



EPS COMPLIANCE

Field Inspections and Facility
Compliance

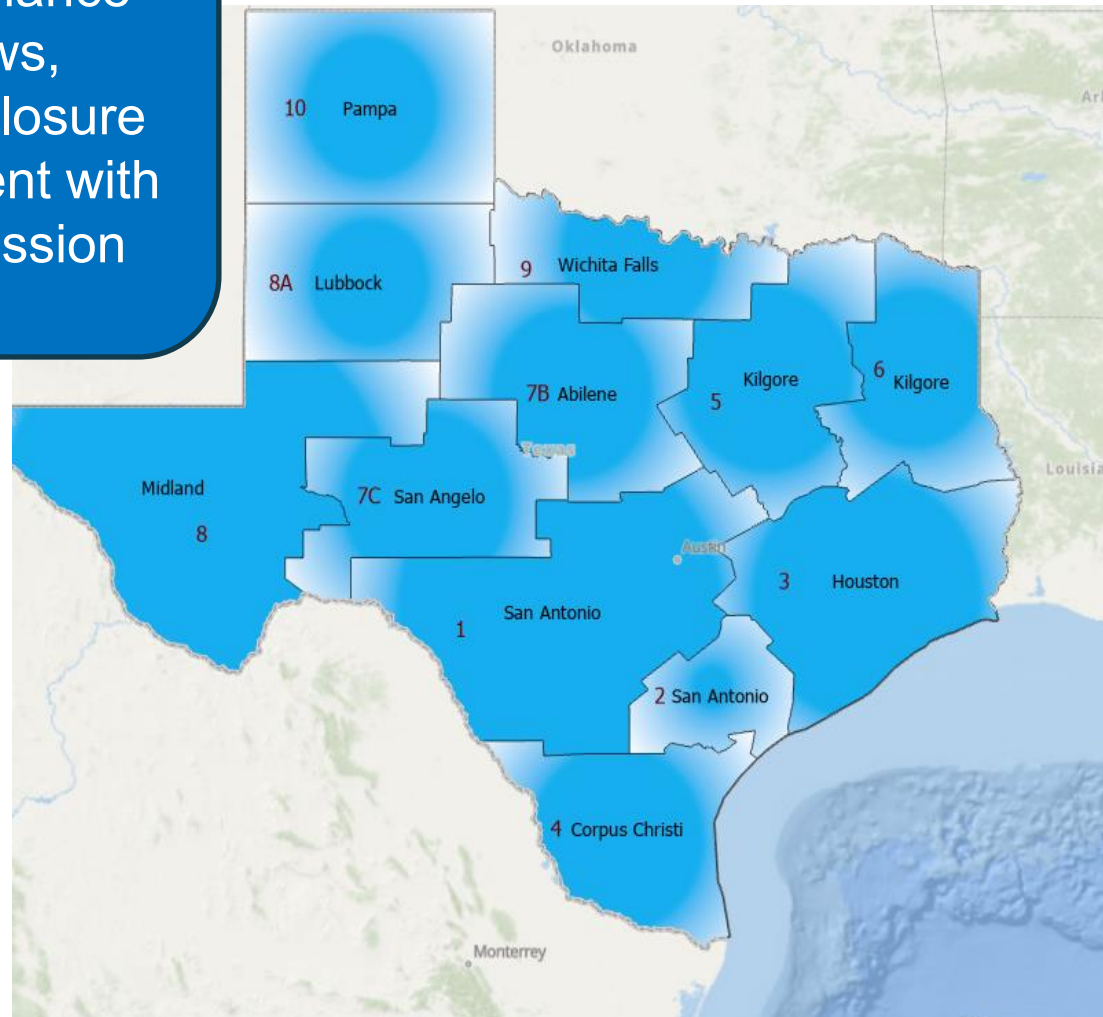
Isaac Franco & Cassandra Quiroz
Month 2025



Goal



To support Environmental Permits & Support (EPS) through compliance inspections, records reviews, operational evaluations, and closure coordination to ensure alignment with permit conditions and Commission regulations.



