



THE TIPRO TARGET

TIPRO welcomes Thomas Janiszewski as association's new Board chairman



Texas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners Association

The Texas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners Association (TIPRO) welcomes Thomas "Tom" Janiszewski as the new chairman of TIPRO's board of directors. Janiszewski was confirmed as the association's chairman during TIPRO's 80th Annual Convention earlier this year. Janiszewski officially assumed the role July 1, 2026. His term as chairman will last until 2028.

Janiszewski is the vice president of land, regulatory, government relations and corporate affairs for Occidental Petroleum Corporation. He has been with Oxy for more than 25 years. In his current role, Janiszewski is responsible for policy development, advocacy and lobbying as well as external communications and community engagement.

He also manages Oxy's U.S. oil and gas regulatory permitting, compliance and reporting, and is also responsible for Oxy's mineral and surface land interests, including the land administration and division order functions.

Janiszewski previously was assistant general counsel of Occidental Oil and Gas and was responsible for legal support of Oxy's U.S. operations and global supply chain. Prior to that, he served as legal manager for Occidental Petroleum of Qatar. His broad domestic and international experience includes joint operations and development, acquisitions and divestitures, major project construction, and oil and gas litigation. Prior to joining Oxy in 2000, Janiszewski spent 19 years with Exxon Mobil Corporation. Janiszewski holds a bachelor's degree in Geological Engineering from Michigan Technological University and a Juris Doctorate from Loyola University in New Orleans. He is a member of the Texas and Louisiana Bars, the American Association of Professional Landmen and is a Registered Professional Petroleum Engineer. He is also a member of the executive committee and Board of Directors of multiple other state oil and gas associations.

"The extensive operational, regulatory and legal expertise Tom brings to TIPRO as our new chairman will be invaluable to our organization, as we continue to strengthen our industry advocacy work and advance policies that support oil and natural gas development in Texas," commented TIPRO President Ed Longanecker. "Tom has been deeply involved with TIPRO and our board for many years. We look forward to his leadership as the incoming chairman of TIPRO's board of directors."

Other new and returning directors joining TIPRO's board's leadership effective July 1st:

- Immediate Past Chairman — T. Grant Johnson, Lone Star Production Company
- Region 1 Director — W.B. Osborn IV, W. B. Osborn Oil and Gas Operations, Inc.
- Region 2 Director — Joshua Baumbach, Birch Resources
- Treasurer — Todd Guest, Spirit Oil & Gas, LLC
- Secretary — Derek Davis, Sequitur Energy Resources

At TIPRO's Summer Conference, Texas' top lawmakers to preview the 2027 legislative session

Early bird registration for TIPRO's Summer Conference ends July 17th!

The Texas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners Association's (TIPRO) annual Summer Conference is known for providing leading insights and expertise on top priorities for the Texas oil and natural gas industry. At TIPRO's upcoming 2026 Summer Conference, happening August 17-18 at the Hyatt Hill Country Resort in San Antonio, TIPRO looks forward to again hosting a memorable conference for our members, providing an exceptional speaker line-up during the event and offering an outstanding guest experience to our members.

**SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR
PLATINUM SPONSOR OF THE
2026 TIPRO SUMMER CONFERENCE:**



With the state's 90th Legislative Session on the horizon, Texas legislators are already gearing up for an active legislative cycle next year. During TIPRO's summer meeting, hear what legislative issues members are focused on addressing from TIPRO's esteemed legislative panel of state leaders that includes: [Texas Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick](#), Senate Natural Resources [Chairman Kevin Sparks](#) (R-Midland), Senate Committee on Water, Agriculture, and Rural Affairs [Chairman Charles Perry](#) (R-Lubbock) and House Energy Resources [Chairman Drew Darby](#) (R-San Angelo).

At the association's Summer Conference, TIPRO also looks forward to welcoming [U.S. Congressman Michael Cloud](#) (R-Corpus Christi), who will give a federal energy update to TIPRO members. Additionally, at the conference, TIPRO is planning to host a 'Meet the Railroad Commission Candidates' forum, allowing members to get to know the candidates running to join the commission in this year's General Election.

