



# THE TIPRO TARGET



**Texas  
Independent  
Producers and  
Royalty Owners  
Association**

## TIPRO voices support for new legislation blocking future administrations from pausing or delaying U.S. LNG exports

U.S. Senators John Cornyn (R-TX) and John Fetterman (D-PA) last week [released](#) a new bipartisan bill in Congress that, if signed into law, would help to provide greater long-term certainty for American liquefied natural gas (LNG) producers and safeguard the industry from politically-motivated energy export restrictions, such as those put in place in 2024 by the former Biden Administration that implemented a "pause" on new LNG export permits. The proposed *LNG Export Security Act* amends the *Natural Gas Act's* existing public interest standard for LNG export approvals to explicitly require consideration of the impact on U.S. natural gas infrastructure development, domestic supply, economic growth and national security interests. By codifying and expanding the definition of public interest, the legislation aims to limit the ability of future administrations to withhold or delay export approvals on policy grounds that fall outside those statutory factors.

"America's energy producers shouldn't work in fear that a future administration could kneecap them with burdensome restrictions at a moment's notice due to ambiguous laws," stated Senator Cornyn. "Our commonsense legislation would clarify the *Natural Gas Act* to give LNG producers the certainty they need and deserve to continue powering the world."

"LNG has played a critical role in promoting America's energy independence and global leadership. That kind of energy dominance starts in Pennsylvania," Senator Fetterman added. "I've been proud to advocate for solutions that put American jobs first and fully recognize we need guardrails in place to protect this industry and the workers. This bill makes sure decisions are made objectively while protecting the millions of jobs that power communities across Pennsylvania and our great nation."

TIPRO President Ed Longanecker expressed the association's support of the new bipartisan bill, which he said would provide greater regulatory certainty for U.S. natural gas producers and LNG exporters. "This legislation builds on important momentum already underway in Congress. It joins similar efforts such as Senator Dave McCormick's *Unlock American Energy and Jobs Act*, Senator Ted Cruz's *Natural Gas Export Expansion Act* and Representative August Pfluger's *Unlocking our Domestic LNG Potential Act* in strengthening the public interest standard under the *Natural Gas Act* and advancing broader permitting reform. Together, these bills would help protect LNG export approvals from politically motivated delays, pauses or moratoriums while reinforcing the long-term certainty needed to support continued investment across the natural gas value chain."

"By codifying clear criteria that include impacts on domestic supply, infrastructure development, economic growth, and national security, the *LNG Export Security Act* would reduce regulatory uncertainty and help support continued investment in Texas natural gas production, pipeline infrastructure and LNG export capacity," Longanecker explained. "Texas remains the nation's leading producer of natural gas and our state's LNG export capacity plays a vital strategic role in strengthening America's energy security, supporting domestic jobs, expanding market opportunities for Texas producers, and delivering reliable supplies to allies around the world amid ongoing global disruptions."



## Senate confirms key energy and environment cabinet leaders

The United States Senate voted Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> along party lines to confirm nearly 50 of President Trump's nominees for the executive branch, including top administration positions overseeing energy and land management. The newly confirmed leaders include:

- Stevan Pearce to serve as director of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).
- Kyle Haustveit to be Under Secretary of Energy at the U.S. Department of Energy.
- David LaCerte's reappointment as a member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for a second term expiring June 30, 2031.

As TIPRO has previously [reported](#) to members, Republican lawmakers in the Senate chose to take alternative approaches to advance the nominations by President Trump, after Senate Democrats have for much of the last year blocked nominees from getting confirmed. As a result, GOP members changed Senate rules to allow a slate of nominees to be confirmed in a batch, rather than individually.

After Monday's vote, Senator Mike Lee (R-Utah), chairman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, praised the confirmation of the new administration leaders, saying in a statement, "Each of these nominees brings a wealth of experience, and they will play an important role in carrying out President Trump's agenda to unleash American energy dominance."

## A message from TIPRO's President

TIPRO Members,

This week at our monthly luncheon in Houston, I provided an update on the key policy priorities facing the Texas oil and natural gas industry and the strong momentum that is building at the federal level. These include bipartisan progress on permitting reform in the 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, productive engagement with senior EPA officials and the current administration's strong commitment to American energy leadership.

