



2025 RRC Regulatory Conference Session Descriptions

49 CFR Part 195 Hazardous Liquids

Brad Cox

This session will allow the attendee to understand what to expect in a standard comprehensive hazardous liquids inspection. We will discuss the form that is used and what records will be expected to be available for review.

Advanced P-16 Practices: An Interactive Workshop

David King

An interactive workshop focused on advanced practices of the P-16 and how to enter information on the form to support complicated development scenarios and cascading acreage effects through interactive exercises (computer is needed).

Ask an Oil and Gas Assistant Director

Paul Dubois, David Lindley, Joe Stasulli

This session will provide an opportunity for attendees to meet and ask questions of assistant directors in the Oil and Gas Division and to learn about their views on the current challenges facing the agency, the industry, and the State.

Attestations and Inspections

Nicolas Stasulli

This presentation will cover what information is required to be included in your Critical Infrastructure attestation, the common mistakes/missing information that we see and how these attestations are important to our inspections.

Breakout Tanks Summary

Godspower Oniovosa

This session will define a breakout tank from the perspective of the code including the jurisdiction associated with regulated pipelines. It will also define the code requirements applicable to breakout tanks.

Chapter 4: Where did Statewide Rules 8 & 57 Go?

Christine Peters, Sandra Forbes

This will be an informational roadmap of where the newly adopted EPS rules are located in Chapter 4. On July 1, 2025, the RRC implemented a major modernization to SWRs 8 and 57 which are now in Chapter 4 Subchapter A. We'll discuss how staff are working with operators to successfully process permits with updated rules.

Class VI Permitting Process

Bryce McKee, Leo Castro, Atia Rahman

This session provides an overview of the requirements of Class VI, Geologic Storage and associated injection of anthropogenic CO₂, which falls under TAC Chapter 5 (Subchapter B) Statewide Rules. Discussion topics include application requirements and the process of issuing the permit.

Completions for Injection/Disposal Wells

Aaron LeJeune

An introductory course on Underground Injection Control (UIC) Completions, including terminology, best practices, and examples of when and how to file.

Control Room Management Outline

Mark Herrin

This session will provide a brief overview of the control room management requirements for 49 CFR 192.631 and 49 CFR 195.446.

Corrosion Control and the Mega Rule: Aligning with PHMSA

Tim Gonzalez

This session will provide a summary of how the updated PHMSA regulations, particularly the Gas Mega Rule, affect corrosion control procedures. It will focus on the practical steps operators can take to align their corrosion control strategies with these new regulatory requirements.

Damage Prevention and its Relationship to Pipeline Safety Management Systems

Randy Adams

This presentation explores Damage Prevention and the API RP 1173 (Pipeline Safety Management Systems). API 1173 provides a systemic framework for pipeline operators to enhance safety, reliability, and risk management. Key PSMS elements include leadership, risk management, operational controls, and continuous improvement. These elements align directly with Damage Prevention by reducing excavation-related risks, promoting proactive hazard mitigation, and reinforcing a strong safety culture in the energy sector.

Decoding the Myths of Pipeline Safety Emergency Response

David Bullard, John Holtan

Communication and coordination between an operator and emergency responders is critical during an event. But lurking is a laundry list of myths that introduce dangers and risks that impact the ability to safely resolve an event of any size.

Revised 3/27/2025

DIMP/Distribution Facility Replacement Program

Mario Solis

This session will cover the Texas Administrative Code Requirements for TAC 8.209 Distribution Facilities replacements and Distribution Integrity Program. It will include information on common mistakes, filing deadlines, and offer the opportunity for discussion and questions.

Environmental Permits: New Forms, New Guidance

Misti Kinnison, Christine Peters

Participants will have the opportunity to view the new and revised forms for Environmental Permits. The session will describe the forms and discuss where to find updated Online guidance and what the processes are for filing specific forms.

Environmental Permits: New Compliance Reporting Requirements

Cassandra Quiroz, Isaac Franco

Join this session for a detailed walk-through of the Monthly R-2 form to understand the format requirements and submission deadlines. Gain understanding through step-by-step guidance on the form template and best practices for organizing data and supporting documentation. Learn about frequent errors, when and how to reach out for guidance, and how to proactively address compliance concerns.

Filing and Interpreting Groundwater Letters GW-1 & GW-2

James Harcourt, Valerie Atkins

Streamline your processes with expert insights on how to navigate GW-2 letters for casing, cementing operations in Class II injection permitting. Learn how to interpret the information in GW-2's for Class VI CCS permitting and understand how to utilize the online GW-1 system to order or look up letters.

Filing New Construction Reports

Steven Rios

Learn the process of navigating through the PIPES system as you understand how and when to file Form PS-48 (New Construction Report).