Additional speakers and details for the Summer meeting will be announced in the coming weeks. While TIPRO finalizes this year's conference agenda, attendees can also look forward to signature events including our networking receptions, annual Chairman's Dinner, Casino Night and live entertainment.

Early bird registration for TIPRO's Summer Conference is now open. Get your best rate for attending the TIPRO Summer meeting by signing up before July 17, 2026. Online registration for the event is available at <https://membership.tipro.org/event-6691899> or use the conference registration form available on Page 2 of this newsletter.



TIPRO 2026 SUMMER CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Using the form below, sign up for TIPRO's annual summer meeting, happening August 17-18, 2026, at the Hyatt Hill Country Resort & Spa in San Antonio. We look forward to seeing you there!

REGISTRATION FEES

MEMBER FEES:

FULL PASS INCLUDES ALL CONFERENCE SESSIONS AND MEALS

- MEMBER: \$550 (DISCOUNTED EARLY BIRD RATE ONLY AVAILABLE UNTIL JULY 17TH - RATES THEN RISE TO \$625!)
- SPOUSE: \$395
- CHILDREN (12-UP): \$195
- CHILDREN (5-12): \$125
- CHILDREN (5-UNDER): FREE

NON-MEMBER* FEES:

FULL PASS INCLUDES ALL CONFERENCE SESSIONS AND MEALS, AS WELL AS A ONE-YEAR COMPLIMENTARY TIPRO MEMBERSHIP

- NON-MEMBER: \$695 (DISCOUNTED EARLY BIRD RATE ONLY AVAILABLE UNTIL JULY 17TH - RATES THEN RISE TO \$795!)
- SPOUSE: \$395
- CHILDREN (12-UP): \$195
- CHILDREN (5-12): \$125
- CHILDREN (5-UNDER): FREE

*Please note: The non-member rate is intended for individuals who are not TIPRO members or for former members whose memberships have been inactive for more than two years.

REGISTRANT INFORMATION

Attendee Name: _____

Company: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Billing Address (if different than above): _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Spouse's Name (If Attending): _____

Children's Names (If Attending): _____

In order to help TIPRO plan our conference, below please confirm which events all registered guests will be attending by checking the corresponding box:

	Member/Non-Member	Spouse	Child	Child	Child	
TIPRO Reception	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Have special dietary needs, allergies or other considerations?
TIPRO Breakfast	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
TIPRO Luncheon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Chairman's Dinner/Casino Night	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Payment Total: _____

Enclosed Check No. _____

Credit Card: VISA MASTERCARD AMEX

Credit Card Number: _____

Exp. Date: _____ CID/Security Code: _____

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Please return your completed form by mail:

TIPRO
919 Congress Avenue, Suite 810
Austin, Texas 78701

Forms may also be submitted electronically by emailing info@tipro.org.

Paying by credit card? Consider signing up online through TIPRO's easy-to-use and secure registration portal at <https://membership.tipro.org/event-6691899!>

A message from TIPRO's Chairman

TIPRO Members,

I am honored to address you for the first time as chairman of the TIPRO Board of Directors. I have been a member of TIPRO for more than 20 years – nearly half of my professional career – and I have watched this association grow in influence and stature throughout that time. Stepping into this role now is a responsibility I take seriously and with full appreciation of TIPRO's rich history and contribution to this great industry. I look forward to working alongside our members, our talented staff and my fellow board members during my two-year term as chairman.

My company, Occidental Petroleum, has been a member of TIPRO for more than 36 consecutive years. Occidental first began investing in Texas in 1963, and its presence in the state has grown substantially in the decades since. The company relocated its global headquarters to Houston in 2014 and has been one of the largest oil producers in the Permian Basin since our acquisition of Altura in 2000. Throughout this evolution, TIPRO has remained a constant partner. Occidental's growth has occurred in step with the growth of TIPRO itself. This shared history is part of why I value this organization so deeply.

What has always distinguished TIPRO is the breadth and diversity of its membership. Our ranks include small independent operators, large publicly traded operators, royalty owners, mineral estate holders, and leading service companies, all represented under one association. Despite this diversity, or perhaps because of it, TIPRO has always operated with a level of transparency and professionalism, particularly in matters of policy. Every position TIPRO takes is grounded in the interests of its broad membership rather than any single segment of the industry. This approach is another part of what makes TIPRO unique among the organizations I have worked with over the course of my career.