Permitting reform remains one of our industry's highest priorities. The 119<sup>th</sup> Congress has introduced more targeted reform bills than in recent sessions, a direct reflection of our industry's collective efforts on this important issue. These critical measures aim to cut red tape under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), eliminate duplicative requirements, and speed up vital energy infrastructure projects. Faster permitting for drilling, pipelines, and transmission will unlock more domestic production while maintaining strong environmental standards.

I also highlighted productive meetings this month with the assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Air and Radiation to discuss practical clarifications on federal regulations, and a recent meeting with EPA Region 6 Administrator Scott Mason in Austin. These conversations illustrate how the current administration is uniquely receptive to input from industry. Officials are diligently working to balance environmental stewardship, while advancing the American Energy Dominance agenda to unleash reliable domestic oil and natural gas production.

Another notable development occurred this week at the federal level that we have been closely monitoring. On May 18, 2026, the U.S. Senate confirmed several key energy and environment nominees by a 46-43 vote as part of an en bloc package under S.Res.690. These confirmations bring experienced, pro-energy leadership to critical agencies.

Stevan Pearce of New Mexico was confirmed as director of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). A former seven-term member of the U.S. House of Representatives and oilfield services business owner, Pearce will oversee 245 million acres of federal surface lands and 700 million acres of subsurface mineral estate. His background brings valuable industry perspective to federal leasing and development decisions.

David LaCerte of Louisiana was confirmed for a new full term on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), expiring June 30, 2031. This confirmation gives FERC its full complement of five commissioners at a crucial time. The agency is managing a massive backlog of natural gas infrastructure applications and large-load interconnection requests fueled by surging demand from data centers, manufacturing, and LNG exports. A fully staffed FERC is essential to approving these projects quickly and supporting expanded American energy markets.

Kyle Haustveit of North Dakota was confirmed as under secretary of energy at the Department of Energy. A third-generation energy professional and North Dakota native, Haustveit brings decades of practical industry experience. He previously served as assistant secretary for Hydrocarbons and Geothermal Energy. He held key leadership roles at Devon Energy, directing the company's Energy Ventures team focused on emerging technologies including geothermal, carbon utilization, lithium extraction, and produced water management. In this senior position at the Energy Department, Haustveit will help drive policies that promote strong domestic oil and natural gas development.

These confirmations, paired with ongoing regulatory and legislative progress, create a policy environment that strongly rewards investment in American oil and natural gas. This means greater certainty for capital deployment, increased production in key basins, more jobs across Texas, and reinforced U.S. leadership as the world's top energy producer.

At the state level, TIPRO also continues its active engagement with Texas policymakers. As an example, this week TIPRO submitted preliminary comments to the Railroad Commission of Texas for the upcoming rulemaking on [Senate Bill 1150](#), which will require the plugging of an inactive well if it is 25 years old and has been inactive for more than 15 years with certain exceptions. TIPRO supports a balanced and practical implementation of the bill's directives that advances public safety, environmental protection and wellbore integrity while fully accounting for economic realities, regional differences, operator compliance histories and the need to prevent unintended consequences. Our recommendations incorporate the statutory language, address all provisions of the bill, and include clear proposed amendments to 16 TAC §3.15 (Statewide Rule 15) and related rules. We emphasized administrative efficiency, reduced burdens, electronic processes, risk-based approaches and flexibility for market conditions. Formal stakeholder engagement with the Railroad Commission is expected to begin in June. Please contact TIPRO if your company would like to participate in our Inactive Well Task Force or related meetings with the agency.

As we move forward, TIPRO's focus remains on advocating for sound policy at all levels of government that will deliver reliable energy to meet growing demand, while protecting and expanding the high-paying jobs and economic strength that Texas and the nation depend on from a robust domestic oil and natural gas industry.

Regards,

Ed Longanecker



**Ed Longanecker**

## TIPRO CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**JUNE 16, 2026**

HOUSTON — TIPRO/HPF/IPAA  
 "Leaders in Industry" Luncheon.  
 For information, email  
[info@houstonproducersforum.org](mailto:info@houstonproducersforum.org).

**JULY 21, 2026**

HOUSTON — TIPRO/HPF/IPAA  
 "Leaders in Industry" Luncheon.  
 For information, email  
[info@houstonproducersforum.org](mailto:info@houstonproducersforum.org).