Filing a Plan of Correction Utilizing the RAMP Account Process

Nicholas Owojori

This session trains pipeline operators how to submit a Plan of Correction (POC) online using the Pipeline Inspection Permitting Evaluation System (PIPES) and provides an overview of the RRC Access Management Process (RAMP).

Focus on Pressure: Permitting Disposal Wells in the Permian Basin

Austin Gaskamp, Paul Dubois

Management of produced water has become one of the greatest challenges facing the oil and gas industry. This presentation will convey RRC Staff's understanding and position and potential changes to the UIC permitting process for disposal wells in the Permian Basin.

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Form W-3A and W-3 Submission and Review

Miriam Borrego, Diane Beckham

This session will cover the requirements to submit Forms W-3A and W-3 both hard copy and Online to the district offices. It will cover the required information to be included and attachments to make the review process quick and seamless so that the district offices can return approved documents as quickly as possible.

Gas Gathering Rules – RRC Implementation

Nicholas Owojori

This session will highlight key components of the PHMSA gas gathering rule while reviewing compliance documentation including both PHMSA and RRC data for all gathering types. It will explain recent changes to RRC regulations impacting gas gathering systems, inspection checklists, and RRC expectations.

General UIC Applications – Injection and Disposal Well Permits

Jason Lockie, Thanh Nguyen

A discussion about UIC application filing procedures. Covers application fees and materials needed to apply for an Injection or Disposal Well permit. Will discuss administrative and technical requirements for the review process as well as timelines for reviews and the protest and hearing process for general UIC applications.

Injection Well Permitting Challenges (W-14, H-1/H-1A)

Jim Moore

This session will provide an overview of 3 main challenge categories that you may encounter when filing for an injection well permit: 1) aquifer exemptions, 2) elevated formation pressure, and 3) seismicity.

Jurisdictional Determination of Hazardous Liquids Pipeline Systems

Karl Leger

The jurisdiction of Hazardous Liquids pipelines seems simple enough. In reality though, determining what is and what is not regulated under the hazardous liquids pipeline safety rule (49 CFR 195) can be confusing and complex. And, with the recently withdrawn Carbon Dioxide NPRM, performing jurisdictional determinations could become more complex in the future. This presentation will define what hazardous liquids pipeline systems are currently regulated along with insight into what to expect with emerging regulatory oversight. This includes, but is not limited to gathering and transmission pipelines, in-plant piping, facilities, and break-out tanks. Special consideration will be given to notices of proposed rule-making proceedings to better understand expected future regulatory action.

Introduction to H-5 Online

Aaron LeJeune

Learn everything you need to know to file the Form H-5, Mechanical Integrity Test Reports.

Introduction to LoneSTAR

Jennifer Gilmore

In this session, staff will discuss how to file your P-5 forms (New, Renewal, and Record-Only) as well as Inactive Well (W-3C and W-3X) forms in LoneSTAR. In addition, we will be discussing how financial assurance functions in the new system and providing a new form update.

Introduction to Part 192: Gas Pipeline Code

Carlos Jaime

The presentation will cover an introduction of 49 CFR Part 192 and common violations that have been cited by RRC field inspectors.

Key Factors for Selecting the Appropriate Field

Victoria Ortiz, Rimanda Whitehead

The session will cover basic geological concepts and how they are used in selecting an appropriate field for an oil or gas well.

Leak Detection and CPM

Alberto Hernandez Jr.

This session will cover 49 CFR 192 & 49 CFR 195 regarding leak detection the equipment used and Computation Pipeline Monitoring (CPM). This will include the specific regulatory requirements for the respected code references. It will discuss the Incorporated by Reference material for CPM, frequently asked questions, and enforcement materials.

Liquid Gathering Rules / Jurisdiction

Sam Hughes

Overview of hazardous liquid rules as they apply to jurisdiction of gathering pipelines. Session addresses: Do I have a gathering line, do I have a regulated gathering line, do I have a reporting only gathering line.

Mastering Well Compliance and Website Queries

Samantha Rivera

This session is intended to provide an overview of the Railroad Commission's website focusing on regulatory compliance by demonstrating the tools available to the public. In addition, a in depth review of the RRC Online Queries will be demonstrated to show data available to the public through the RRC website. Topics to be discussed: proration schedules and Online research queries associated with the Well Compliance Department.

New Construction Insights

Michael Nuernberg

This session will provide information on how a pipeline inspector schedules, conducts and completes a New Construction inspection. During the session information will be provided for regulatory updates regarding Texas Administrative code Title 16 Chapter 8 section 8.115-New Construction Commencement Report and common issues found during a new construction inspection.

Operations and Maintenance Inspections and Common Findings

Samuel Copeland

This session provides an in-depth overview of the importance of operations & maintenance (O&M) manual inspections, highlighting common findings and best practices for compliance. Participants will learn how to assess O&M manuals for accuracy, completeness, and regulatory adherence. This session will also cover key industry standards, recurring deficiencies and effective strategies for maintaining comprehensive documentation to ensure operational efficiency, regulatory compliance, and equipment longevity.