TIPRO's history reflects this same character. For 80 years, TIPRO has demonstrated exceptional leadership on behalf of independent producers and royalty owners at both the state and federal level. The association has represented this industry through changing administrations, shifting regulatory environments and periods of significant volatility in energy markets. Through all of it, TIPRO has remained a steady and effective voice for its members in Austin and in Washington.

In light of this rich history and tradition, it is humbling to serve as chairman of this board, and I am committed to building on the foundation that TIPRO's leadership and membership have established over the past eight decades. I look forward to meeting many of you in the months ahead and to continuing the work that has made this association what it is today. I also hope to see you at our [80th Summer Conference](#) in August.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Janiszewski

Chairman, TIPRO Board of Directors



Thomas Janiszewski

Ensure your seat is reserved for the July TIPRO-HPF-IPAA luncheon with Devon Energy's CEO



Clay Gaspar

TIPRO, the Houston Producers Forum (HPF) and Independent Petroleum Association of American (IPAA) invite you to join industry colleagues at this month's 'Leaders in Industry' luncheon in Houston. The upcoming luncheon, taking place on Tuesday, July 21, at the Petroleum Club of Houston will feature an insightful discussion with Devon Energy President and CEO Clay Gaspar.

Gaspar was appointed in March 2025 to his current position leading Devon Energy and serving on the company's board of directors. Previously, Gaspar was executive vice president and chief operating officer of the company, a role he assumed in January 2021 following Devon's merger with WPX Energy. While at WPX, Gaspar served as president and chief operating officer and sat on the board of directors. His earlier career includes technical and leadership positions with Newfield Exploration, Anadarko Petroleum and Mewbourne Oil. He serves on the boards of the Permian Strategic Partnership and the American Heart Association Southwest Region, is chairman of the upstream committee of the American Petroleum Institute and is a member of the Texas A&M Engineering Advisory Council. Gaspar earned a bachelor's degree in petroleum engineering from Texas A&M University, a master's degree in petroleum and geosciences engineering from the University of Texas and is a registered professional engineer in the state of Texas.

Limited seats remain for the July 'Leaders in Industry' luncheon. Act fast to secure your spot -- registration is available [here](#).

Oil flows through the Strait of Hormuz returning back to normal, U.S. officials report

With the United States and Iran reaching an agreement in June to end their ongoing military conflict, shipping traffic carrying oil and liquefied natural gas (LNG) through the Strait of Hormuz is slowly rebounding. U.S. Vice President JD Vance this week told reporters that oil traffic in the region has reached its pre-war height and rising oil exports through the Strait of Hormuz signals the global economy is gradually moving back toward normal conditions. Vance also said that while stabilizing global energy markets will take time, global oil prices have already seen a noticeable decline in recent weeks with the renewed diplomatic efforts between the United States and Iran.

TIPRO CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY 21, 2026

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

For information, email

info@houstonproducersforum.org.

AUGUST 17-18, 2026

SAN ANTONIO — TIPRO's
2026 Summer Conference.

For information, email

info@tipro.org.

AUGUST 18, 2026

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

For information, email

info@houstonproducersforum.org.

Lawmakers plan to review oilfield theft legislation, more water issues at interim hearings in Austin

Legislative hearings set for September will cover critical laws passed in 2025 by the 89th Legislature, including key bills supported by TIPRO that protect Texas' oil and gas industry and crack down on oil theft in the Permian Basin. On Monday, September 21, 2026, members of the Senate Natural Resources Committee will meet to monitor and make recommendations for any legislation needed to improve, enhance or complete implementation of the following:

- [Senate Bill 494](#) (89th Legislature), relating to the establishment of a theft of petroleum products task force;
- [Senate Bill 1806](#) (89th Legislature), relating to the inspection, purchase, sale, possession, storage, transportation, and disposal of petroleum products, oil and gas equipment, and oil and gas waste; creating criminal offenses and increasing the punishment for an existing criminal offense;
- [House Bill 48](#) (89th Legislature), relating to the creation of an organized oilfield theft prevention unit within the Department of Public Safety.