**AUGUST 18, 2026**

HOUSTON — TIPRO/HPF/IPAA  
 "Leaders in Industry" Luncheon.  
 For information, email  
[info@houstonproducersforum.org](mailto:info@houstonproducersforum.org).

## Register for the next TIPRO-HPF-IPAA luncheon, happening June 16<sup>th</sup> in Houston

At the next 'Leaders in Industry' series luncheon, hear a high-level discussion on energy priorities from two leading experts within the industry: Meg Gentle, director at [Ovintiv](#) and executive director of HIF USA, and Alix Steel, principal at [DrivePath Advisors](#) and former Bloomberg anchor. The luncheon, hosted monthly by the Texas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners Association (TIPRO), Houston Producers Forum (HPF) and Independent Petroleum Association of America (IPAA), will take place on Tuesday, June 16, at the Petroleum Club of Houston.

Meg Gentle brings over 25 years of leadership and industry experience, having previously served as president and chief executive officer of Tellurian Inc. and executive vice president-marketing at Cheniere Energy, Inc. While with Cheniere, Gentle also held numerous leadership positions including senior vice president-marketing; senior vice president and chief financial officer; and senior vice president-strategic planning & finance. Prior to her time spent working for Cheniere, Gentle conducted international business development and strategic planning for Anadarko Petroleum Corporation and energy market analysis for Pace Global Energy Services. Her current work with HIF USA, LLC in decarbonization and eFuels, combined with her role at Ovintiv, offers a unique perspective on the intersection of traditional oil and gas and the evolving energy transition.

Joining her on stage is Alix Steel, a veteran financial journalist who spent over a decade at Bloomberg Media interviewing prominent business leaders such as Ken Langone, Lloyd Blankfein, Leon Cooperman, and CEOs from the oil and gas sector, including Darren Woods (ExxonMobil), Mike Wirth (Chevron), and Ryan Lance (ConocoPhillips). Now a principal with DrivePath Advisors, Steel applies her deep knowledge of commodities and strategic communication to help navigate today's complex energy markets.

This event will offer guests a premier networking opportunity with industry executives and fellow energy professionals and give a front-row seat to an insightful conversation on the path forward for American energy. Sign up for the luncheon [here](#).

## ConocoPhillips global geophysical advisor joins TexNet Technical Advisory Committee

Texas Governor Greg Abbott this week appointed Baishali Roy, Ph.D. to the [TexNet Technical Advisory Committee](#) for a term to expire at the pleasure of the governor. The committee advises the Bureau of Economic Geology (BEG) on the use of funding, including the TexNet Seismic Monitoring Program and collaborative research relationships with other universities in Texas, and on the preparation of a status report to the governor and state legislature.

Roy is a global geophysical advisor at ConocoPhillips. She is a life member of the Society of Exploration Geophysics, an honorary member of the Geophysical Society of Houston, and a member of the Society of Petroleum Engineers, where she serves as the Fiber Optics Committee Director. Roy received a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Science in Geophysics from the Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur and a Doctor of Philosophy in Geophysics from Western University.

## Texas' Petroleum Theft Task Force holds meeting to continue work against oilfield theft

Members of the State Taskforce on Petroleum Theft (STOPTheft) met again recently to continue collaborations and work towards identifying solutions that combat oilfield theft in Texas and protect the oil and gas industry. The group, established during the 89<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session through [Senate Bill 494](#), brings together representatives from across state, federal and local law enforcement as well as the energy industry with the goal of studying and making recommendations to help deter petroleum theft in the state. TIPRO's President Ed Longanecker serves as a member of the task force.

As part of the STOPTheft duties, the task force must prepare and submit a formal report with legislative and policy recommendations before December 1<sup>st</sup> to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the Texas House of Representatives and each standing committee of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over oil and gas matters. The task force's report will detail ways in which the state can prevent the theft of petroleum products, improve coordination between law enforcement and address the long-term economic impact of the theft of petroleum products.

To support STOPTheft's forthcoming report, group members at the last task force [meeting in April](#) were divided into four subcommittees focused on tackling various issues that will be included in the report - background and history, laws and regulations, economic analysis and impact, and recommendations. At the May 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, STOPTheft members met virtually to provide an update on subcommittee work.