Oilfield Remediation Programs and Resources

Dr. Andrea Pinon, Peter Pope

A review of the RRC 's State Managed and Responsible Party Cleanup Programs. The presenters will discuss applicable Statutes and Rules, Definition of Responsible Party, Assessment and Cleanup Objectives, Regulatory Closure Options, and Enforcement Options for Non-Compliance.

PHMSA Headquarters Update

Massoud Tahamtani

Massoud Tahamtani, Deputy Associate Administrator for Policy and Programs will share information about changes to PHMSA that will affect how PHMSA conducts inspections and what the attendees should expect during a PHMSA inspection.

Pipeline Damage Prevention Trends

Ricardo Gamez

The Pipeline Damage Prevention Program will present damage trends of recent years. They will assist you in completing TDRF submissions by providing both good and poor real-world examples. The session will allow you to engage with our experts in a dynamic Q&A and open discussion.

Pipeline Safety Integrity Management

Joshua Snowdy

This session will discuss regulations pertaining to integrity management and provide insight into the different types of evaluations performed by the RRC.

Pipeline Safety Standard Comprehensive Inspections

Justin Markham

This presentation will demonstrate to attendees who have little or no experience, have not been a part of a standard comprehensive in a while, or would like additional information on standard comprehensive inspections and what information is covered/what to expect during these inspections.

Pipeline Safety Violation Trends for 2024

Jonathan Saucedo

This session will highlight Texas' top 2024 pipeline safety violations and provide best practices on how to address them moving forward.

Pipeline Safety Regulatory Focus Areas

Chris McLaren

This session will cover requirements imposed by Congress on PHMSA in current and past Pipeline Safety Reauthorization Acts to develop rule making or to undertake required studies which could lead to regulatory actions in the future.

Pipeline Safety: Response to Natural Gas and Hazardous Liquids Accidents & Incidents

Jennifer De La Cruz, Larry Snelson

What is a reportable accident or incident? What can an operator expect from the RRC after notification of an accident or incident? This presentation will include reminders of the situations that constitute reportable accidents and incidents, common issues at a glance, as well as a review of internal Railroad Commission requirements related to both natural gas and hazardous liquid accidents and incidents.

PIPES: Pipeline Integrity Submissions

Pete Longoria

This session will cover a step-by-step process for operators to complete the PS-95 Submissions, Safety Related Condition Reports (SRCs), and Integrity Management Program (IMP) reports through the Pipeline Inspection Permitting and Evaluation System (PIPES), including gaining access to PIPES through the RRC Access Management Process (RAMP).

Pit Registration, Authorization by Rule and Permitting Standards

James Mularadelis, Adrian Charles

This presentation will cover the variety of pit types that the commission permits and will now be registered for activities authorized by rule. Also to be discussed, other actions authorized by rule and actions that require an issued permit. The goal is to provide clarity on the nature and properties of the surface waste pits, the changes that will impact pit construction and use, and a quick insight into the newly adopted rules as it pertains to the pits and authorized functions.

PODS Data Management for Reporting

Monique Roberts, Chad Hultman

Now more than ever, visibility and optimization of in-ground assets are vital to our industry. The rising cost of failure, the public's focus on pipelines and the energy future, and the need for data transparency and accuracy to meet new regulations and newly regulated assets... everything is changing, so PODS is also! The PODS Data Model was built for regulated pipeline and is continuously updated as new regulations are published. In fact, PHMSA is a PODS Member and uses the model as a baseline for NPMS, so having your data in PODS is the easiest way for operators to submit their annual reports and NPMS uploads. Learn how the Integrity Regulatory Module supports the submission of annual reports (192, 195 and TX RRC) thus improving project prioritization, identifying why you performed a task, and supporting risk analysis and calculations.

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Public Awareness and Pipeline Safety Damage Prevention Summary

Jas Villanueva

This presentation will provide pipeline operators with a summary of the process in which an inspector schedules, conducts, and completes a Public Awareness and Damage Prevention Program inspection.

RMV Impacts to Control Room Management and Team Training

Wallace McGaughey

A discussion on the impacts to your Control Room Management Program, Team Training, and the processes and procedures required by the Rupture Mitigation Valve regulation. Topics will include RMV requirements, automated and manual actions to meet RMV regulations, and time requirements.

RRC Class V Geothermal Injection Well Update

Leslie Savage, Jared Ware

This session will provide an update on the Class V closed loop geothermal injection well rules. The presentation will cover information for the shallow and deep geothermal wells, address statutory requirements, and update attendees on actions RRC has taken to implement regulatory processes.

