

By: Burnam

H.B. No. 3597

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to application and notification requirements for a permit to drill an oil or gas well in or near an easement held by the Texas Department of Transportation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 91, Natural Resources Code, is amended by adding Section 91.021 to read as follows:

Sec. 91.021. NOTICE OF PERMIT TO DRILL WELL IN TRANSPORTATION EASEMENT. (a) In this section, "department" means the Texas Department of Transportation.

(b) The commission shall adopt rules to require that an application for a permit to drill an oil or gas well include an affirmation as to whether or not the well is located within an easement held by the department or within 50 yards of an easement held by the department.

(c) Not later than the 14th day after the date the commission receives an application for a permit to drill an oil or gas well that contains an affirmation that the well is located within an easement held by the department or within 50 yards of an easement held by the department, the commission shall transmit the application to the department.

(d) This section does not grant to the department any authority regarding the approval of an application for a permit to drill an oil or gas well.

1           SECTION 2. Section 91.021, Natural Resources Code, as added  
2 by this Act, applies only to a permit application filed with the  
3 Railroad Commission of Texas on or after the effective date of this  
4 Act. A permit application filed with the commission before the  
5 effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect when the  
6 application was filed, and the former law is continued in effect for  
7 that purpose.

8           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.