



**Texas
Independent
Producers and
Royalty Owners
Association**

Appeals court ruling forces BOEM to move forward with offshore oil and natural gas lease sale

The Biden Administration must proceed with oil and gas offshore Lease Sale 261 in the Gulf of Mexico, a federal appeals court ruled in mid-November, settling a months-long battle over the U.S. government's next planned offshore leasing auction. As a result of a court order issued by the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit on November 14, 2023, which mandates that the lease sale happen within 37 days of the circuit court's ruling, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) said it will hold Lease Sale 261 before the end of the year on December 20, 2023. In a victory for the oil and gas industry, the BOEM will include lease blocks that were previously excluded from the initial lease sale due to concerns regarding potential impacts to the Rice's whale population in the Gulf of Mexico. Pursuant to the court's ruling, the BOEM will also remove portions of a related stipulation meant to address those potential impacts from the lease terms for any leases that may result from Lease Sale 261.

As TIPRO has previously reported, Lease Sale 261 originally had been scheduled for September 27, 2023, and was later postponed by the BOEM to November 8, 2023. However, as legal challenges in regards to the leasing sale were reviewed further by federal appeals courts, the BOEM announced on November 2nd it would delay the lease sale until further direction was provided by the judicial branch, since the agency was not able to be certain of which areas or stipulations may be included in the lease sale.

For the past several months, TIPRO has been monitoring this issue closely on behalf of the association's membership and stepped in as a voice for non-parties to the litigation in a declaration filed with the court effectively countering the government's argument and expressing the desire of its members to move forward with the sale on terms consistent with the original *Five-Year Leasing Plan of 2017* and the *Inflation Reduction Act* approved by Congress in August 2022.

TIPRO members may find additional background material on the offshore lease sale below:

- [5th Circuit Court Dismisses Intervenor Appeal and Amends Injunction](#)
- [Government Emergency Motion for Partial Stay](#)
- [Response to Emergency Stay Motions](#)
- [Exhibit A TIPRO Declaration](#)
- [Fifth Circuit Emergency Stay](#)
- ["Reduction in Gulf of Mexico oil and gas leasing could devastate global energy security: markets"](#)

To see the updated Final Notice of Sale (FNOS) for Gulf of Mexico Oil and Gas Lease Sale 261 and a map of the lease sale area, please visit www.boem.gov/sale-261.

Texas' Education Board votes against textbooks incorrectly or negatively representing fossil fuels

In mid-November, the Texas State Board of Education voted to reject science textbooks for use in public schools that feature incorrect or negative depictions of the oil and gas industry and fossil fuels.

Statewide, there are more than 1,000 independent school districts in Texas and while none are obligated under education laws to use textbooks that have been approved by the Texas State Education Board, reports the *Associated Press*, the endorsements and approval of resources by the state board have a heavy influence and remain important as books picked by the board are guaranteed to comply with state standards and are regularly used to reinforce curriculums that are followed in Texas classrooms.

One of Texas' regulators of the oil and gas industry, Wayne Christian, applauded the board's decision supporting fair treatment of the industry in textbooks used by Texas students. "Students need to learn about fossil fuels and real-world energy, where it comes from, how it works, and most importantly how it creates a better world," Commissioner Christian said in a statement. "America's future generations don't need a leftist agenda brainwashing them in the classroom to hate oil and natural gas. Our economy needs STEM students that understand the difference between dispatchable, reliable power and intermittent, unreliable power. Fossil fuels help power 80 percent of global energy, make 96 percent of consumer items, finance our state and national economies, and feed billions of people all over the world. The Texas State Board of Education did the right thing by rejecting radical environmentalist propaganda on 'net zero' and ensuring our students learn the benefits of fossil fuels."

In early November, Commissioner Christian sent a [letter](#) to the State Board of Education pushing for the agency to vote to approve books for schoolchildren that include the benefits of Texas oil and natural gas production. The commissioner in his letter urged education officials to select books that will be used by students in the 2024-2025 school year which promote the importance of fossil fuels, especially to human society and the economy, and deny any materials painting a negative or harmful picture of the industry that also contribute to general misunderstanding of oil and natural gas.

