A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the requirements for an application for a permit to drill an oil or gas well at a site adjacent to a well blowout site.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 91, Natural Resources Code, is amended by adding Section 91.118 to read as follows:

Sec. 91.118. APPLICATION FOR PERMIT FOR WELL ADJACENT TO WELL BLOWOUT SITE IN CERTAIN COUNTIES. (a) The commission by rule shall require that an applicant for a permit to drill an oil or gas well in a county with a population of more than 750,000 disclose to the commission in the application that the applicant was the operator of an oil or gas well:

(1) located at a site adjacent to the site of the proposed well;

(2) drilled through or into the same formations as the proposed well is to be drilled; and

(3) from which an uncontrolled release of a subterranean fluid containing oil, gas, or condensate or of a well fluid that is caused by a loss of well control occurred while the applicant operated the oil or gas well.

(b) The rules may include criteria for determining whether a site is adjacent to another site for the purposes of this section.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.