Overview



- **Compliance Activities**
- **Site Visits History**
- **Pre-Field Reviews**
- **Compliance Challenges**
 - Quarterly Reporting Template
- **What to expect during Inspection**
 - After The Inspection
 - Notice Resolution
- **Know Your Waste Hauler**
- **Transfers & Closure**
- **Best Practices and Key Take Aways**
- **The Team**
- **Questions**

Compliance Activities



Field Inspections



Report Reviews



Closure
Requests



Reuse of
Material Request



Hauler Permits
Verifications

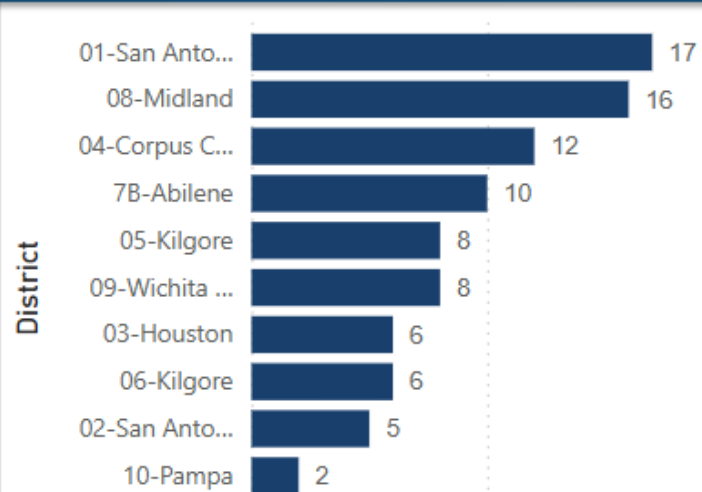


Issues RADs and
Violation Letters

Site Visit History



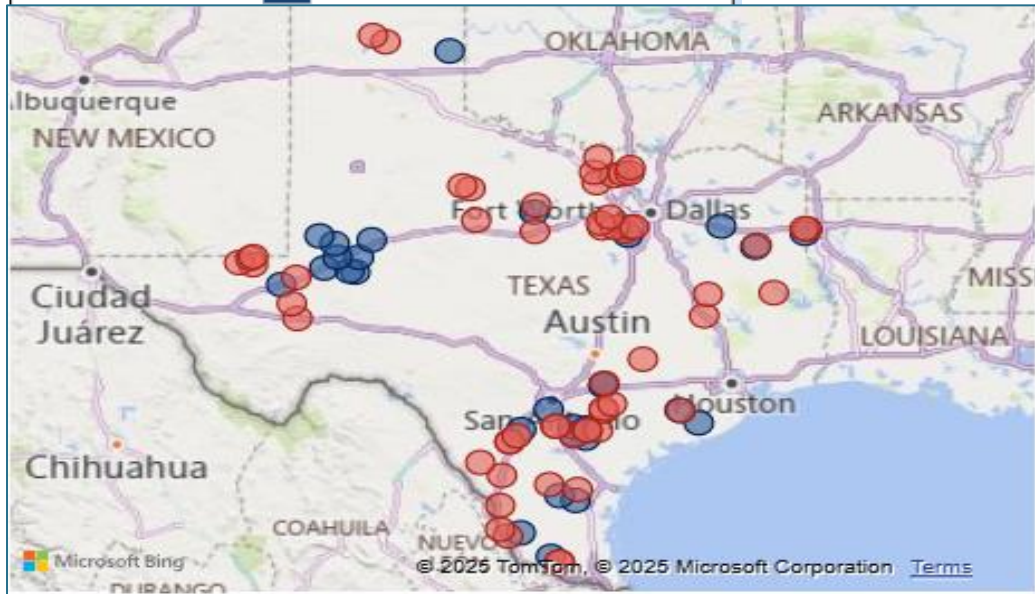
124 Visits between FY24 & FY25



Schedule Visits for 2025

Goal 100

Current 59



Site Visit History



Types of Facilities Inspected

Surface Waste Disposal Facilities

Reclamation Plants

Waste Separation Facilities

Pits

Landspreading LA-LF-LT



Pre Field Reviews



1. Review District Inspections

- Annual Inspections
- Quarterly Inspections
- Notices from the Field (compliant/non-compliant)
 - Waste hauler violations
 - Unauthorized waste in pits
 - Unauthorized equipment

