

1-1 By: Estes, Nichols, Davis S.B. No. 540
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed January 26, 2009; February 17, 2009,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Natural Resources;
1-4 March 23, 2009, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 1; March 23, 2009,
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 540 By: Estes

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to notice of an application for a permit to dispose of oil
1-11 and gas waste in a disposal well.

1-12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-13 SECTION 1. Section 27.034, Water Code, is amended by adding
1-14 Subsections (c) and (d) to read as follows:

1-15 (c) In connection with an application for a permit to
1-16 dispose of oil and gas waste in a disposal well, the rules adopted
1-17 under Subsection (a) must, at a minimum, require the applicant, at
1-18 the time the application is filed with the railroad commission, to
1-19 provide a copy of the application to any groundwater conservation
1-20 district in which the well is proposed to be located.

1-21 (d) The railroad commission shall not approve an
1-22 application for a permit to dispose of oil and gas waste in a
1-23 disposal well before the expiration of 30 days following the date
1-24 the application is filed with the railroad commission or the date
1-25 that notice of the application has been published in accordance
1-26 with railroad commission rules, whichever date is later.

1-27 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
1-28 to an application for a permit to dispose of oil and gas waste that
1-29 is filed with the Railroad Commission of Texas on or after the
1-30 effective date of this Act. An application filed before the
1-31 effective date of this Act is subject to the law in effect on the
1-32 date the application is filed, and that law is continued in effect
1-33 for that purpose.

1-34 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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