## State and federal regulators convene at Railroad Commission headquarters

Texas Railroad Commission Chairman Jim Wright and commission staff hosted the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Region 6 All States quarterly meeting the second week of May, bringing together federal and state regulatory leaders and partners from across the South-Central Region, which includes Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Arkansas and New Mexico. EPA Region 6 Administrator Scott Mason and EPA leadership, including Travis Voyles, Jeffrey Hall and Craig Pritzlaff, participated in the meeting, along with regional directors and leadership from agencies including the Railroad Commission, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB).

The meeting focused on advancing cooperative federalism and strengthening collaboration on regulatory priorities, sharing updates and continuing important conversations about issues affecting communities, natural resources and the environment across the South-Central Region.



State and federal regulators pictured at the EPA Region 6 All States quarterly meeting in Austin.



## Railroad Commission adopts amendments to Form W-3C at May 12<sup>th</sup> open meeting

At the May open meeting of the Railroad Commission held last week, commissioners adopted amendments to Form W-3C, the certification form used by operators to confirm the removal of surface equipment from inactive wells. The revisions implement [House Bill 2663](#) from the 89<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature, which requires operators applying for a plugging extension on wells inactive for at least ten years to certify that all equipment associated with providing electric power to the production site has been removed. The affirmation requirement does not apply to equipment owned by a utility provider as defined by the Texas Utilities Code. The commission is required to assess a penalty of up to \$25,000 against any operator who falsely files this certification.

The amendments accepted by commissioners to Form W-3C are primarily procedural, updating the form so operators can provide the required certification consistent with the rule changes and amendments to 16 TAC §§3.15 and 3.107 adopted in November 2025.

For more information, see the Railroad Commission's website by [clicking here](#).

## Railroad commissioner warns of growing threats to America's energy and economic stability

Texas Railroad Commissioner Wayne Christian spoke out recently about several monumental concerns that he says present great risks to the American economy and the United States' energy leadership. Commissioner Christian in a statement released on May 12<sup>th</sup> warned of record federal debt exceeding U.S. GDP, persistent inflation and rising geopolitical tensions in key global energy corridors such as the Strait of Hormuz, which according to the commissioner is causing America to face "a financial threat unlike anything in modern history."

"Our national debt is exploding, inflation continues to squeeze working families, and foreign adversaries are actively trying to undermine the U.S. dollar and weaken America's economic power. As a former banker and financial professional, I can tell you the greatest danger we face is hyperinflation and the collapse of the dollar's global dominance. Hostile regimes, namely China and Iran, are pushing to replace the dollar with the Chinese yuan in energy markets while also targeting American energy leadership, and radical activists continue attacking the very industry that keeps this country running," cautioned the commissioner.

"Our foreign adversaries, China and Iran in particular, understand that weakening American energy, especially Texas energy, weakens America itself," Commissioner Christian also alerted. "As a nation, we must fight tooth and nail to safeguard reliable energy and the petrodollar, aggressively curb the unchecked proliferation of national debt as a top priority to restore fiscal discipline, strengthen the U.S. dollar, expand critical infrastructure, and ensure the United States remains the world's dominant energy superpower."

## New AI-powered website launched by Texas' regulatory-cutting office

A new user-friendly [website](#) was launched this month by Governor Greg Abbott and the Texas Regulatory Efficiency Office (TREO) utilizing cutting-edge artificial intelligence (AI) technology to make it easier and faster for Texans to find the exact rules and forms they need for their industry, profession, or activity. The platform managed by TREO will connect users directly with state agencies using AI to provide guidance on Texas regulations, permits, licenses, and compliance requirements. The site simplifies regulatory requirements and offers clear, real-time instruction, guiding Texans through the regulatory process or helping individuals start filling out the right form.

"The new TREO website is a one stop shop for Texans to easily navigate state rules and regulations," explained Governor Abbott. "The interactive site saves time, reduces confusion and makes information readily accessible right when you need it."

"We are just getting started in our mission to make government more efficient," remarked TREO Director Jerome Greener. "With the launch of this site, Texans will be able to find the resources and services they need in one place. Texas will continue to move at the speed of business and build on Governor Abbott's vision of the Texas of tomorrow."

The TREO website also catalogs recommendations for slashing red tape, noted officials, which supports the agency's primary mission of eliminating waste, fraud and unnecessary government rules. The TREO is housed within the Office of the Governor and was formally established last year by [Senate Bill 14](#) to assist state agencies in identifying and repealing outdated and redundant regulations, streamlining rules and creating best practices to make agencies' rulemaking processes more efficient.