Chairman’s message

TIPRO members,

Have you noticed an increasing number of articles and discussions pertaining to deteriorating well performance and dwindling inventory? I have as well, and they are real challenges that our industry is working to solve. At the same time, those of us who have been in this industry for more than a few decades have heard it all before. For me, it was 1999 and I was an intern at Union Pacific Resources. I had an excellent set of mentors and projects to work on that summer, but I distinctly remember one of the geologists telling me that I should think about what I wanted to do in 20 or 30 years because the world was going to run out of oil! Six years later, I was on location near the town of Toyah in Reeves County, Texas, where Chesapeake Energy cut a continuous core from the top of the Bone Spring formation through the base of the Woodford Shale. Upon evaluation, that core revealed a staggering amount of gas in place, spanning thousands of feet across multiple unconventional reservoirs. One trillion cubic feet of gas per square mile! Fast forward another 20 years and Reeves County has been transformed by billions of dollars of capital investment, focused on getting those hydrocarbons to market. We have advanced our technical ability to extract increasing quantities of that oil and gas, but we are still leaving quite a bit of it behind in the small pore throats and areas of the reservoir that we can’t fully access. Even with our transformative progress, it’s easy to forget how far we have come and how creative and resilient we have had to be.

The difference this time is a false narrative purporting peak oil demand will arrive in a few short years as the world magically displaces oil, and to an extent natural gas, with nascent renewable technology. A few days ago, the International Energy Agency (IEA) published a report entitled “The Oil and Gas Industry in Net Zero Transitions” that stated the oil and gas industry faces a “moment of truth” where it must “choose between fueling the climate crisis or embrace the shift to clean energy.” OPEC Secretary General Haitham Al Ghais had a lengthy and effective response that included, “It is ironic that the IEA, an agency that has repeatedly shifted its narratives and forecasts on a regular basis in recent years, now addresses the oil and gas industry and says that this is a ‘moment of truth’. The manner in which the IEA has unfortunately used its social media platforms in recent days to criticize and instruct the oil and gas industry is undiplomatic, to say the least.” Al Ghais goes on to further frame the reality, “...energy challenges before us are enormous and complex.” Indeed, our growing need for reliable, affordable, abundant energy sources will undoubtedly grow over the next several decades.

Oil demand is not going down, and it is certainly not going to zero, anytime soon. After a decade of capital starvation, we should all be concerned about meeting demand in the future. The great news is we have an industry that is up for the challenge and natural resources, particularly here in Texas, which give us a fighting chance. Two major themes will develop over the next several years. First, operators will pivot to what are currently secondary and tertiary targets within prolific basins. While less economic than primary targets right now, advances in technology and necessity will elevate these projects to the point that they are economically viable. Second, enhancements in completion and production techniques will allow operators to circle back to areas that have been deemed “depleted.” I agree with former TIPRO Chairman and Enverus (formerly DrillingInfo) founder Allen Gilmer who was recently quoted in [Forbes](#) saying that the Permian Basin basically amounts to “an inexhaustible resource” for the United States. The old “pecan theory” that a veteran geologist taught me years ago still holds up. If you want to gather pecans, go find a big pecan tree. If you want to find oil and gas, go drill in a place that has produced lots of oil and gas. We will keep coming back to the prolific producing basins in Texas for many decades to come.

I wish you all a blessed holiday season and look forward to a productive and active 2024. Thank you for your contributions to our industry and your support of TIPRO.

Jud Walker

Save the date for the first ‘Leaders in Industry’ luncheon of 2024, happening January 16th!

Mark your calendar for the first ‘Leaders in Industry’ luncheon scheduled in the new year. The luncheon series, hosted by the Texas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners Association (TIPRO), Independent Petroleum Association of America (IPAA) and Houston Producers Forum (HPF) each month at the Petroleum Club of Houston, features important discussions from leading industry executives around trends impacting the oil and natural gas industry, as well as insights on financial, regulatory and geopolitical factors affecting energy companies today. In addition to thoughtful commentary by presenters at each of the luncheons, the event also provides networking time with other professionals and allows attendees to form connections with decision-makers.

Plan to attend the next luncheon on Tuesday, January 16, which will include remarks from Ben Marshall, president and CEO of Vitol Americas. In addition to his leadership position with Vitol in the Americas, Marshall is a member of the company’s executive committee and the Vitol Group Board. Before his current role, he served as a global head of Naphtha at Vitol and head of trading for the Americas. He joined Vitol in 2011 from ExxonMobil, where during his 13-year tenure, he held a variety of manufacturing and business management roles in refining, chemicals and polymers. Marshall holds a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering from Louisiana State University.

Find additional details on the event and get your ticket [here](#).