2. Review Permitting Reports

- Waste Handling (WH) Records
- Quarterly Reports
- Previous Inspections
- Permit Conditions

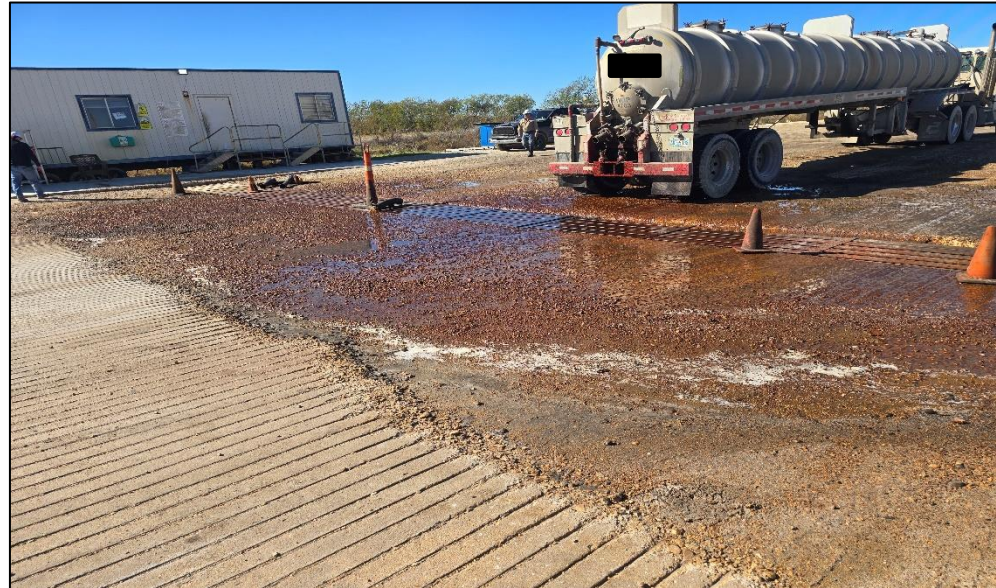


Identifying Challenges & Compliance Issues



Challenges

- Operators utilizing unauthorized WH
- On site records management
- Failing to report facility transfers
- Lack of reporting (Facility inspections or the failure to submit as required).
- Closures



Identifying Challenges & Compliance Issues



Common Compliance Issues

- Facilities operating w/ expired permit
- Operating outside permitted conditions
- Leaks outside containment areas
- Unauthorized new construction
- Freeboard & berm compaction issues
- Contaminated soil
- Failure to conduct annual inspections
- Improper reporting



Identifying Challenges & Compliance Issues



Leaks outside the containment area



Unauthorized new construction



Identifying Challenges & Compliance Issues



Freeboard (2 feet is standard)

