

# HOW RRC PROTECTS GROUNDWATER



- Requires well surface casing be set below the depth of the base of usable quality water and cement the casing annulus to surface
- Coordinates with other State Agencies to inventory, map, and report the location of usable quality groundwater in Texas
- Mandates specific **groundwater** protection depths for each new well
- Conducts inspections, ensures compliance and responds 24/7 to emergencies
- Requires and enforces the cleanup of spills that may threaten water resources
- Prevents spills and blowouts by enforcing **requirements** for drilling, casing, cementing, well control and fracture stimulation
- Mandates **public disclosure** of chemicals and water volumes used in hydraulic fracturing
- Ensures oilfield waste is disposed of in a manner that will not cause harm to the environment
- Encourages **recycling** of oil and gas fluids to reduce the use of surface and groundwater resources
- Works with the **Ground Water Protection Council** and the **Texas Groundwater Protection Committee**
- Serves on **Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission** advocating for environmentally-sound ways to increase supply of American energy

## About the Railroad Commission of Texas

Our mission is to serve Texas by our stewardship of natural resources and the environment, our concern for personal and community safety, and our support of enhanced development and economic vitality for the benefit of Texans.

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