TIPRO CALENDAR OF EVENTS		
JANUARY 16, 2024 HOUSTON — TIPRO/IPAA/HPF “Leaders in Industry” Luncheon. For information, email info@houstonproducersforum.org .	FEBRUARY 7-9, 2024 HOUSTON — 2024 NAPE Summit and Expo. For information, email info@NAPEexpo.com .	FEBRUARY 20, 2024 HOUSTON — TIPRO/IPAA/HPF “Leaders in Industry” Luncheon. For information, email info@houstonproducersforum.org .

TCEQ to host stakeholder meeting on implementation of Climate Reduction Grant

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) earlier this year received a federal grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for statewide planning to reduce climate pollution. The grant has been provided under the EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) program, created as part of the *Inflation Reduction Act*. This program consists of two phases. As part of Phase I, Texas has been awarded grant funding to develop a plan that lowers greenhouse gases and air pollution within the state. Six Texas metropolitan areas have also received Phase I grants from the EPA, including Austin, Dallas and Fort Worth, Houston, El Paso, McAllen and San Antonio. Texas will be able to apply for additional funding and implementation grants in Phase II of the EPA's CPRG program.

The TCEQ is planning to conduct an in-person stakeholder meeting on Thursday, December 7, 2023, at the agency's headquarters in Austin to present a program overview, answer questions and facilitate a discussion with stakeholders for input on the TCEQ's priority action plan. For meeting details and to sign up for updates on CPRG planning activities, visit the following webpage: <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/agency/climate-pollution-reduction-grants>.

Special election runoff set for Texas House District 2

Texas Governor Greg Abbott has ordered a special runoff election to be held in Texas State House of Representatives District 2 on Tuesday, January 30, 2024, for the purpose of electing a state representative to serve out the unexpired term of former state Representative Bryan Slaton, which is set to end in January 2025. Early voting for the special runoff will begin on Monday, January 22, 2024.

Slaton resigned his seat in the Texas House this past May after an investigation determined that he had engaged in an inappropriate relationship with a 19-year-old intern on his staff. Prior to his resignation from office, the House General Investigating Committee had recommended that Slaton be dismissed from the legislature due to his conduct and to protect the integrity and dignity of the legislative body as well as provide accountability to those who work and serve in the state capitol. One day after the Royse City Republican submitted his resignation, the House still voted unanimously 147-0 for Slaton's formal expulsion from the state legislature, making him the first state representative to be expelled from the body since 1927.

After a six-way special election was held on November 7, in conjunction with Texas' General Election, Republican candidates Brent Money and Jill Dutton advanced to the runoff for the position representing District 2 in the Texas House. House District 2 encompasses Hopkins, Hunt and Van Zandt counties in North Texas, and is east of Dallas.

Several Texas congressional seats will open as longtime leaders choose not to seek re-election

In next year's election, there will be several congressional seats opening in North Texas, after senior lawmakers from the Lone Star State have announced they will not continue to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives once their terms are completed.

Republican Congressman Michael Burgess, who represents Texas' 26th congressional district covering parts of Denton, Cooke, Tarrant and Wise Counties, has announced he plans to retire when his term expires at the end of next year. Burgess has been a member of Congress for over 20 years and currently serves on the House Energy and Commerce Committee and the House Budget Committee, and also is vice chairman of the House Rules Committee. At age 72, the congressman said he didn't want to hold on to power too long, and his age was part of his decision to not run again for office.

Kay Granger of Fort Worth, who leads the powerful House Appropriations Committee as chair, also announced earlier this month that she won't seek re-election to the U.S. House of Representatives in 2024. "Serving my community has been the greatest honor, and I have always fought to improve the lives of my constituents. As the first female mayor of Fort Worth, first Republican United States Congresswoman from Texas, and the first female Republican Appropriations chair, I have been able to accomplish more in this life than I could have imagined, and I owe it all to my incredible family, staff, friends, and supporters," commented Congresswoman Granger. "As I announce my decision to not seek re-election, I am encouraged by the next generation of leaders in my district. It's time for the next generation to step up and take the mantle and be a strong and fierce representative for the people."

Additionally, Congressman Colin Allred (TX-32) of the 32nd Congressional District, which covers northeastern Dallas County, is leaving his seat in the House up for grabs next year as he challenges Republican Senator for Texas Ted Cruz for his spot in the U.S. Senate in the 2024 election.

