Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Updates

Deputy Executive Director Ramiro Garcia, Jr.



Updates

- Agency Overview
- Legislative Updates
- Pandemic
- Winter Storm Uri



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- Brent Wade Office of Waste
- Craig Pritzlaff Office of Compliance and Enforcement
- Erin E. Chancellor Office of Legal Services
- Kelly Keel Linden Office of Administrative Services



Legislative Updates

- Number of bills filed: 7,385
- Number of bills analyzed by TCEQ: 562
- Targeted Salary Increases The agency received \$5.8 million to support recruitment and retention of Natural Resources Specialists, which include the agency's Environmental Investigators. The increase also supports Permit Writers, Engineers, and Attorneys.
- Emergency Response Support The agency received \$1 million to support the increase in emergency response efforts.



Legislative Updates

- Optical Gas Imaging Cameras The agency received \$0.4 million to support replacement of inoperable and aging handheld air monitoring equipment.
- Relocation of Corpus Christi Lease The agency received \$0.8 million to support the relocation of the Corpus Christi Regional Office.



Legislative Updates Significant Bills

- Senate Bill 3: Senator Schwertner
- Senate Bill 905: Senator Perry
- Senate Bill 900: Senator Alvarado



Pandemic

- Quick transition to a teleworking environment
- Infrastructure
 - MSTEAMS
 - Laptops
 - Flip phones
- Accomplishing core mission
 - Permitting
 - Responding to complaints
 - Investigations
 - Emergency response



Winter Storm Uri

- First emergency response managed remotely
- Power outages/connectivity
- Water system outages



Questions?

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