

Regulatory Authority for Oil and Gas Facility Discharges



David Galindo, Deputy Director
Water Quality Division



House Bill 2771, 86th Texas Legislature (2019)

- Required TCEQ to submit a request to the U.S. EPA for regulatory authority for oil and gas discharges
- Required a transfer of state regulatory authority from the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC) to the TCEQ

*** TCEQ will issue one consolidated permit for wastewater discharges to meet state and federal requirements**



Administrative Implementation

- Adopted federal oil and gas Effluent Limitations Guidelines in 40 CFR Parts 435 and 437 into Texas Administrative Code
- Revised the Memorandum of Understanding with the Texas Railroad Commission regarding oil and gas jurisdiction
- Revised the Memorandum of Agreement with the EPA for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program
- Compliance and Enforcement Readiness



Technical Implementation

General Permits

- Hydrostatic Test General Permit (TXG670000).
- Oil and Gas General Permit (TXG310000) to replace two of EPA's general permits:
 - EPA TXG330000 (Coastal Water Offshore GP).
 - EPA TXG260000 (Territorial Seas GP).
- Outer Continental Shelf General Permit – State permit.



Technical Implementation

Require individual TPDES permit for facilities that do not meet the requirements of a general permit

- Updated Industrial TPDES application to obtain information applicable to oil and gas facility discharges
- Pre-Application submittal meetings with applicants
- Technology and Water Quality Based limits



Stakeholder Outreach

Extensive work with stakeholders

- Stakeholder meetings
- Project website
- Project email box

* Stakeholders include: Non-governmental organizations, oil and gas operators, consultants, other state agencies.



Questions

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