## Texas Regulatory Efficiency Office recommends amending or axing 435 state regulations

Following completion of the initial round of state agency reviews by the Texas Regulatory Efficiency Office (TREO), Texas Governor Greg Abbott shared in May that the TREO—referred to as the Texas DOGE—has already identified and recommended more than 435 regulations be amended or repealed across 11 state agencies. TREO estimates these initial recommendations can reduce 69,000 words from the Texas Administrative Code and save Texas taxpayers an estimated \$123 million so far.

Among the 11 agencies to be reviewed by TREO was the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), where TREO assessed \$36.2 million in taxpayer funding could be saved. Looking ahead, there are nine state agencies scheduled for future review by the TREO, including the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).

The TREO accepts public input on cost-saving ideas and measures that will cut red tape and streamline government operations. Provide recommendations and feedback through the TREO Evaluation Portal [here](#).

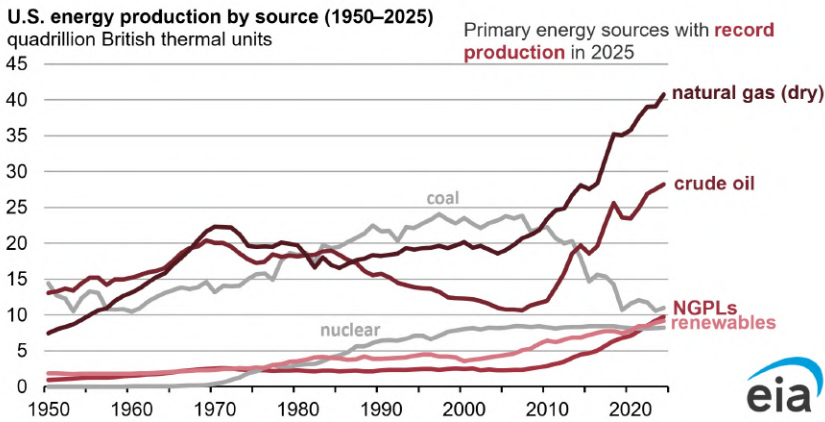
## ICYMI: New Texans for Natural Gas Report shows significant drop in flaring intensities

While producers are achieving record output of oil and natural gas, analysis released recently by Texans for Natural Gas (TNG), a campaign of the Texas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners Association (TIPRO), shows big declines in industry flaring. Since 2019, flaring volumes have dropped 46 percent in the Permian and 44 percent in Texas, shows the TNG report, largely due to the efforts of responsible operators in the region who prioritize environmental stewardship and effective production. In the last five years, flaring intensity in the Permian dropped a remarkable 62 percent, while production in the nation's top energy basin has surged 45 percent.

To view more of the TNG report, [click here](#).

## New federal data reinforces record-setting U.S. energy production in 2025

Federal data [released](#) earlier this month by the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) shows total energy production in the United States climbed to an all-time high of 107 quadrillion British thermal units (quads) last year, a 3.4 percent increase from the previous record set in 2024. Total production in the United States was driven by record-high output in natural gas and crude oil, as well as natural gas plant liquids (NGPLs) and renewables, reported the EIA. 2025 was the fourth consecutive year in which the United States set a record for total energy production.



The EIA analysis showed U.S. crude oil production topped record highs again in 2025, passing 13.6 million barrels per day, an increase of 350,000 barrels per day compared with 2024. Most of the oil production growth occurred in the Permian Basin region.

U.S. natural gas production also last year set new records, rising 4 percent to 39 trillion cubic feet, the EIA data confirmed.

Texas oil and gas regulator Wayne Christian in a statement celebrated the EIA findings, which he said showcases Texas' leading contributions to total U.S. energy supply.

"Texas is the beating heart of American energy, and this report makes that unmistakably clear," Railroad Commissioner Christian said. "That success is not accidental; it is the result of policies that spark growth in Texas' energy sector, strengthen our economy and advance national energy independence."

"The Permian Basin is the engine of Texas and American energy independence," Commissioner Christian added. "If we want to maintain global energy leadership, stabilize fuel prices and reduce reliance on adversarial nations, we must continue to support the men and women who power this industry every day right here in Texas."