Oil accumulation

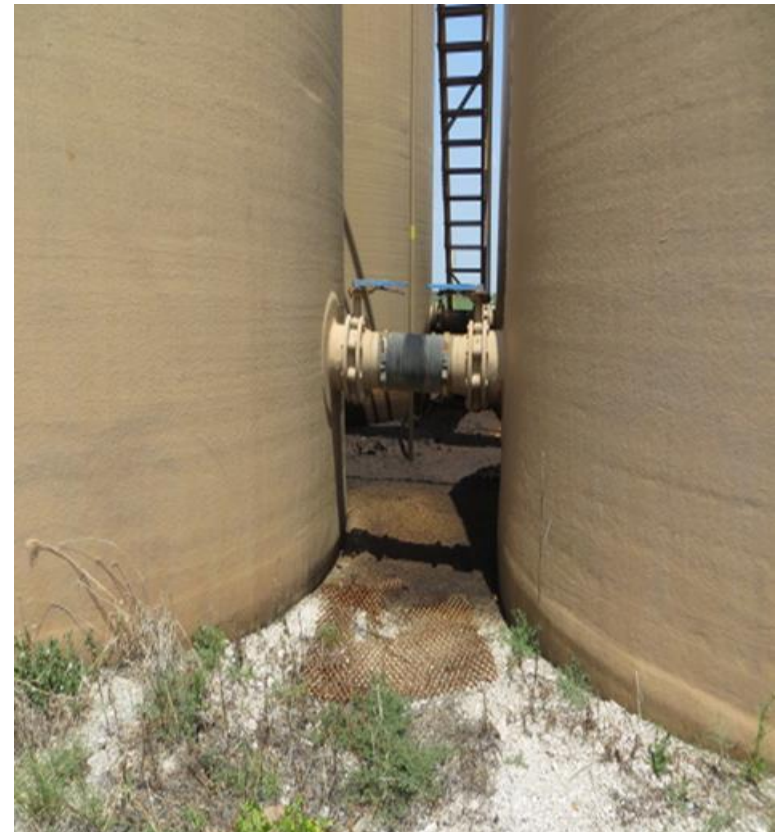
Berm compaction



Identifying Challenges & Compliance Issues



Contaminated soil



Identifying Challenges & Compliance Issues



Reporting

Facilities indicating there were no issues during the reporting period.

We encourage operators to use the template
(NOT MANDATORY)



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Monitoring and Reporting for Surface Waste Facilities

Implementation for 16 TAC Chapter 4 New and Amended Rules

On December 17, 2024, The Railroad Commission (RRC) adopted revisions to 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 4, Subchapter B, *relating to Commercial Recycling*, and new 16 TAC Chapter 4, Subchapter A, *relating to Oil and Gas Waste Management*. The RRC is inviting interested parties to participate in the implementation of the rules.

NOTE: The official document will be available on the Secretary of State's website July 1, 2025.
You can view the adopted revisions [here](#) and adopted penalties [here](#).

RELATED LINKS

[Soil Boring and Groundwater Monitoring](#)

[Form R-2](#)

[Form R-2 Guidance](#)

[DWW Monthly Reporting Template](#) x

[DWW Treatment Location Template](#) x

[Quarterly Report Template](#) x

<https://www.rrc.texas.gov/oil-and-gas/applications-and-permits/environmental-permit-types/monitoring-and-reporting/>



What to Expect



During Inspection Process

- Ensure permits are present
- Spot check waste hauler tracking and verify run tickets
- Validate facility conditions align with permit requirements
- Verify no unauthorized contaminants are present
- Document any deficiencies and address any questions



After Inspection Process

Step	Task	Process
1	Inspection Conducted	Evaluate permit conditions.
2	Report Created	A report of inspection findings.
3	Notice of Violation Issued	If non-compliance (NOV) Letter 30/30/15 is mailed to the operator on file.
4	Wait for Response	30/30/15 calendar days to respond to the NOV.
5	Referral to Enforcement	If no response -refer to the Enforcement team.
6	Enforcement Resolution Attempt	Enforcement attempts to work with the operator to resolve the violation.



A former EPS permitted site that was turned over to State Managed Cleanup Staff in Site Remediation.



This violation has resulted in an automatic referral to the Legal Enforcement Section. The Legal Enforcement Section may assess administrative penalties in an amount of up to \$10,000 per day, per violation, in accordance with Texas Natural Resource Code §81.0531.

Notice of Violation Resolution



How to Resolve your NOV's

- Verify whether a notice will be issued **before departing** the site
- **Review and address** all listed violations thoroughly
- **Reach out** via call or email if any violation is unclear
- **Prepare a written response** outlining corrective actions (electronic submissions authorized soon)
- **Detail the plan of action** to resolve cited items
- **Be ready** for a follow-up inspection or **formally request additional time**
- **Monitor for feedback** or an official **resolved notification**



Know Your Waste Hauler



- Identify all haulers operating at your facility
- **Validate** each hauler holds an active permit
- **Spot-check hauler documentation** for accuracy and completeness
- Confirm the truck displays the same identifying number **on all three sides**
- Ensure the vehicle has a **visible and valid license plate**
- Verify run tickets are being completed correctly
- Enforce that haulers **adhere to your facility's rules and protocols**

Remember: This is your facility



Transfers



- **Request an inspection**
- **Notify Environmental Permits (Austin)**
- **Ensure all outstanding violations are addressed** prior to transfer
Exception: Only if the acquisition agreement stipulates otherwise
- **Confirm the facility is fully transferred and permitted** *before* assuming operational control



Closure



I. General Closure Request

Completed	Task	Notes
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Submit written request for permit cancellation to TP and the District Office (DO) with a request for DO initial closure inspection	Include permit number(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Submit hard copy of Closure Plan	Electronic submissions are not accepted