Former president, chairman and CEO of Goldston Oil, Jack Mayfield, Jr., passes away



Jack Hastings Mayfield, Jr., the former president, chairman and chief executive officer of Goldston Oil Corporation, passed away this month at the age of 86. Mayfield, who was born in New Orleans and raised in Houston, earned a B.S. in geology from the University of Oklahoma, and a M.S. in geology from the University of Texas. A man known for his hard work and dedication, during his long business career, Mayfield worked as a geologist and served in other roles related to petroleum exploration and production. He also was involved in banking and real estate.

Mayfield was a member of the Independent Petroleum Association of America (IPAA), American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG), Texas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners Association (TIPRO), the Petroleum Club of Houston and Houston Country Club.

There will be a memorial service remembering Mayfield at St. Martin's Episcopal Church in January 2024.

Group of more than 25 states renews legal fight over latest 'Waters of the United States' rule

A total of 26 states and a group of agriculture interests are reengaging legal challenges against the Biden Administration's 'Waters of the United States' (WOTUS) rule, complaining the revised definition which establishes federal jurisdiction over regulated bodies of water in the United States still fails to address a range of regulatory flaws.

On August 29, 2023, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Department of the Army (the agencies) issued a final rule amending the "Revised Definition of 'Waters of the United States'" rule, which was published in the [Federal Register](#) on January 18, 2023. This final rule conforms the definition of "waters of the United States" to the U.S. Supreme Court's May 25, 2023, decision in the case of *Sackett v. EPA*, since parts of the January 2023 rule were deemed invalid under the Supreme Court's interpretation of the Clean Water Act in the [Sackett decision](#).

The latest regulatory changes made to the WOTUS rule were completed without the agencies conducting a public comment period. In an amended complaint filed in the U.S. District Court for the District of North Dakota, the coalition of states fighting the Biden Administration's WOTUS rule argued that by not providing a public comment period before releasing the amended final WOTUS rule, the EPA and Department of Army violated the Administrative Procedure Act. The states also argue the amended WOTUS rule violates the Clean Water Act as well as the Constitution, and therefore they have asked the court to vacate the rule and send it back to the EPA. "The amended final rule, that is the final rule as modified by the conforming rule, remains riddled with problems," the states said in the legal complaint. The states are Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia and Wyoming. Two other states, Texas and Idaho, have filed a separate amended complaint in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas.

Otherwise, in mid-November, over 70 U.S. representatives jointly sent a letter to EPA Administrator Michael Regan and Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works Michael Connor regarding the lack of clarity on the agencies' updated regulatory definition of WOTUS. Though federal lawmakers acknowledge that the Biden Administration has altered its definition of WOTUS to meet the Supreme Court's ruling on *Sackett vs. EPA*, officials still said they were concerned with confusion and lack of clarity that continues to exist with regards to the terms of WOTUS.

"It is imperative that landowners clearly understand where the bright line of federal jurisdiction lies. Clean Water Act violations carry significant criminal and civil penalties meaning that farmers, ranchers and small business owners could face jail time and thousands of dollars in fines a day for making changes to their property," members wrote in their letter. "Our constituents deserve certainty and safeguards from federal government regulations dictating how they use their land. The latest action by the Biden Administration is a poor attempt to bring their illegal WOTUS rule in-line with the *Sackett* decision and it continues to use ambiguous terms in a calculated manner in order to expand their regulatory authority. Our nation's farmers, ranchers and rural communities deserve better," concluded lawmakers.

Signers of the letter from Texas include Representatives August Pfluger (TX-11), Ronny Jackson (TX-13), Monica De La Cruz (TX-15), Beth Van Duyne (TX-24), Roger Williams (TX-25) and John "Judge" Carter (TX-31).

TIPRO members may read the full letter [here](#).

International Working Group to establish consistent framework to measuring, monitoring, reporting and verifying greenhouse gas emissions across the natural gas supply chain

The U.S. Department of Energy announced on November 15th a new international working group will be formed to advance comparable and reliable information between global partners about greenhouse gas emissions across the natural gas supply chain. In an effort to drive global emissions reductions, the working group will develop a consistent framework for the measurement, monitoring, reporting and verification (MMRV) of methane, carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions that occur during the production, processing, transmission, liquefaction, transport and distribution of natural gas.