TIPRO members can view the full meeting notice for the September 21st Senate Natural Resources Committee hearing [here](#). A live video broadcast of this legislative hearing will be available at: <https://senate.texas.gov/av-live.php>.

The Senate Water, Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee is also meeting in early September to assess the water demands of energy-intensive technologies, one of the committee's interim charges assigned by Lt. Governor Dan Patrick in preparation for the 90th Legislative Session. The topic has become increasingly contentious, as state officials take a harder look at concerns tied to the rapid expansion of data centers around the state. At its hearing set for September 1, the Senate panel will examine the current water consumption rates for high-consumption cooling technologies, including data centers. Lawmakers then will consider potential recommendations to improve transparency for local water providers and ensure industrial growth does not compromise the affordability of water for Texas residents and agricultural producers. See the full hearing notice [here](#).

Just recently, representatives in the House also held an interim hearing to examine data center expansion across Texas and review the consumption of natural resources like water from data center construction and operations. Members of the House Natural Resources Committee [met](#) June 23rd to discuss issues relating to water use and data centers and heard testimony from government agencies and private corporations. Lawmakers at the hearing evaluated regulatory, permitting and infrastructure considerations for water-efficient data center development, particularly in water-stressed regions and debated policies that could help optimize water resources and enhance water stewardship in the data center sector.

Railroad Commission's "Delivering Oil and Gas Efficiently" - DOGE - Task Force enters new phase

A year after [launching](#) the Railroad Commission's "Delivering Oil and Gas Efficiently (DOGE)" Task Force, Texas Railroad Commissioner Wayne Christian recently [shared](#) that the initiative is being broadened to make more operational improvements and implement other modernization efforts across the state agency.

"Our goal is simple: make the Railroad Commission more efficient, responsive and transparent while maintaining safety, environmental stewardship and regulatory integrity," Commissioner Christian explained. "Texas producers know better than anyone where government processes create unnecessary delays, and they've made their concerns clear. Government should be less focused on bureaucratic procedures and more focused on delivering results," said the commissioner.

Last summer, the Texas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners Association and its members were invited by Commissioner Christian's office to participate in the DOGE Task Force and work with the Railroad Commission on solutions to streamline agency operations and deliver better service to the regulated community and public. Inspired by the Trump Administration's "Department of Government Efficiency" and Texas' own state-level Texas Regulatory Efficiency Office (TREO), the Railroad Commission's DOGE Task Force was formed to focus on cutting delays and updating the agency's systems.

Since the group's launch, Commissioner Christian reports the task force and agency have been successful in identifying or implementing improvements and modernization efforts that include:

- Identifying opportunities to reduce unnecessary expenditures while continuing agency audits and oversight efforts to improve operational efficiency.
- Modernizing the commission's digital infrastructure through enhanced online filing tools, a new single sign-on platform and the development of a more integrated regulatory system that reduces duplicative submissions and improves data management.
- Expanding transparency by publishing key permitting information through the Open Data Portal and enhancing data access, tracking and communication tools.
- Promoting greater consistency in inspections across districts through regular coordination, training and standardized guidance for inspection, compliance and enforcement activities.
- Strengthening accountability, stakeholder communication and case management processes to improve responsiveness and regulatory clarity.
- Enhancing orphan well and critical infrastructure programs through increased contractor competition, improved data quality and targeted inspection efforts.

A second round of DOGE Task Force meetings are expected to be held in the coming months to gather additional feedback and assess ongoing progress, shared the commissioner. Virtual town halls will be held via Zoom on Wednesday, August 26, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. and Tuesday, September 1, 2026, at 1:30 p.m. to solicit additional input from oil and gas industry stakeholders on ways to further improve commission processes and procedures. Participants may attend one or both sessions. RSVPs are due by Friday, August 14, 2026, and should include the names and email addresses of all participants, which session or sessions they plan to attend, and the issue or issues each participant intends to raise. A Zoom link will be provided to confirmed participants the day before each session. Questions and RSVPs may be directed to Commissioner Christian's Chief of Staff and Legal Counsel Jeremy Hagen at jeremy.hagen@rrc.texas.gov or calling (512) 463-8870.

