

# STAFF REPORTS

## TEXAS GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

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Not surprisingly, one of the most active committees this quarter has been the Texas Legislative Committee. Comprised of dozens of member companies, the committee meets weekly throughout the session, and in Q1 the committee hosted several notable elected officials, including several Chairmen and new members of the Texas Legislature.

Each week during session, which runs until the end of May, the committee reviews and discusses legislative issues important to PBPA members. Of the over 7,000 bills and resolutions filed this session, we have over 500 on our priority bill tracking list, and have offered official positions and public comment on a number of bills as they've moved through the process. One week, in particular, three separate PBPA staff members testified on three separate bills. Our committee is supporting numerous pieces of legislation that would improve operating conditions in Texas, including some that would improve permitting and other processes at the Railroad Commission and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Currently, we have divided the legislation we are tracking into the following categories:

- Air Quality
- Broadband
- Chapter 313
- Electricity/Winterization/Storm Uri
- Eminent Domain
- E&P
- Natural Gas Ban/Boycott
- Railroad Commission
- Road - County & State
- Seismic
- Taxes
  - High Cost Gas
  - Sales
  - Property
  - Severance
- Telemedicine/Rural Healthcare
- Truck Safety
- Water

There have been numerous bills filed in each chamber regarding the above categories. If you have an interest in the status of a particular bill or subject area, please let us know.

During Winter Storm Uri, PBPA staff and committee members were hard at work preserving or advocating to get electric supply turned back on throughout the natural gas production to generation supply chain. Staff were constantly communicating with stakeholders, regulators and lawmakers in the Permian Basin and beyond to ensure they understood all of the challenges that our association members were seeing. After the

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## TEXAS GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS CONTINUED

winter storm, our legislative committee members have been actively reviewing proposals being offered in the Texas House and Senate and providing direct feedback to offices and members. These pieces of legislation were mentioned in the President's Report.

We have successfully ensured that the goals of offered legislation are focused on benefiting customers and Texans at large. The legislature doesn't need to complicate upstream oil and gas operations when it doesn't result in measured benefit to electric generation and reliability.

As always, we hope all members can participate in the committee and are happy to answer any and all questions that members have about the 87th Legislative Session.