Because there currently is no broad universal agreement for how companies can credibly account for and verify claims regarding greenhouse emissions associated with their natural gas in the marketplace, there are limitations to buyers' abilities to require producers to reduce emissions and sellers' abilities to compete on the basis of a lower greenhouse gas profile, reasoned Energy Department officials. As such, the MMRV Working Group will create a shared and broadly credible global framework for estimating greenhouse gas emissions across the international supply chain for natural gas that can be used by both buyers and sellers, or by individual governments. With input from a diverse group of industry, environmental and technical stakeholders from the United States and around the world, the MMRV Working Group will collaborate to develop products such as guidance, tools and protocols for voluntary use in natural gas markets.

"While there is extensive activity underway within the United States and other countries to measure, monitor, report, verify, and ultimately reduce methane and carbon dioxide emissions associated with natural gas production and use, there is a pressing need to provide comparable and reliable information on emissions to the marketplace," said Brad Crabtree, assistant secretary of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management at the Energy Department. "The MMRV Working Group will forge agreement among importing and exporting countries on a transparent and credible framework that will help provide suppliers, buyers, investors, and policymakers the information they need to help drive continuous reductions in greenhouse gas emissions over time across the international natural gas supply chain."

It is important to note that the MMRV framework is not a regulatory process and countries and regions participating in its development are not committing to use of it in a regulatory process. Instead, the MMRV framework is intended to improve the accuracy, completeness, and transparency of reported emissions in the marketplace and drive emission reductions across the natural gas supply chain.

Additional information on the MMRV working group can be found [here](#).

SAVE THE DATE

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The Texas oil and natural gas industry remains resilient, though the next year will bring new regulatory challenges and ongoing market volatility. Join TIPRO in Fort Worth in March for important discussions with industry executives and state officials on factors affecting the state's energy industry.

See more details on the 2024 TIPRO Convention at www.tipro.org!

EU passes law to reduce energy sector emissions in Europe and across global supply chains

The European Union this month reached a deal on new regulations that aim to slash energy sector methane emissions in Europe and across global supply chains. The agreement will oblige the oil, gas and coal industry operating in European nations to properly measure, monitor, report and verify their methane emissions according to the highest monitoring standards and take action to reduce them. Further, the new rules will push the oil, gas and coal industry in the EU to tackle emissions related to imports. A methane transparency database will be established where data on methane emissions reported by importers and EU operators will be made available to the public. New profiles will also be created showing methane performance of countries and companies to allow importers to make informed choices on their energy imports.

"This landmark agreement will allow us to seriously tackle the energy sector's greenhouse gas emissions in the EU and beyond. This first-of-its-kind regulation enables the EU to curb methane emissions in a cost-effective manner, and address venting and flaring of gas, which make economically and environmentally little sense. This will benefit our planet and will also avoid wasted resources in tight global gas markets," said Kadri Simson, commissioner for energy.

Many Texas producers are already operating at the EU's new standard through several initiatives and certification programs, including the [Texas Methane & Flaring Coalition](#), [the Oil & Gas Methane Partnership 2.0](#), [the Oil and Gas Climate Initiative](#), [the Environmental Partnership](#) and the [World Bank's Zero Routine Flaring pledge](#), among others, highlighted Ed Longanecker, president of the Texas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners Association (TIPRO). "The U.S. oil and natural gas industry will continue to face growing demands from domestic and international markets to minimize methane emissions from the supply chain. This has been a key and strategic area of focus for many prominent Texas operators for years that provides an opportunity to lower emissions, access purchasers seeking certified low emissions oil and natural gas and to obtain preferred capital and financing through debt and equity investors who either require or provide preferential terms for low emissions producers," said Longanecker. "For years now, Texas operators have been working to reduce flaring and methane emissions, implementing responsible operation practices across their business. Their concerted and continuous efforts are evident in the successful reduction of flaring and methane intensity in the Permian Basin, state of Texas and United States as a whole."

President signs stopgap funding bill, keeping the government funded until after the new year

Members of Congress in mid-November passed another continuing resolution that will keep the federal government funded at current levels into the start of the new year. H.R. 6363, the "*Further Continuing Appropriations and Other Extensions Act, 2024*," was signed by President Joe Biden on November 16, 2023, and will extend funding in the Agriculture, Energy and Water, Transportation, Military-Construction/Veterans, Housing and Urban Development appropriation bills until January 19, 2024, and extends the remaining government funding through February 4, 2024.



The legislation was approved at a pivotal moment, as a November 17th deadline quickly approached that would have caused government funding to run out. Though the continuing resolution will give officials more time to work through differences on the critical appropriations bill, after the holidays, lawmakers will still have to reach a compromise on long-term federal funding, something that has been increasingly challenging in recent months.