Texas' governor issues new directives to further strengthen and expand state's workforce pipeline

Governor Greg Abbott is looking to the future and working to make sure Texas continues to build strong pathways that support workforce development and training. Earlier this year, the governor [created](#) the Texas Jobs Council, a new advisory board formed to strengthen Texas' workforce development initiatives and ensure Texans are prepared to fill the state's growing number of high-demand jobs. Last week, at the governor's Mansion in Austin, Governor Abbott, joined by members of the Texas Jobs Council, unveiled new recommendations prepared by the council and ordered immediate action from four state agencies to foster workforce growth and generate more business and labor opportunities in the Lone Star State.

"The demand for a high-skilled workforce has never been greater," remarked Governor Abbott. "I tasked the Texas Jobs Council with developing recommendations that could be implemented immediately through either executive or agency action to make sure we have the best trained workforce in the United States. Based on those recommendations, I am directing four state agencies to take immediate action."

The governor is specifically tasking the Texas Workforce Commission, Texas Education Agency, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation to work on a series of workforce-focused measures to reduce regulatory burdens and red tape surrounding workforce development. The directives also collectively focus on apprenticeships, career pathways in the trades, and removing other employment barriers for veterans, rural students, and underserved Texans. TIPRO members can see the full list of directives for each of the agencies [here](#).

Ahead of the 90th Texas Legislative Session, the Texas Jobs Council will also be developing policy recommendations for lawmakers outlining legislative proposals to strengthen Texas' workforce development system. The council is expected to deliver its final report in November 2026.

To learn more about the Texas Jobs Council, [click here](#).



State leaders seeking public input on Texas' 10-year transportation plan

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is asking the public to [provide feedback](#) on its draft 2027 Unified Transportation Program (UTP), the state's 10-year plan that guides transportation project development across Texas. Starting July 3, public comment on the draft UTP will be accepted. A public meeting was also held by TxDOT on Wednesday of this week reviewing the draft UTP and an additional public hearing has been scheduled for July 29th allowing transportation officials to receive public input on the development of the upcoming year's UTP, including the project selection process related to the program.

Updated each year, the UTP "road map" guides project development to improve safety, address congestion and connectivity, and preserve roadways for Texas drivers. It also includes public transportation, maritime, aviation, rail, freight, international trade and bicycle and pedestrian connectivity.

According to TxDOT, the draft 2027 UTP now includes \$95 billion in planned transportation investments through 2036, an increase of \$500 million from projections presented earlier this year due to stronger-than-expected Proposition 1 revenue forecasts. The draft UTP program also proposes approximately \$5 billion in new funding over the next decade and includes continued investment in the Texas Clear Lanes initiative and the Statewide and Rural Connectivity Initiative, says TxDOT.

Final adoption of the 2027 UTP by state transportation commissioners is expected in August.

Learn more about the UTP and see instructions on how to share input on the state's 10-year transportation plan [here](#).

TWDB launches new statewide water public awareness campaign

A new awareness campaign being rolled out by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) is hoping to educate more Texans about one of the state's most critical issues: water. The TWDB announced its new campaign this week, only days after the official start of summer, the hottest time of year and when water demand tends to rise the most across Texas communities. TWDB leaders said their new campaign, being called 'This is Texas Water,' will highlight where the state's primary water sources come from, shed light on how much water communities will need in the future and preview the infrastructure and planning required to ensure long-term water security.

"Water security is fundamental to keeping Texas strong and prosperous. As our state grows, it's more important than ever that Texans understand where their water comes from and the infrastructure required to sustain our communities," Governor Greg Abbott said. "The 'This is Texas Water' campaign is a powerful tool to build that awareness and support long-term planning. I applaud the Texas Water Development Board's work on this initiative."

The campaign follows [Senate Bill 28](#) passed by the 88th Legislature that had tasked the TWDB with developing and implementing a public recognition program for water conservation.

