

Oil and Gas Open House

- B: Brian Christian, Director, Environmental Assistance, TCEQ
- J: Joel Anderson, Director, TCEQ San Antonio Regional Office
- M: Mike Honeycutt, Ph.D., Director, Toxicology Division, TCEQ
- G: George Ortiz, Air Section Mgr., TCEQ San Antonio Regional Office
- JS: Julie Steger, Team Leader, Air Permits Division, TCEQ
- C: Cameron Lopez, Emergency Response Coordinator, TCEQ
- S: Shannon Ethridge, Ph.D., Toxicologist, TCEQ
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- B: We've been doing these public open houses all over the state going back to 2010 with the first open house we did in the Barnett shale and we found it was a really great way to connect the public to agency experts who can answer their questions and concerns.
- JA: And so you've got an increase in public water supply systems, increases just on the infrastructure, wastewater treatment facilities, as well as the air regulations that are associated with oil and gas and the complaints and scheduled investigations that come along with just the increase of regulated activity.
- M: The regional offices are the local peoples' best resources. Because if they have complaints, they should call the regional office. When they come out, they have handheld equipment that they can test the air right there, right then, and give them answers right then.
- G: We use an optical gas finding imaging camera, which is a piece of equipment that uses the technology that allows us to see volatile organic compounds. It appears as smoke. So it allows us to see if there are any issues with valves, D[1:15??] hatches or auto valves, flares. It allows us to see if there's an issue there. If there are any leaks.
- JS: I think the biggest misconception about permits by rules is that they are a precursor or an authorization type that can be provided for or gotten basically prior to the start of construction of something bigger.
- C: The public has only got to understand one thing, that they need to call the State Emergency Response Hotline, and they'll from that point on it will be divvied out to the right state agency for response.

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- S: Based on what we have seen in our monitoring, we would not expect to see health effects from long-term exposure to the constituents in the air. What we have seen have been more odor nuisance conditions. And that's been verified by both the citizens and our investigators in the field.
- B: We use the information we get from these events to develop guidance documents and tools that we can post on our oil and gas web site to make sure the information we have up there is what people need.

[2:23 end of video]