About the appropriations bill, U.S. Senator Ted Cruz from Texas said, "For months, I have been calling on Senate Republicans to support the efforts of our House Republican colleagues, so we can work together and present a united front in our negotiations with President Biden and Democrats over federal spending... The House just recently selected Mike Johnson as speaker, and when he looked at the looming government shutdown he made the responsible decision to move the deadline until after the holidays. While I hate funding the government through continuing resolutions, Congress is notorious for greenlighting serious spending increases and radical policy changes last-minute, right before Christmas, when members of Congress simply want to leave town and will agree to nearly anything in order to do so," Senator Cruz continued. "Speaker Johnson's plan lowers the temperature, giving Republicans the opportunity to work together and agree on more responsible appropriations bills as they negotiate with the White House. I think it's a sound proposal from our new speaker, so I supported it."

Other members of the Texas congressional delegation, however, remained firmly opposed to the continuing resolution, pushing for the government to take meaningful action now to lower spending and address fiscal policy issues, rather than pushing such decisions to a later date. U.S. Representatives John Carter (TX-31), Michael Cloud (TX-27), Pat Fallon (TX-4), Tony Gonzales (TX-23), Lance Gooden (TX-5), Wesley Hunt (TX-38), Morgan Luttrell (TX-8), Nathaniel Moran (TX-1), Chip Roy (TX-21), Keith Self (TX-3), Beth Van Duyne (TX-24), Randy Weber (TX-14) and Roger Williams (TX-25) voted against the bill — just over half the state's GOP delegation.

"Continuing resolutions are no way to govern and, in this case, extended the massive overspending and woke policy initiatives of the last Pelosi omnibus without any serious reforms attached. [The resolution] offered nothing to address the many issues plaguing our country right now, including fixing inflation, securing our border, and reining in the bureaucracy in Washington. I simply cannot support a continuation of the status quo without real spending reforms or policy fixes," said Congressman Cloud in a statement.

"The American people cannot afford the status quo. Our nation is \$33.6 trillion in debt, and our border is exploding. It is imperative we change the direction our nation is headed," advised Congressman Weber. "We need policy change, border security, and to restore fiscal sanity, not continue the same reckless spending. That is exactly why I voted against this continuing resolution. I will continue to fight for change for Texans and the American people."

EPA makes updates to regulations governing state plans for existing sources

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently finalized updates to federal regulations governing the timelines and other requirements for state plans to limit pollution from existing sources under section 111(d) of the Clean Air Act. The regulations, known as the "Implementing Regulations," apply to states that must submit plans for existing sources of pollution covered by emissions guidelines that were published in the Federal Register after July 8, 2019.

This final rule is effective on December 18, 2023. Additional information and a fact sheet can be found [here](#).

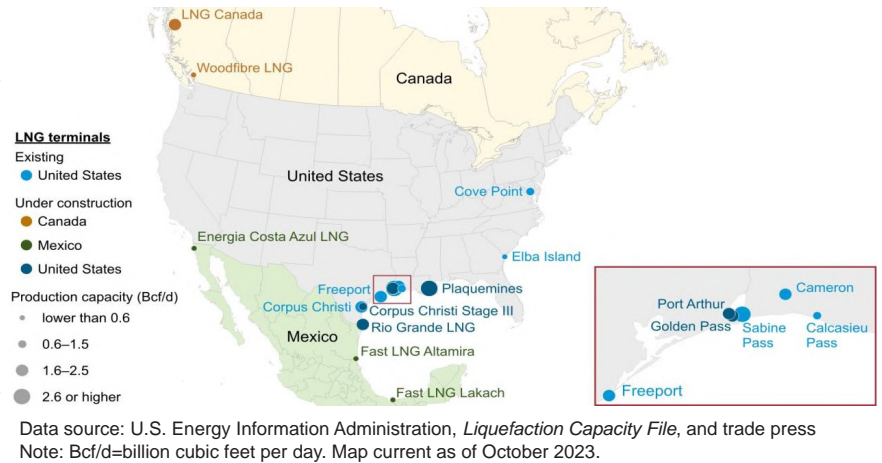
U.S. LNG export capacity forecasted to grow by 9.7 Bcf/d in next four years

New liquefied natural gas (LNG) projects under construction are expected to add a combined 9.7 billion cubic feet per day (Bcf/d) of LNG export capacity in the United States by the end of 2027, according to a new report by the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA). In a November 13th analysis, the EIA said there are five LNG export projects currently being built in the United States—Golden Pass, Plaquemines, Corpus Christi Stage III, Rio Grande, and Port Arthur—that together will significantly increase LNG export capacity in America. All of the LNG terminals are located along the Gulf Coast.