"We are grateful the governor and Texas Legislature prioritized public awareness for water, and the TWDB is excited to steward this campaign," TWDB Chairwoman L'Oreal Stepney commented. "This is a big moment for Texas. We are proud to see important water topics come to life in such a visual way—connecting people to their water sources and making invisible infrastructure visible."

The 'This is Texas Water' campaign uses storytelling and educational resources from local water planning data to help everyday Texans better understand their water. A zip code lookup tool on the campaign website allows users to learn what their primary water source is, how much water their community will need in the future, and about their regional water planning group. The new campaign intends to help close the knowledge gap by encouraging Texans to engage in shaping a secure water future for their own communities.

TIPRO members can learn more by visiting <https://thisistexaswater.org/> or follow 'This is Texas Water' on [Instagram](#).

New legislation aims to end EPA policymaking authorities which lawmakers say belong to Congress

U.S. legislative leaders last week filed a new bill that hopes to restore important guardrails for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on promulgating unjustified and unrealistic regulations. The *End EPA Abuse Act* amends Section 301 of the *Clean Air Act* to prevent regulatory overreach by:

- Prohibiting regulations or waivers that could expand the EPA's authority beyond congressional intent.
- Blocking the EPA from restricting the sale or use of any vehicle or engine, including new internal combustion engine vehicles.
- Preventing rules that require fuel-switching at power plants or force abandonment of coal or natural gas.
- Stopping regulations that reduce grid reliability or jeopardize dependable energy supply.
- Prohibiting mandates requiring unavailable, cost-prohibitive, or technically infeasible technologies, including those viable only with subsidies.

The bill was introduced on June 25th in the Senate by U.S. Senator Mike Lee (R-Utah), chairman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. In the House, the act has been introduced by Congressman Andrew Clyde (R-GA-09).

"The EPA has overstepped its authority as far as possible to put America's energy producers in a chokehold," said Senator Lee. "They've exploited any power they can grab to push Biden and Obama's climate psychosis at the expense of our energy security. They make up and enforce regulations to suffocate America's energy producers and devastate major sectors of our economy. The End EPA Abuse Act will clarify once and for all that policymaking belongs to Congress, whom the American people have elected – not to the leftwing bureaucracy."

"Under the Biden Administration, the EPA increasingly treated the *Clean Air Act* as a blank check to push de facto electric vehicle mandates, jeopardize reliable energy sources, and impose costly regulations on American consumers and businesses," said Congressman Clyde. "Unelected Washington bureaucrats should never have the power to dictate what kind of car Americans drive or how our country produces electricity. The End EPA Abuse Act puts Congress back in the driver's seat where it belongs, preventing any future Democrat administration from abusing the EPA's regulatory authority to advance the Left's radical, anti-American energy agenda."

The *End EPA Abuse Act* is endorsed by over 20 state attorneys general who penned a letter of support for the bill which can be seen by [clicking here](#), as well as backed by at least 12 organizations that include the American Energy Institute and American Energy Alliance.

Members of TIPRO can read the full bill text [here](#).

Democratic senators ask oil companies to share their communications with the Trump White House

Democratic leaders in the Senate are pressing for several U.S. oil and natural gas companies to submit to Congress their communications with the Trump Administration, specifically regarding circumstances tied to Iran. U.S. Senators Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), ranking member of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works (EPW), and Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), ranking member of the Senate Banking Committee, in mid-June sent letters to seven oil and gas companies asking for information on their pricing decisions, disclosure of company profits made since the beginning of the U.S. war with Iran (when global energy commodity prices went up) and asking whether each of the companies have had direct engagement with Trump Administration officials on energy issues tied to the Iran war, including the closure of the Strait of Hormuz or utilization of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR).

The letters from Senators Whitehouse and Warren come amid accusations from some politicians of windfall profits being received by oil and gas companies as a result of elevated oil prices this year. As leadership of TIPRO has past gone on record to explain, America's oil and gas companies do not set energy markets, but are subject to it like the rest of the world, with oil prices being determined through the complex web of commodity pricing. "Instead of interrogating the energy industry and U.S. producers, congressional leaders ought to focus on how we can support and encourage increased domestic oil and gas production, which would help lower high energy prices and costs for American consumers," said TIPRO President Ed Longanecker.

