

**House Bill 3309**  
Senate Amendments  
Section-by-Section Analysis

HOUSE VERSION

SECTION 1. Section 81.067(c), Natural Resources Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The fund consists of:

- (1) proceeds from bonds and other financial security required by this chapter and benefits under well-specific plugging insurance policies described by Section 91.104(c) that are paid to the state as contingent beneficiary of the policies, subject to the refund provisions of Section 91.1091, if applicable;
- (2) private contributions, including contributions made under Section 89.084;
- (3) expenses collected under Section 89.083;
- (4) fees imposed under Section 85.2021;
- (5) costs recovered under Section 91.457 or 91.459;
- (6) proceeds collected under Sections 89.085 and 91.115;
- (7) interest earned on the funds deposited in the fund;
- (8) oil and gas waste hauler permit application fees collected under Section 29.015, Water Code;
- (9) costs recovered under Section 91.113(f);
- (10) hazardous oil and gas waste generation fees collected under Section 91.605;
- (11) oil-field cleanup regulatory fees on oil collected under Section 81.116;

SENATE VERSION (IE)

SECTION 1. Sections 81.067(b) and (c), Natural Resources Code, are amended to read as follows: [FA1(1)]

(b) The commission shall certify to the comptroller the date on which the balance in the fund equals or exceeds \$30 [~~\$20~~] million. The oil-field cleanup regulatory fees on oil and gas shall not be collected or required to be paid on or after the first day of the second month following the certification, except that the comptroller shall resume collecting the fees on receipt of a commission certification that the fund has fallen below \$25 [~~\$10~~] million. The comptroller shall continue collecting the fees until collections are again suspended in the manner provided by this subsection. [FA1(2)]

(c) The fund consists of:

- (1) proceeds from bonds and other financial security required by this chapter and benefits under well-specific plugging insurance policies described by Section 91.104(c) that are paid to the state as contingent beneficiary of the policies, subject to the refund provisions of Section 91.1091, if applicable;
- (2) private contributions, including contributions made under Section 89.084;
- (3) expenses collected under Section 89.083;
- (4) fees imposed under Section 85.2021;
- (5) costs recovered under Section 91.457 or 91.459;
- (6) proceeds collected under Sections 89.085 and 91.115;
- (7) interest earned on the funds deposited in the fund;
- (8) oil and gas waste hauler permit application fees collected under Section 29.015, Water Code;
- (9) costs recovered under Section 91.113(f);
- (10) hazardous oil and gas waste generation fees collected under Section 91.605;
- (11) oil-field cleanup regulatory fees on oil collected under Section 81.116;

CONFERENCE

**House Bill 3309**  
Senate Amendments  
Section-by-Section Analysis

HOUSE VERSION

- (12) oil-field cleanup regulatory fees on gas collected under Section 81.117;
- (13) fees for a reissued certificate collected under Section 91.707;
- (14) fees collected under Section 91.1013;
- (15) fees collected under Section 89.088;
- (16) fees collected under Section 91.142;
- (17) fees collected under Section 91.654;
- (18) costs recovered under Sections 91.656 and 91.657;
- (19) two-thirds of the fees collected under Section 81.0521;
- (20) fees collected under Sections 89.024 and 89.026;
- (21) legislative appropriations; ~~and~~
- (22) any surcharges collected under Section 81.070; and
- (23) fees collected under Section 91.0115.

SECTION 2. Section 81.068, Natural Resources Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 81.068. PURPOSE OF OIL AND GAS REGULATION AND CLEANUP FUND. Money in the oil and gas regulation and cleanup fund may be used by the commission or its employees or agents for any purpose related to the regulation of oil and gas development, including oil and gas monitoring and inspections, oil and gas remediation, oil and gas well plugging, public information and services related to those activities, the study and evaluation of electronic access to geologic data and surface casing depths necessary to protect usable groundwater in this state, and administrative costs and state benefits for personnel involved in those activities.

SECTION 3. Section 91.0115, Natural Resources Code, is amended by amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

SENATE VERSION (IE)

- (12) oil-field cleanup regulatory fees on gas collected under Section 81.117;
- (13) fees for a reissued certificate collected under Section 91.707;
- (14) fees collected under Section 91.1013;
- (15) fees collected under Section 89.088;
- (16) fees collected under Section 91.142;
- (17) fees collected under Section 91.654;
- (18) costs recovered under Sections 91.656 and 91.657;
- (19) two-thirds of the fees collected under Section 81.0521;
- (20) fees collected under Sections 89.024 and 89.026;
- (21) legislative appropriations; ~~and~~
- (22) any surcharges collected under Section 81.070; and
- (23) fees collected under Section 91.0115.

SECTION 2. Same as House version.

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CONFERENCE

**House Bill 3309**  
Senate Amendments  
Section-by-Section Analysis

HOUSE VERSION

(c) The commission shall charge a fee not to exceed \$75, in addition to the fee required by Subsection (b), for processing a request to expedite a letter of determination. ~~[Money collected under this subsection may be used to study and evaluate electronic access to geologic data and surface casing depths under Section 91.020.]~~

(d) The fees collected under this section shall be deposited in the oil and gas regulation and cleanup fund.

SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

SENATE VERSION (IE)

SECTION 4. Same as House version.

CONFERENCE