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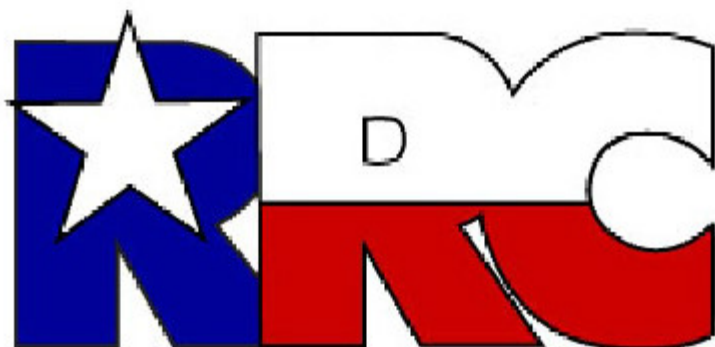
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History Prevails: Bid to change Texas Railroad Commission's name fails

By **Nicolas Torres** - November 15, 2016

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A bid to change the name of the Texas Railroad Commission failed last week during

a periodic review of the agency.

According to the Texas Tribune, the Sunset Advisory Commission approved a proposal that would have changed the agency's name to the Energy Resources Commission.

The Texas Railroad Commission is responsible for regulating oil and gas production as well as pipeline safety in the state.

The Railroad Commission was established in 1891 and is the oldest regulatory agency in the state.

The Sunset Advisory Commission also declined to transfer gas utility regulation to the state's Public Utility Commission, according to a report published on the agency's website.

The Sunset Commission adopted a measure that will require the Railroad Commission to develop a strategic plan to track and measure the effectiveness of monitoring and enforcement.

The Sunset Commission also adopted a measure directing the Railroad Commission to develop a definition of repeat rule violations and report the number of repeat violations on its website.

The Railroad Commission also received permission to create a pipeline permit fee.

The permit fee is expected to help alleviate a \$1.8 million budget shortfall in the Railroad Commission's pipeline safety program, the Texas Tribune said.

The Sunset Advisory Commission also allowed the Railroad Commission to adopt a new issue that directs the agency to incorporate findings from the TexNet Seismic Monitoring Program at UT's Bureau of Economic Geology "as they become available into its oil and gas disposal well rules or guidance, as applicable."

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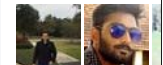


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