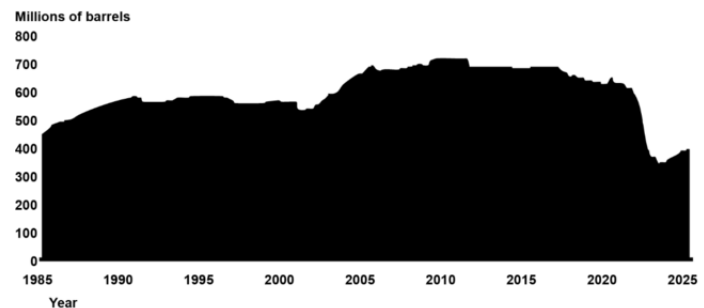
New government report on the SPR warns U.S. leaders need to plan for its long-term future

This week, the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) fell by 5.5 million barrels to 325.7 million barrels, pushing inventories to their lowest level in over four decades, according to data from the Department of Energy (DOE). As the SPR sees further drawdown, a new report just publicly released from the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) is warning America's emergency stockpile of crude oil is facing significant risks to its ability to operate and meet future energy crises. The report found that the SPR is increasingly being used to accommodate large drawdown directives.

"Since 1985, the DOE has released more than 500 million barrels of crude oil from the SPR. More than half of the amount released through 2025 was for emergencies—such as wars—and nearly 70 percent of all releases occurred from 2014 through 2025. A 180-million-barrel emergency release in 2022 after Russia invaded Ukraine tested the SPR's capabilities, as it was both the largest drawdown ever and occurred in the context of an extended backlog of deferred maintenance. In March 2026, DOE began a 172-million-barrel emergency release planned in response to the war in Iran."

Outside of the largescale drawdowns presenting significant challenges for the aging reserve, the SPR's operational capacity also faces serious risks if changes are not made to upgrade out-of-date infrastructure, address inadequate maintenance of the reserves, and plan for future refills, the report from GAO explains. The GAO as part of the report has provided SPR recommendations for congressional consideration and executive action, including mandating a timeline and requirements for DOE to complete long-term SPR plans.

TIPRO members can see the full report [here](#).



Source: GAO analysis of DOE data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA). | GAO-26-106918

Interior Dept. advances revisions to federal Oil and Gas Leasing and Waste Prevention Rules

The U.S. Department of Interior last week announced coordinated regulatory actions aimed at modernizing federal onshore oil and gas policy, eliminating unnecessary administrative barriers and strengthening the nation's long-term energy leadership. Proposals from the Interior look to revise the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) oil and gas leasing rule and the waste prevention rule, which were previously overhauled by the Biden Administration. These rules will advance two key changes for oil and gas development, according to officials. First, the Department wants to end the Biden-era statewide bonding requirement that raised costs to \$500,000 and replace it with the previous \$25,000 standard while gathering public input on a fair long-term approach, making it so this rule is no longer being weaponized to penalize energy development. Second, updates to the waste prevention rule are expected to cut compliance costs by nearly \$17 million annually, reduce red tape, and bring greater transparency for taxpayers.

TIPRO members can find more information about the proposed regulatory changes [here](#).

Interior Dept. amending federal oil and gas valuation regulations to reduce industry cost and burden

As federal offices seek to implement President Trump's agenda unleashing America's energy potential and simplifying regulatory requirements, a [new regulatory proposal](#) from Department of the Interior's Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR) seeks to amend federal oil, gas, and coal valuation regulations with the goal of reducing cost and administrative burden to the ONRR and energy industry.

"The Trump Administration is taking the handcuffs off American energy producers," said Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum. "This proposed rule cuts useless bureaucratic drag so companies can focus on what they do best—producing affordable, domestic energy—while securing a fair return for the American taxpayer. It is a win for our economy, a win for energy security and a win for every American consumer."

Key provisions of the proposed rule include:

- Streamlining valuation processes by simplifying methods for determining the value of oil, gas, and coal produced on federal lands for royalty purposes.
- Minimizing regulatory burden by eliminating unnecessary reporting requirements to reduce administrative burden on producers, allowing them to focus on energy production.
- Enhancing transparency by providing clearer guidance on valuation practices, allowing for increased accuracy in industry-reported data.

