



Houston-Galveston Area Council

To: Plans and Projects Review Committee
From: Rick Guerrero, Intergovernmental Relations Director
Subject: October Meeting
Date: October 8, 2019



H-GAC's Plans and Projects Review Committee meets this month on Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 9:40 a.m. in H-GAC Conference Room B to review one item from the Texas Railroad Commission. The Railroad Commission is preparing to develop digital records and inventories of underground injection control systems across the State. Examples include: brine mining permits, storage cavern permits and other injection monitoring reports. The project will have a direct benefit to water quality in our region. Staff is seeking a recommendation of consistent with regional plans and review criteria.

Please call me at 713-993-4598 or email me at rick.guerrero@h-gac.com if you have any questions about the agenda. I hope to see you at our October 15, 2019 meeting.

RG/sas
Enclosures





A G E N D A
HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL
PLANS AND PROJECTS REVIEW
COMMITTEE MEETING
October 15, 2019 9:40 a.m.
3555 Timmons Lane, 2nd Floor
Conference Room B
Houston, Texas 77027

1. Call to Order
2. Action Item
 - a. RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS APPLICATION FOR MULTIPURPOSE GRANTS
Request the project be found consistent with plans, policies and H-GAC review criteria, including the FY19 Regional Water Quality Management Plan. (Staff Contact: Justin Bower)
3. Other Business
4. Adjournment

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS APPLICATION FOR MULTIPURPOSE GRANTS

Background

H-GAC staff regularly reviews grant applications and project proposals for conformance with regional planning goals and objectives, including those defined in the current H-GAC Board-accepted Water Quality Management Plan. H-GAC recently performed an intergovernmental review of a Multipurpose Grant to States and Tribes application submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency by the Texas Railroad Commission. The proposed project is entitled “Digitize Railroad Commission Permits Related to Underground Injection Control Activities.”

Current Situation

The Railroad Commission is seeking funding to continue the development of a complete digital record series for the Class II Underground Injection Control program in order to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the program. The proposed project includes the digitization (both historic and day-forward) for the following records:

- Brine mining permits
- Storage caverns permits
- Mechanical Integrity Test reports
- Sonar reports

The digitization of the Railroad Commission’s injection well permit applications will allow for greater access to the information than is presently available without an electronic database of these records. The maintenance of these records in a digital format allows for greater access to the data by affected stakeholders and the general public. Due to H-GAC’s role in developing watershed-based plans such as Watershed Protection Plans and Total Maximum Daily Loads, the agency would benefit from having this data in a readily available and accessible format. This project is in conformance with H-GAC’s Regional Water Quality Management Plan goals and objectives, including the acquisition, analyses, and dissemination of regional water quality data that are used throughout the agency’s planning activities.

Funding Source

N/A

Budgeted

N/A

Action Requested

Request the project be found consistent with plans, policies and H-GAC review criteria, including the FY19 Regional Water Quality Management Plan. (Staff Contact: Justin Bower)