



RRC ENERGY MINUTE

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For the 87th Legislature & the Texas Congressional Delegation

Our mission is to serve Texas by our stewardship of natural resources and the environment, our concern for personal and community safety, and our support of enhanced development and economic vitality for the benefit of Texans.

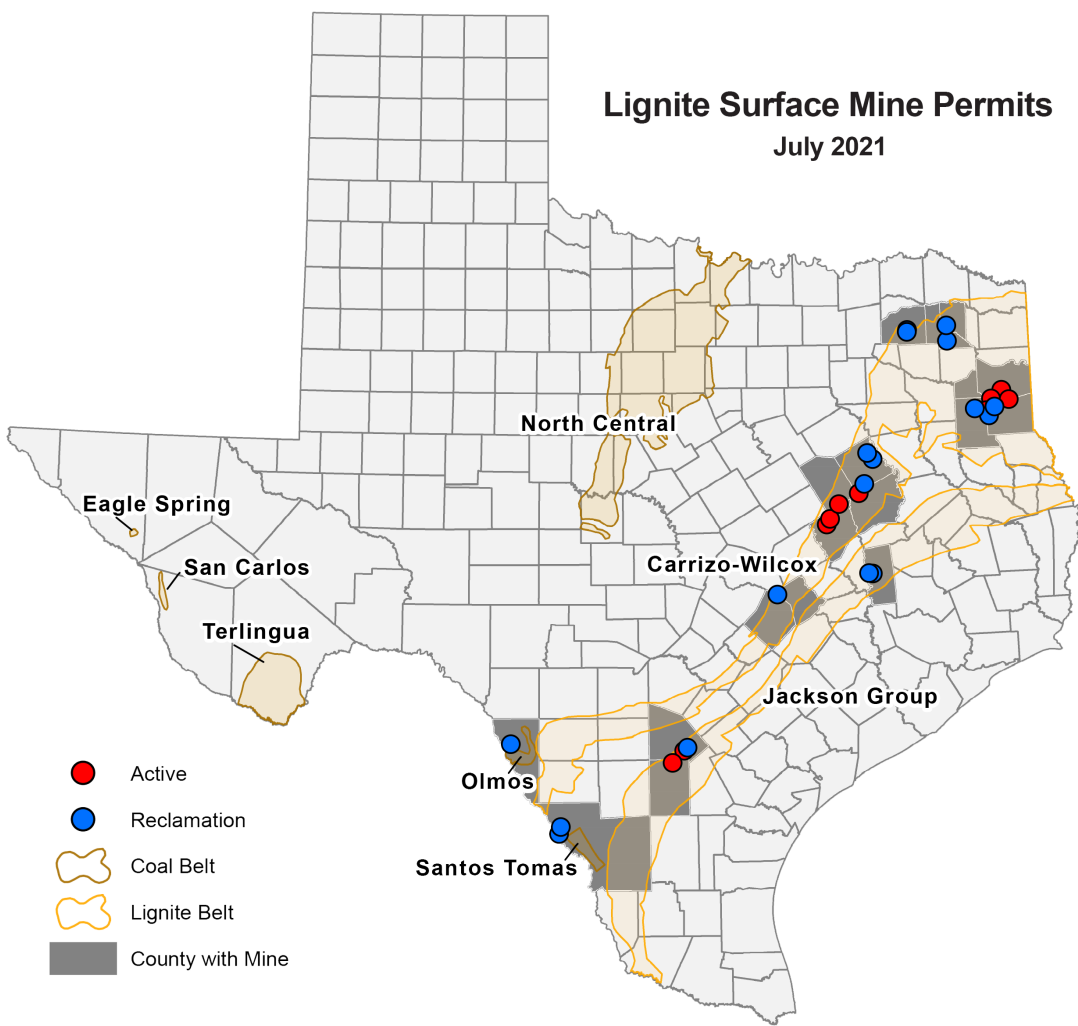
Spotlight on RRC Surface Mining Oversight

In addition to prolific oil and gas reserves, Texas' energy resources portfolio includes extensive coal and lignite coal belts. According to the US Energy Information Administration's recent data, Texas is the 9th largest coal producing state in the US. As of July 2021, there are eight active mines in Texas. These mines generated over 23.3 million tons of lignite in 2019. Nearly all of this production was used for electric generation.

The Railroad Commission permits and regularly inspects all active coal mine operations. These sites are indicated by the red dots on the map. In addition to overseeing active mine operations, RRC oversees the reclamation efforts at former and current mine sites in order to ensure that mined land is returned to a condition that is as good as, or better than, it was before mining operations. The 16 reclamation sites currently under RRC jurisdiction are highlighted by the blue dots on the map.

RRC also administers Texas' Abandoned Mine Land program. This federally-funded and delegated program works to close and restore dangerous abandoned mines across Texas. To date, RRC's AML program has closed and restored 97 abandoned sites. RRC's [Abandoned Mine Land data visualization page](#) provides more information about the location of these sites and when they were closed.

Lignite Surface Mine Permits
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