Through August 31, the ONRR is soliciting comments on all aspects of this proposed action. See details on how to comment [here](#).

EPA proposes NEPA reforms to streamline permitting and deliver efficient, timely environmental reviews

The Trump Administration continues to deliver historic reforms to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Earlier this year, as an example, the Department of Interior [restructured its internal NEPA](#) handbooks to cut red tape and eliminate duplicative requirements, while retaining core requirements necessary to comply with the NEPA statute as amended by Congress. Other government departments this year are taking similar action as part of a whole-government approach to reset NEPA and align policies with recent executive actions directing agencies to reduce regulatory burdens, accelerate approvals and promote economic growth.

On June 24, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) [proposed its own commonsense reforms](#) to the way it carries out NEPA policies. The EPA says that its proposal restores NEPA to its original purpose: setting firm timelines, keeping documents focused and concise, and expanding proven, low-risk review pathways, all while keeping environmental protections fully intact. "NEPA was never meant to be a weapon to kill projects — it was meant to protect the environment we all share," said EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin. "For decades, it's done the opposite: drowning critical projects in paperwork and lawsuits. Our new reforms, if finalized, would set hard deadlines, cut the red tape, and let America build more, and we're doing it without weakening a single environmental protection. Faster, smarter, and cleaner is exactly how government should work for the American people."

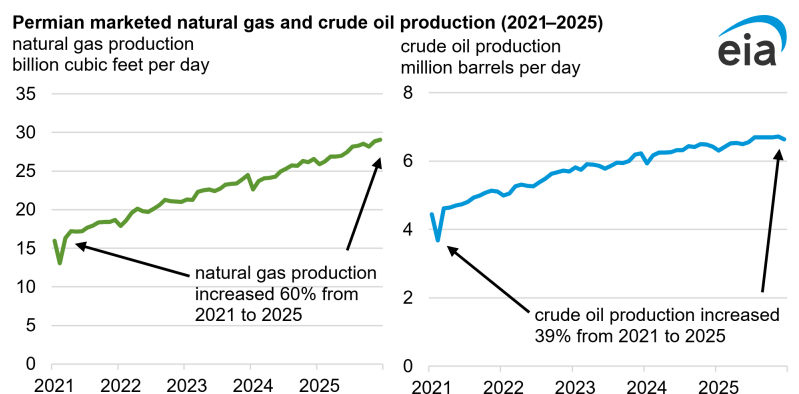
The EPA is currently receiving public comments on its updated implementation of NEPA reviews. Comments must be received by the agency on or before July 27, 2026. Comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-AO-2025-1080, may be submitted for consideration online through the federal eRulemaking Portal at <https://www.regulations.gov>.

Additional information on this proposed federal EPA action can be found [here](#).

EIA: Permian natural gas production increasing faster than crude oil

Though the Permian Basin is the undisputed top oil basin in the U.S., new data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) shows in recent years marketed natural gas production in the Permian actually grew a faster rate than crude oil output, as a result of increasing gas-oil ratios (GOR). According to the EIA, marketed natural gas production surged by 60 percent between 2021 and 2025, jumping from 17.2 billion cubic feet per day (Bcf/d) to 27.6 Bcf/d. In contrast, crude oil production in the Permian during the same timeframe increased by a more modest 39 percent, growing from 4.7 million barrels per day (b/d) to 6.6 million b/d.

This trend is driven by a rising GOR—the amount of natural gas produced per barrel of oil. As a drilling region matures, continuous extraction causes underground reservoir pressure to drop. Because natural gas is easier to produce than oil at lower pressures, wells naturally begin yielding higher ratios of gas over time.





Book your hotel for TIPRO's Summer Conference

TIPRO Rate: \$265* - Cutoff date July 20, 2026

Take advantage of special rates at San Antonio's Hyatt Hill Country Resort and book your hotel reservations early for the 2026 TIPRO Summer Conference

Details



<https://tipro.org/summer-conference>



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.

919 Congress Avenue, Suite 810
Austin, Texas 78701
Phone: (512) 477-4452
Fax: (512) 476-8070
www.tipro.org