## EIA releases new dataset tracking global petroleum inventories and oil and LNG shipping flows

As markets continue to react to oil and liquefied natural gas (LNG) supply disruptions stemming from the ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) recently announced the quarterly release of a new energy security dataset capturing global strategic petroleum reserves and shipping flows through key oil and LNG chokepoints, such as the Strait of Hormuz.

The Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most vital arteries of energy-related trade, remains practically closed as a result of the U.S. war with Iran. The EIA's new dataset shows the substantial decline of oil and LNG shipments in the strait in the first quarter of 2026, when the war against Iran began, as compared with volumes transported each quarter of 2025 through the Strait of Hormuz.

"Our new datasets tracking global strategic stocks and shipping chokepoints for petroleum and gas markets will offer timely context and additional depth" to price forecasts put out by the agency, said EIA Administrator Tristan Abbey .

TIPRO members can view the new dataset, released by the EIA on May 13, [here](#).

## New Congressional caucus formed to advance shared energy and business priorities

Republican Congressman Randy Weber (TX-14) and Democratic Congresswoman Lizzie Fletcher (TX-7) will be part of a new bipartisan Congressional caucus focused on strengthening energy leadership, industrial growth and economic competitiveness across the Gulf Coast region. The Gulf South Business Caucus, which launched late last month, brings members of the U.S. House representing Texas, Louisiana, Alabama, Arkansas and Mississippi together to coordinate on federal policy priorities that support workforce development, infrastructure investment, and long-term economic expansion across one of the most productive regions in the country. The caucus will be led by Congressman Bruce Westerman (R-Ark.), chairman of the U.S. House Natural Resources Committee, and will involve eight founding members and co-chairs. Additional members of the business caucus are expected to be announced in the coming weeks.

"I'm proud to be an inaugural member of the Gulf South Business Caucus," said Congressman Weber. "In Texas' 14<sup>th</sup> District alone, our seven ports support over 200,000 jobs, move tens of billions of dollars in economic activity, and anchor a region that drives more than \$1 trillion in trade each year while producing a massive share of America's fuel supply. The Gulf Coast is the backbone that keeps America moving. This caucus is ready to set the bar high and keep this country charging toward its next era of greatness."

"The Gulf South powers American energy and manufacturing, and the businesses and workers driving that growth deserve a strong, unified voice in Washington. The Gulf South Business Caucus is an opportunity to bring stakeholders directly into federal conversations about permitting, infrastructure, workforce, and the policy conditions that will keep our region competitive for decades to come," reflected Congresswoman Fletcher.

The five Gulf South states represented by the new congressional caucus collectively contributed more than \$3.7 trillion to the U.S. economy last year and accounted for approximately 13 percent of the total U.S. economy. The Gulf region is a national hub for energy production, advanced manufacturing, logistics and chemical production.

"Playing a pivotal role in our nation's economic success, the Gulf South region is integral to America's energy production, manufacturing, and workforce demand. The Gulf South Business Caucus is committed to empowering this region's local workers, communities, and employers through bipartisan, multi-state collaboration around shared economic interests of the region," said Caucus Chairman Westerman. "We know that when the Gulf South succeeds, America succeeds. It is an honor to serve as chairman of this caucus, and I look forward to working alongside my colleagues to champion pro-growth policies and regional development within the halls of Congress that achieve this goal."



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## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## TOURNAMENT FORMAT

11:00 AM	Participant Check-In	• Four-man team
11:30 AM	BBQ Lunch	• Awards: High overall Male, Female & Top Team
12:45 PM	Safety Speech	• Included:
01:00 PM	Tournament Begins	✓ Golfcarts & SHELLS!! (12 & 20 gauge only)
03:00 PM	Shoot Off & Awards Presentation	✓ Lunch & Beverages



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- Tommy Edwards**  
Cima Energy
- Scott Anderson**  
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Foundation Board Member
- Richard Tauber**  
Tauber Oil
- Lisa Moore**  
Sun Coast Resources
- Michael Leonard**  
Doggett Companies

## BLM rolls back the 2024 Public Lands Rule

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On May 12, the U.S. Department of Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) [announced](#) the full rescission of the Biden Administration's burdensome 2024 Conservation and Landscape Health Rule (commonly known as the "Public Lands Rule"). The final rule is effective on June 11, 2026.

In a statement posted online, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum said, "this Biden-era rule prevented energy and mineral production, timber management, grazing and recreation across the West. Rescinding it will strengthen rural economies and ease costs for American families."