RRC Mapping Automation Portal Live Demo

Nicolas Stasulli

This session will be a live demonstration on the RRC Mapping Automation Portal, allowing operators to learn how to navigate the system, see how the system is intended to function and to learn/narrow down their requirements within RRC Map. This session will also cover any updates/enhancements made to the system since inception.

RRC Pipeline Safety Updates

Stephanie Weidman

This presentation will provide an overview of changes to the federal and state Pipeline Safety Laws and operational changes to the RRCs Oversight and Safety Division since the last conference.

RRC Public GIS Viewer Tool

Chris Conn, Mark Maddox

Bring your laptops or tablets and join in this interactive walkthrough of the RRC Public GIS Viewer. This workshop will include topics such as API# or Address Search, Searching for Surveys, Viewing Coordinates, and Locating Pipelines. Presenters will also share how users can navigate to the Open Data Portal for more in-depth use and how to utilize the RRC website's Data Sets for Download page.

Safety of CO2 and Hazardous Liquid Pipelines, Current and What to Expect

John Jacobi

Current hazardous liquids pipeline safety rules regarding carbon dioxide are exclusive to CO2 in a supercritical state. While PHMSA's January Carbon Dioxide Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) was withdrawn, its contents are essential to understand current regulatory thinking regarding the regulation of all CO2 pipeline systems. This presentation will review the NPRM from the perspective of what should be expected relating to CO2 regulation and the far-reaching impact it may have on the regulations regarding hazardous liquid pipelines in general.

Statewide Rule 15 and Inactive Well Compliance

Jennifer Gilmore

Staff will be discussing SWR15 requirements pertaining to inactive well compliance and how it affects your P-5 renewal.

Statewide Rule 32: Exception to Flaring/Venting of Produced Gas

Seyed Mahjour

This session provides an overview of the requirements of Statewide Rule 32 regarding the venting/flaring of produced gas. Discussion topics include authorized flaring/venting and exemptions to the rule, as well as exceptions to the rule. The new on-line filing system for exception is included also.

Statewide Rule 37 & 38: Interactive Solutions to Identify and Resolve

David King

We will discuss how to identify and resolve SWR 37 and SWR 38 exceptions. Focus points will cover the regular and special rules, all development types, and common issues. There will an interactive exercise for the Service list (computer is needed).

Statewide Rule 40 (e)(2) Exception: How to request and is it required?

David King

This discussion will provide education of the optional SWR 40 section on the W-1. Focus points will be: data entry on the W-1 and P-16, requirements of the SWR 40 notification, and when does double assignment of acreage occur. A portion will be interactive (computer is needed).

T4 Pipeline Permitting and Mapping

Andy Martinec

The T-4 pipeline permitting and mapping team will recap rule updates and resource improvements that were officially implemented in the first half of 2025, as well as discuss frequently asked questions, and leave time for Q&A.

UIC Permitting Pressure Review

Ted Wooten

This informative session will discuss how to compare surface pressures to estimates for bottomhole pressures in injection wells. It will also cover information on how to interpret pressure records from a small injection test such as minifrac, stress test, DFIT, etc.

Understanding EPS Compliance Field Inspections

Isaac Franco, Cassandra Quiroz

Navigate environmental permitting compliance with confidence. Learn to understand permit requirements, conduct thorough record reviews, and identify potential challenges. Discover best practices for facility inspections and effective communication with regulatory inspectors. Ensure accountability through robust checks and timely responses to notifications, safeguarding against non-compliance.

Understanding the Capabilities of the Drilling Insight and Casing Estimator Website (DICE)

James Harcourt

The DICE website is a joint effort of UT's Bureau of Economic Geology and the RRC. Learn how to utilize the self-help groundwater maps, alerts, and drilling information available on the DICE site.

Understanding Leak Detection Success for Belowground Natural Gas Pipelines Across Diverse Operating Conditions

Kathleen Smits

This session identifies how diverse operating conditions to include variations in weather, terrain and urban and rural environments impacts the success of leak detection solutions. Through a 3-year experimental and data analysis study, findings provide insight into the optimization of leak survey practice to maximize detection success for belowground NG pipeline leaks.

W-1 Application and P-16: Submitting Online

David King

The primary focus of the session will be the form requirements, the rules that support those requirements, and the current features of the application. Supplemented throughout, will be highlights of common issues and how to identify, and correct, them prior to submission. Basic P-16 information will be presented through an interactive discussion at the end (computer is needed).

Waste Haulers and LoneSTAR

Misti Kinnison, Christine Peters

This presentation will provide guidance for the external waste hauler functions in LoneSTAR. Attendees will learn how to set up a RAMP account and access LoneSTAR.

Well Completions: When and How to File

Sharon Frischen, Miriam Borrego

This session will cover the filing of a completion packet Forms W-2/G-1 including other required forms using the RRC Online System. The objective of this presentation is to assist industry in understanding why and how to file completion packets avoiding common compliance issues.