for offshore drilling put in place after the 2010 BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill, apply more technical requirements for blowout prevention systems, mandate faster failure investigations and require companies to send failure data directly to the government instead of third parties. "This proposed rulemaking will help ensure that offshore energy development utilizes the latest science and technology to keep people safe," commented Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland.

In 2019, the Trump Administration changed the rule to roll back certain governing regulatory requirements, but now, the Biden Administration is seeking to undo those changes and expand BSEE oversight of offshore operations. "Protecting human lives and the environment has always been BSEE's highest priority, and this proposed rulemaking will further ensure safe and environmentally responsible offshore energy production," said BSEE Director Kevin Sligh Sr. "These proposed revisions to the Well Control Rule are the result of knowledge and experience gained by stakeholders and BSEE since the 2019 rule was implemented. They will protect workers' lives and the environment from the potentially devastating effects of blowouts and offshore oil spills."

Members of the public have until November 14, 2022, to offer comments on the proposed rulemaking. Comments may be submitted via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

LNG imports in the U.S. drop to lowest levels recorded in 15 years

Imports of liquefied natural gas (LNG) into the U.S. have plunged to the lowest amounts recorded in the past 15 years, reports the U.S. government, as expanding energy infrastructure and higher domestic production have lowered the country's need to bring in LNG supplies.

U.S. LNG imports peaked in April 2007 at 3.3 billion cubic feet per day (Bcf/d), 26 percent of total natural gas imports, according to figures released this week by the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA). Since 2007, LNG imports have fallen significantly while production of natural gas in the United States has grown by nearly 80 percent. Rising construction of pipeline infrastructure and associated facilities also has helped drive trends, and improved the transport of natural gas supplies from producing regions to consumption centers.

LNG imports usually spike in the winter months (October–March), and most natural gas imported into the United States comes by pipeline from Canada, notes the EIA. "Last winter, LNG imports averaged 0.1 Bcf/d, which is significantly lower than in the winter of 2006–07, when LNG imports peaked at an average of 1.8 Bcf/d. As a share of U.S. natural gas imports, LNG accounted for less than 1 percent in 2021, compared with 17 percent in 2007."

Throughout the first six months of 2022, U.S. LNG imports averaged 0.08 Bcf/d, compared with the five-year (2017–21) average of 0.2 Bcf/d for the same period.

Energy costs to stay high this Winter as inventories remain low, forecasts EIA

As the winter season approaches, energy experts at the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) say consumers are likely to have to pay more to heat their homes with natural gas given mounting market constraints.

This year, natural gas consumption is expected to grow by 3.6 billion cubic feet per day (Bcf/d) in the United States and projected to average 86.6 Bcf/d for the year, the most annual U.S. natural gas consumption on record, according to the EIA. U.S. natural gas consumption is rising in all end-use sectors this year, with the U.S. electric power sector specifically growing its share of consumption by 4 percent in 2022 to 32.1 Bcf/d, exceeding the 2020 record by 1 percent, which is the highest growth rate among all sectors.

High levels of demand and consumption will cause inventories of natural gas in the U.S. by the end of October to be approximately 7 percent below the previous five-year average, calculates the EIA. Surging use of natural gas both at home and abroad is also likely to persist throughout the Winter months, forecasts the EIA, which will drive energy prices up for consumers.

"There are limited options for replacing natural gas in the short term, especially for electricity generation," said EIA Administrator Joe DeCarolis.

As a result of market conditions, new projections from the EIA show the U.S. natural gas spot price at the Henry Hub will reach a monthly average of \$9.10 per million British thermal units in January 2023, before prices come back down in the spring as U.S. natural gas production rises.

Volatile prices for natural gas were also of concern during last Winter's heating season, when federal officials projected U.S. households that use natural gas to heat their homes would spend on average 30 percent more. The nation's oil and gas industry has faulted the Biden Administration for high heating expenses due to its poor policy leadership, which has made it harder for U.S. producers to supply oil and natural gas.

