



RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS

(Rev. 11/10/25)

Oil & Gas Division | Technical Permitting Authorized Pit Registration Guidance

About the Registration

The Railroad Commission (RRC) is utilizing the requested data to ensure that all pits are properly tracked, constructed, maintained, or closed in accordance with environmental and safety standards.

Completing the registration process and using the forms prescribed by the Commission is essential for complying with 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 4 rules and amendments, especially if the pit was built before July 1, 2025.

Authorized Pit Registration Types

Two types of authorized pits can be operated without a permit: those listed in Schedule A and those listed in Schedule B.

Schedule A – reserve, makeup water, mud circulation, fresh mining water, completion/workover, and water condensate pits.

Schedule B – produced water recycling pits.

Authorized Pit Registration Forms

The preferred method for submitting completed authorized pit registration **Forms EP-1** Authorized Pit Registration/Change Form, and **EP-2** Schedule B Authorized Pit Financial Security Worksheet is by email to AuthPits@rrc.texas.gov.

Form EP-1 – Excel format.

This form must be used to register, change the pit type, or close Schedule A or Schedule B pits.

There are two tabs at the bottom of the form:

- 1) The Excel Template
- 2) Instructions for completing the template (***To ensure timely processing of your request, reference the instructions tab when completing the form.***)

Use this template for only one organization.

One or more new or existing pits can be entered into the Excel template.

Form EP-2 –

This form is used **only** for Schedule B pits and works in conjunction with the **Schedule B Authorized Pit Calculator Tool** that converts the working capacity quantity into accurate dollar amounts for the total financial security amount due.

This form must be completed when registering, changing, or closing a Schedule B pit. There are two parts to this form; reference the instructions on the form to ensure accurate data is being entered, and the appropriate part of the form is completed to avoid a delay in processing.



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NOTE: If a Schedule B pit is located at a facility conducting commercial operations, it **must be permitted** as a commercial pit. See guidance for commercial pits.

Schedule B Authorized Pits require financial security for the registrations to be completed.

Form EP-3 Authorized Schedule B Financial Security Bond –

This form is used when financial security will be submitted in the form of a bond.

The submitter will receive confirmation from RRC by email confirming the exact financial security amount required for the Schedule B authorized pit registration request that was received.

Provide a copy of the RRC financial approval letter to the financial institution with the Form EP-3.

Form EP-4 Authorized Schedule B Letter of Credit (LOC) –

This form is used when financial security will be submitted in the form of a Letter of Credit.

The submitter will receive confirmation from RRC by email confirming the exact financial security amount required for the Schedule B authorized pit registration request that was received.

Provide a copy of the RRC financial approval letter to the financial institution with the Form EP-4.

Financial security and accompanying documents must be mailed to:

Railroad Commission of Texas
P-5 Financial Assurance Unit
P.O. Box 12967
Austin, Texas 78711-2967

Schedule B Authorized Pit Calculator

This is a recommended tool used by RRC that converts the working capacity quantity into accurate dollar amounts for the total financial security amount due.

Authorized Pit Forms are on the RRC Oil and Gas [Forms web page](#).

Changes to Registered Schedule B Pits

Shall there be a change to the number of pits, the working capacity of a pit, or pits that are registered and covered under a form of financial security, a new Form EP-1 must be submitted reflecting the change (adding or closing specific pits), and a new Form EP-2 must be completed and submitted for review.

Upon approval of the newly calculated financial security amount, the Commission will email an approval letter that must be submitted to the financial institution, which will issue updated financial security reflecting the pits in accordance with the change that was received by the Commission. **For questions regarding changing financial security, contact P-5 by phone (512) 463-6772 or by email at p5@rrc.texas.gov.**



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The updated financial security must be mailed to:

Railroad Commission of Texas
P-5 Financial Assurance Unit
P.O. Box 12967
Austin, Texas 78711-2967

Registration Acknowledgment

Each authorized pit registration request will be processed by Environmental Permits and Support (EPS) staff in the order it is received.

For ***schedule A pits***, a reply will be sent confirming registration, and the issued pit registration number will be included in the email.

For ***schedule B pit*** authorizations, an email will be sent confirming receipt of the registration documents, including registration numbers, and an official letter attachment confirming the correct financial security amount due, with the list of submitted pits.

Note: Schedule B pits are not authorized for use until the Railroad Commission has received the required financial security in the correct amount.

Upon receipt of the correct financial security amount, an email will be sent acknowledging that the financial security has been received, and the pits are authorized for use.