Based on public announcements and regulatory filings by project developers, LNG exports from Golden Pass LNG and Plaquemines LNG are expected to start in 2024, which would contribute to increasing LNG exports from the U.S. next year. The Golden Pass trains are being built at an existing LNG import terminal in Texas that will be converted into an LNG export facility. This project, which is a joint venture between ExxonMobil and QatarGas, consists of three trains, each with 0.68 Bcf/d of nominal capacity, or 0.80 Bcf/d of peak capacity. According to filings with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), developers plan to bring Trains 1 and 2 into service during the second and fourth quarters of 2024, respectively. Developers plan to bring Train 3 online in the first quarter of 2025. Otherwise, Plaquemines LNG Phase 1 is a Venture Global project located in Louisiana. Phase 1 consists of 9 blocks, each containing 2 liquefaction trains for a total of 18 liquefaction trains with a combined nominal capacity of 1.3 Bcf/d, or peak capacity of 1.6 Bcf/d. According to FERC filings, developers plan to bring Phase 1 online by the end of 2024 and expect to start LNG production in August 2024. The EIA estimates Golden Pass Trains 1 and 2 and Plaquemines Phase 1 will add a total of 2.7 Bcf/d of nominal LNG export capacity, or 3.2 Bcf/d of peak capacity. By the end of 2024, U.S. LNG nominal liquefaction capacity will increase to 14.1 Bcf/d and peak capacity to 17.0 Bcf/d across the nine U.S. LNG export facilities.

America's trading partners Canada and Mexico are also building additional LNG export capacity, with LNG export capacity expected to grow by 1.1 Bcf/d in Mexico and 2.1 Bcf/d in Canada by the end of 2027, estimates the EIA. Combined with the United States, North American LNG export capacity is expected to grow by 113 percent, calculates the EIA, reaching 24.3 Bcf/d in the next four years.

North America liquefied natural gas export facilities, existing and under construction (2016–2027)



OPEC+ agrees to deeper oil production cuts

After delaying a key November meeting over division on production quotas, oil producers from OPEC (Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries) and allies reached an agreement on Thursday, November 30th to make additional reductions to oil supplies beginning early next year amid concerns of a potential market surplus. According to reports, delegates from OPEC+ — who pump more than 40 percent of the world's oil — will deepen production cuts by nearly 2 million barrels per day (bpd) in 2024, including Saudi Arabia extending a voluntary cut of 1 million bpd it has had in place since the summer.

In wake of OPEC's decision, oil prices were pushed up. As the consortium of some of the world's largest producers lowers the amount of oil sent to global markets, analysts indicate oil prices could remain elevated. "Production increases in the U.S., Guyana and Brazil will soften the blow caused by OPEC's announced production cuts but that doesn't mean consumers in the U.S. won't feel some sting from this at the pump," KPMG U.S. energy leader Angie Gildea told *Yahoo Finance* following the announcement. "Further, even though weaker global economic expectations have been keeping prices relatively low right now, it just takes one wildcard event to disrupt the market and put us back in a tight supply situation that could send prices back up," added Gildea.

"Under TIPRO members' christmas tree from the labs at the Department of Energy"

U.S. Department of Energy's Sandia National Laboratories has announced the market availability of recently developed methods for boosting oil recovery while reducing financial and environmental costs. The methods employ novel water chemistry modifications to reduce oil's molecular attraction to surrounding source rock by up to 30 percent.

Sandia's water treatment formulations are derived from well-specific analyses of formation, oil, and produced water chemistries. Reductions in wastewater injection and of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emission of per produced barrel of oil, offer both financial and environmental benefit.

TIPRO members interested in evaluation and use of these patent protected methods should contact Sandia's licensing lead at heneman@nrgsysinc.com. Use the subject line "More oil for details."



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Texas Independent Producers & Royalty Owners Association

With nearly 3,000 members, TIPRO is the nation's largest statewide association representing both independent producers and royalty owners. Our members include small family-owned companies, the largest publicly traded independents and large and small mineral estates and trusts.

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