U.S. House Natural Resources Committee Chairman Bruce Westerman (R-Ark.) also commented, "The rescission of the Biden Administration's so-called 'Public Lands Rule' is a major victory for rural and Western America. This action unlocks resource-rich lands for key uses such as energy production, mining, grazing, timber and outdoor recreation. [This] announcement also keeps the food, fuel and fiber produced on federal lands affordable for Americans across the country. I thank President Trump and Secretary Burgum for restoring commonsense multiple-use land management by promoting responsible stewardship and production of American resources and creating jobs in rural communities."

When the Public Lands Rule was issued two years ago by the Biden Administration, it was criticized for clear overreach in agency authority and inappropriately expanding agency discretion to be able to effectively withdraw federal lands from traditional uses such as leasing for oil and natural gas development. With the BLM's action overturning the 2024 rulemaking, officials say the BLM's management of public lands will be improved by restoring the more efficient processes that were in place prior to that rule's promulgation and removing any thumb on the scale in favor of conservation at the expense of productive use and development of the public lands and their many important resources.

## EPA launches interactive Permitting Authority Map

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Members of the regulated community now have a new resource provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to quickly identify which regulatory agency has the authority to review and approve permits corresponding to EPA's Permitting Programs and their supporting environmental statutes. The EPA's just-released Permitting Authority Map, accessible via the EPA's website, allows all types of stakeholders, including individuals, states and local agencies/governments, to make a quick determination whether permitting authority is with the EPA or if there has been an approved delegation, primacy, or authorization given to a state, territory, Tribal nation, or local agency. The map, announced by EPA leaders on May 6, supports orders signed last year by President Trump under the Presidential Memorandum, *Updating Permitting Technology for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*.

"Too often, uncertain permitting processes stand in the way of innovation, efficiency, economic opportunity, and prosperity. Thanks to the Trump EPA, anyone can now select a location and see exactly which permitting authority is responsible for issuing environmental permits with the click of a button," described EPA Deputy Administrator David Fotouhi. "This new innovative map provides state and local leaders, Tribes, entrepreneurs, and the public the information they need in one place on the regulatory authorities of permits throughout EPA's permitting programs."

EPA leaders note the Permitting Authority Map is a live data source that will continuously be evaluated, updated and enhanced. EPA expects to expand the map to include additional statutes and/or permits that may not be currently listed on the map. Additionally, EPA is planning future build-out for the map to include additional data layers and new project planning capabilities.

TIPRO members can access the EPA Permitting Authority Map [here](#).

## New coalition pushes for President Trump to add guardrails on EPA's 404(c) veto authority

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A new campaign being spearheaded by energy and mining groups seeks to get the president and his administration to implement policies limiting the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) authority to retroactively block permitted energy and infrastructure projects under Section 404(c) of the Clean Water Act. The "Fix the EPA Veto" coalition, launched in May, is hoping the White House will take executive action to proactively prevent the future use of the EPA Section 404(c) veto to shut down energy and mining infrastructure development, which could retroactively erase years of work, billions in investment and thousands of jobs.

"The Trump Administration deserves enormous credit for tackling the regulatory barriers that have strangled American energy and infrastructure development for years," said energy policy expert and coalition senior advisor Myron Ebell. "But there is a gaping hole in that agenda that must be closed: the EPA's unchecked ability to veto a project it simply doesn't like — even after it has been permitted and operating."

The coalition cites instances in the past when Biden and Obama Administrations used this regulatory weapon, starting when President Obama's EPA retroactively vetoed the Mingo Logan Spruce No. 1 coal mine in West Virginia four years after USACE had already issued its permit. This kind of political threat must be stopped, contends the group, to protect already-permitted projects from future regulatory reversal.

Download a fact sheet by the coalition [here](#) to learn more.

## Reminder to participate in TIPRO's Energy Benchmarking Survey

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TIPRO, in partnership with Arise Energy, is conducting a short survey to better understand how Texas producers and operators approach electricity procurement — including timing, contract structure, and supplier selection. Aggregated findings will be compiled into an industry benchmarking report highlighting best practices and opportunities to optimize electricity spend, with results shared back with participants to help inform smarter purchasing decisions. The more members who participate, the more valuable the insights become for everyone. Individual responses remain confidential.

The survey takes only a few minutes to complete. [Take the Survey →](#)



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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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