Longtime Occidental Petroleum executive and industry leader Stephen Chazen dies

Stephen Chazen, a longtime industry veteran with over 30 years of oil and gas experience and the former leader of Occidental Petroleum, passed away Thursday, September 22, after an illness. He was 76.

Days prior to his passing, Chazen stepped down from his role as chairman, president and chief executive officer of Magnolia Oil and Gas Corporation, a publicly traded E&P company he helped found in 2018, citing serious health concerns.

In a statement, Magnolia Oil and Gas' new president and CEO Chris Stavros, who replaced Chazen, called Chazen a transformative leader who held a great passion for the energy business. "We are greatly saddened by Steve's passing, and extend our thoughts and sympathies to his family. As Magnolia's founder, Steve has left an indelible mark on the company, the oil and gas industry and the greater Houston community. Professionally, Steve had a profound impact on how E&P companies are managed with an objective of creating long-lasting shareholder value. He was the type of businessman who didn't follow trends, but rather established trends. Steve always had a great affinity for investors and enjoyed interacting with them."

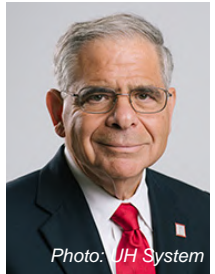


Photo: JH System

Before founding Magnolia Oil and Gas, Chazen spent much of his career working for Occidental Petroleum. He served as president and CEO of Occidental from 2011 to 2016. He joined Oxy as executive vice president-corporate development in 1994 and until his death, still served as independent chairman, a position he held since 2020.

"Steve played a significant role in transforming Oxy into a focused global energy leader over the past 30 years, serving as chief financial officer, CEO and most recently as independent board chairman," current company CEO Vicki Hollub said in a statement.

Chazen, who was also a member of TIPRO from 2000-2013, was a former chairman of the board of the American Petroleum Institute and part of the Board of Advisors of Rice University's Baker Institute and the Board of Regents of the University of Houston. He was also a director of Houston Methodist Institute for Academic Medicine, the Williams Companies and the National Park Foundation.

TIPRO mourns the loss of oil and gas lawyer and longstanding member Glenn Johnson

Glenn E. Johnson, a long-term member of the Texas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners Association (TIPRO) from 1987 until 2020, passed away this summer. Johnson led a well-respected legal career as an oil and gas attorney, becoming one of the leading lawyers in the state of Texas in his field.

Upon graduation from law school, Johnson started his career working as a hearings examiner for the Texas Railroad Commission. He later began the practice of oil and gas and energy law for Graves, Daugherty, Heron and Moody. In 2001, Johnson joined Kelly, Hart and Hallman, where he worked until the time of his death. His professional accomplishments have been recognized and honored by his inclusion in Best Lawyers in America since 1995. He was also named as a "Super Lawyer" in administrative law in 2004 and thereafter, as published in *Texas Monthly* magazine. In 2021, he received the Ernest E. Smith Lifetime Achievement Award from the *Texas Journal of Oil, Gas and Energy Law*.

Hurricane Ian forces offshore oil and gas operators to evacuate platforms and rigs

Following an unusually quiet hurricane season so far in 2022, monster Hurricane Ian this week rapidly strengthened into a powerful Category 4 storm before slamming into the west coast of Florida on Wednesday, September 28. Leading up to Ian's landfall, the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) reported 11 production platforms and five drilling rigs located offshore in the Gulf of Mexico were evacuated as a precaution by offshore oil and gas operators. Based on data from offshore operator reports submitted as of mid-day on September 27, BSEE estimated that approximately 11 percent of the current oil production and 8.56 percent of the natural gas production in the Gulf of Mexico was shut-in. In wake of the storm's passage, offshore oil and gas facilities were being inspected for any weather-related damage caused by Hurricane Ian.

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