

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE  
OF THE TEXAS GROUNDWATER PROTECTION COMMITTEE

RECORD OF MEETING

Third Quarter Meeting, Fiscal Year 2024

Meeting Date: March 20, 2024

Place: Virtual Videoconference  
Meeting No. 81

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Subcommittee Members                      Affiliation

Joel Pigg (Co-Chair)	Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife Extension)
Peggy G Hunka (Co-Chair)	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
David Van Dresar	Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts (TAGD)
David Gunn	Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR)
Christine Peters	Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC)
Robert Bradley	Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)

Other Agency Staff                      Affiliation / Program

Abiy Berehe	TCEQ / Water Availability Division (WAD)
Katie Brice	TCEQ / WAD
Alan Cherepon	TCEQ / WAD
Stephanie Escobar	TCEQ / WAD
Cindy Hooper	TCEQ / WAD
Kathy McCormack	TCEQ / WAD
Scott Underwood	TCEQ / WAD

Public Attendees

Reyna Loosmore	Sam Houston State University Institute for Homeland Security
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**MEETING HANDOUTS**

1. Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC) Public Outreach and Education (POE) Subcommittee Meeting Agenda March 20, 2024
2. TGPC POE Subcommittee Meeting Minutes, December 13, 2023
3. Texas Well Owner Network (TWON) Training Activities Schedule
4. Outreach Events Status Report
5. Water Conferences list
6. Drought Monitor Report
7. Draft FAQ, "Final Where is Uranium Found in Texas.docx"
8. Draft FAQ, "Final How Were the Uranium Deposits in South Texas Created.docx"
9. Draft FAQ, "Final How is Uranium Mined in Texas.docx"
10. Draft FAQ, "Final What is the Quality of Groundwater.docx"
11. Draft FAQ, "Final In Situ Cleanup.docx"
12. Draft FAQ, "Final How Much GW is Required 2024.0216.docx"
13. Draft FAQ, "Final Is Uranium Ready for Use.docx"
14. Draft FAQ, "Final How has the Process of In Situ mining changed over time.docx"
15. Draft FAQ, "Final How do the Underground Injection Regulations Protect GW.docx"
16. Draft FAQ, "Final How are Class II OG Disposal Wells Regulated.docx"
17. Draft FAQ, "Final How Are Class II OG Disposal Wells Monitored.docx"
18. Draft FAQ, "Final Who has Jurisdiction.docx"

19. Draft FAQ, “Final can I Convert an Abandoned OG Well to a Water well.docx”
20. Draft FAQ, “Final what Planning Activities are Co ducted by RWPGs.docx”
21. Draft FAQ, “Final What is the Status of the RWPG Process.docx”
22. Draft FAQ, “Final What Does it Cost to Conduct RWPG Activities.docx”
23. Draft FAQ, “Final what is a Groundwater Management Area.docx”
24. Draft FAQ, “Final What is the State Water Plan.docx”

## **MEETING RECORD OF MARCH 20, 2024**

The TGPC approves all Subcommittee products, and designated TGPC members attending this Subcommittee meeting participated as an employee of their agency or organization -- not as a designated TGPC member. Therefore, this Subcommittee meeting was not subject to the Open Meetings Act and was held 100% virtually. The public was able to attend this meeting via teleconference or videoconference at no cost.

### **CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Joel Pigg (AgriLife Extension), Co-Chair of the TGPC POE Subcommittee, called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. Attendees were introduced. The meeting record for the December 13, 2023, meeting was provided to the members by email for review prior to the meeting.

### **STATUS REPORTS**

#### TWON Training Activities

Joel Pigg (AgriLife Extension) reviewed the TWON training schedule. During the previous quarter, TWON staff held three one-day events and four one-hour events. Staff collected 430 samples during this time. There have been over 3,314 samples or attendees at TWON events since May 2021.

#### Recent and Upcoming Outreach Events

The current Outreach Events Status Report was reviewed, and is available on the [POE Subcommittee webpage](#)<sup>1</sup> under the “Additional Resources” heading:

- Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife Extension) Water Well Screening Events

Joel Pigg (AgriLife Extension) reported there were three events in December with three more events planned for March and April 2024.

- TGPC Exhibit Booth:

There were no TGPC Booth events this past quarter.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://tgpc.texas.gov/tgpc-subcommittees/tgpc-public-outreach-and-education-subcommittee/>

### Review Groundwater Conferences

- Joel Pigg (AgriLife Extension) reviewed the upcoming conferences. The TCEQ Environmental Trade Fair will be held May 14-15, 2024, and the TGPC will have a booth at the TCEQ Center.

### Review Drought Monitor

- Joel Pigg (AgriLife Extension) reviewed the drought monitor report, which shows that most of Texas is coming out of a drought except for the Central Texas / Lampasas area.

### National Groundwater Awareness Week Poster update

- The National Groundwater Awareness Week poster was displayed at the TCEQ offices during the week of March 10-16, 2024. A request was made for pictures or reports on the poster being displayed.

### **ANNOUNCE FUTURE MEETING DATE**

The next TGPC POE Subcommittee meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, June 5, 2024, by Teams Videoconference at 1:00 PM.

### Review and discuss changes to the POE Educational Outreach Plan

None

### **REVIEW, DISCUSS, AND APPROVE DOCUMENTATION**

#### Discussion of Education Outreach Opportunities

Discussion on displaying TGPC handouts at upcoming conferences and if other agencies would be willing to take some TGPC handouts to conferences they attend.

### Publications

#### **AgriLife Extension Reprints**

Joel Pigg (AgriLife Extension) reported that reprints of *Nitrates in the Home* will need to be reprinted soon, but there are no reprints at this point.

#### **FAQs and Fact Sheets:**

The FAQs in the handout list were sent to the subject matter experts for review. All comments and suggestions were accepted, and the format of the FAQs were updated to a consistent format. Since these are updates, the FAQ has already been approved by the TGPC Committee and will simply be uploaded to the TGPC website. Subcommittee members have 10 days to provide further comment before the FAQs will be uploaded to the website.

Renaming the FAQs to Topics of Interest was discussed and combining the topics in one document.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 2:19 p.m.