

2014 Oil and Gas Video

Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., P.E., TCEQ Chairman

Texas has been blessed to be the leading Oil and Gas producing state in the country.

Toby Baker, TCEQ Commissioner

What we are seeing right now is really game changing.

Zac Covar, TCEQ Commissioner

If Texas was a standalone country we would be the ninth largest oil and gas producing nation in the world.

Toby Baker, TCEQ Commissioner

Then you layer on top of that hydraulic fracturing and this new technology that has come to the table. I think we are in a good spot. As far as our country goes as far as our energy outlook, just the transformational nature of what it is doing to the economies in places like South Texas.

Leroy Skloss, Mayor Pro Tem, Karnes City

There are more people in town, the businesses that were here are experiencing additional growth and revenue coming in for them.

Zac Covar, TCEQ Commissioner

With that comes some potential challenges and that is what TCEQ is here to do is to make sure that with all this new production that air quality remains safe.

Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., P.E., TCEQ Chairman

In order to find that balance between a strong economy and protecting the environment we have to have good data.

Zac Covar, TCEQ Commissioner

Data drives our decisions here at TCEQ

Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., P.E., TCEQ Chairman

We have about 70 real time monitors across the state

Toby Baker, TCEQ Commissioner

Citizens can go on and get realtime data about what the air quality is doing

Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., P.E., TCEQ Chairman

Minute by minute hour by hour you can see what those conditions are

Zac Covar, TCEQ Commissioner

And as drilling continues to grow and pick up we can expand that air quality monitoring network we have the people and technology and the equipment to ensure every Texan that the air quality their breathing is good

Michael Honeycutt, Ph.D., TCEQ Chief Toxicologist

TCEQ has the best air monitoring equipment that money can buy

Ramiro Garcia, Jr., TCEQ Deputy Director, Compliance & Enforcement

We utilize an optical gas imaging camera and this camera literally lets us see the emissions coming from the facility. Other types of hand held equipment that gives us real time data. We also have the ability to pull a sample with our summa canister and that information can be taken back to our lab where it's analyzed and will tell us what was going on during that investigation.

George Ortiz, TCEQ San Antonio, Air Section Manager

If we go to one facility and we find issues we typically stay there and call the company representative and let them know that we need someone out there now and then we stay until issues are resolved

Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., P.E., TCEQ Chairman

Our regulations and rules and the practices that are in place in the Barnett Shale as an example show that is some of the cleanest air in the state

Toby Baker, TCEQ Commissioner

And I think other states have looked at us as sort of the way to regulate the industry

Michael Honeycutt, Ph.D., TCEQ Chief Toxicologist

We're applying what we learn in the Barnett Shale to the Eagle Ford and other shale plays across the state

Toby Baker, TCEQ Commissioner

We have a regulatory scheme that doesn't change and companies know what they are going to get when they come here at the same time I think the public knows that they are going to be protected.

Zac Covar, TCEQ Commissioner

We are doing it in a clean efficient way we are learning every day

Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., P.E., TCEQ Chairman

And frankly Texas has some of the cleanest air in the United States.

Toby Baker, TCEQ Commissioner

Other states still want to be Texas