II. Initial Closure Activities

Completed	Task	Notes
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Provide NORM Survey	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Include confirmation that all waste, equipment, and contaminated soil have been removed	Provide third-party documentation if available
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Confirm all pits are demolished and liners disposed of off-site	Provide disposal manifest(s) if applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Confirm all concrete pads are steam cleaned and demolished, and that the rubble and wash water are disposed of in an authorized manner	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Provide soil sampling plan results	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Include confirmation that permit-specific conditions have been addressed (older permits must meet current standards)	Reference permit terms or RRC website

III. Soil Sampling

Completed	Task	Notes
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Notify TP and DO at least 48 hours before sampling	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Collect a minimum of four (4) representative soil samples (grab) per acre and four (4) soil samples per pit (more may be required)	Based on site's size/conditions
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Confirm analytical lab results meet all parameter limits per permit	Attach summary table, lab reports, and chain of custody. If parameter limits are not met, see IV. Non-Compliant Results.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Submit all sampling results within 30 days of receiving lab results	

- **Initiate a closure inspection** at the start of the process
- **Submit a closure plan** to Environmental Permits for review
- **Obtain formal approval of the closure plan**
- **Schedule and complete the final closure inspection**
- **Receive an approved closure letter** confirming release of financial security

Refer to the official website and your specific permit for detailed closure guidance

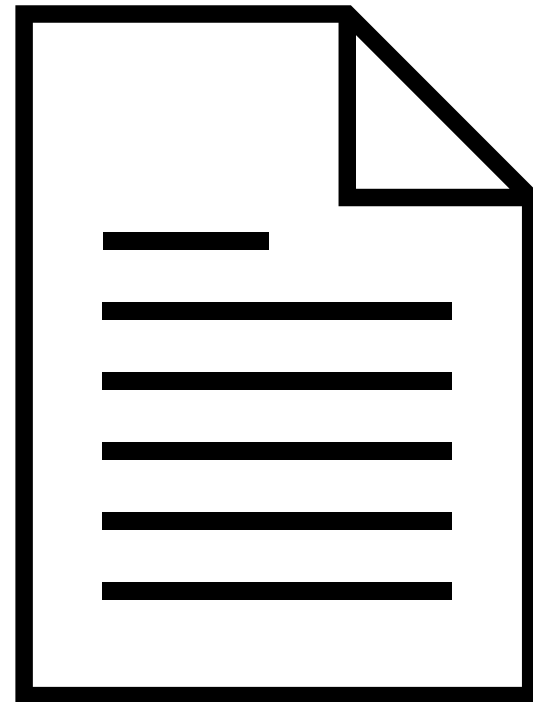


<https://www.rrc.texas.gov/oil-and-gas/applications-and-permits/environmental-permit-types/all-about-chapter-4/>

Best Practices



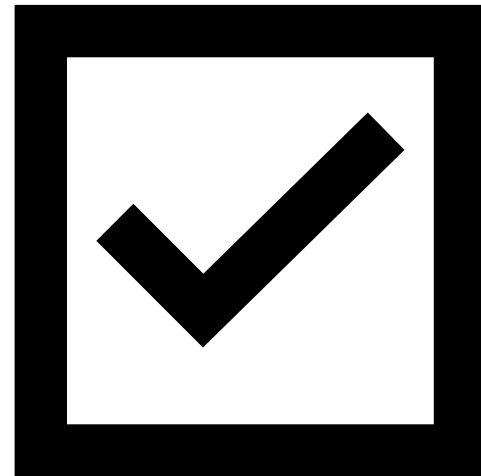
- Permit familiarization
- Emphasize training and record keeping
- Ensure that key points of contact are current
- Become familiar with your District representative
- Ensure timely responses



Key Take Aways



- Know Your Waste Hauler
- Routine inspections
- Know the various types of compliance notifications
 - NOI, NOV, RAD



Compliance Team



Sandra V. Forbes - Manager

Isaac Franco - Team Leader

Cassandra Quiroz – Technical Reviewer

Alisa Patterson – Engineer P.E

James Bolton – Technical Reviewer

EPS Contacts



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Questions

