

The House Committee on Environmental Regulation

88th Legislature

September 5, 2024

9:00 a.m.

6100 Main Street

Rice University's Baker Institute

James A. Baker III Hall, Suite 160

Houston, Texas 77005

Pursuant to a notice posted on August 30, 2024, the House Committee on Environmental Regulation met in a public hearing and was called to order by the chair, Representative Landgraf, at 9:10 a.m.

The initial quorum call was answered as follows: Representatives Landgraf; Bell, Keith; Dean; and Lopez, Janie.

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(Representative Morales Shaw now present.)

A quorum was achieved.

The Chair and members made opening remarks.

The Committee heard invited testimony on the following interim charges and topics:

Monitoring: Monitor the agencies and programs under the Committee's jurisdiction and oversee the implementation of relevant legislation passed by the 88th Legislature. Conduct active oversight of all associated rulemaking and other governmental actions taken to ensure the intended legislative outcome of all legislation, including the following:

HB 3060, relating to the regulation of recycling and recycled products; and
HB 4885, relating to programs established and funded under the Texas Emissions Reduction Plan (TERP).

(Representative Reynolds now present.)

Testimony taken/registration recorded. (See attached witness list.)

Impact of EPA rules on Texas: Evaluate and address the implications of recent EPA regulations proposed and promulgated rules to assess their collective impact on air quality in Texas. Examine the necessity for a new State Implementation Plan and explore potential legislative measures to ensure a balanced approach that promotes regulatory compliance while preserving economic vitality, especially in counties identified as at risk of violation.

Testimony taken/registration recorded. (See attached witness list.)

Hydrogen Industry Impacts & Recommendations: Evaluate the environmental impacts of the industrial development of emerging markets for hydrogen, including production, transportation, storage, power generation, and other competitive market opportunities. Make recommendations needed to build a competitive hydrogen industry in the state.

Testimony taken/registration recorded. (See attached witness list.)

Concrete Batch Plants in Houston: The committee will hear invited testimony on the impact of concrete batch plants regulated by TCEQ on air, land and water in Houston.

Chair recognized Representative Allen to speak on the measure.

Chair recognized Representative Senfronia Thompson to speak on the measure.

Testimony taken/registration recorded. (See attached witness list.)

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At 12:58 p.m., on the motion of the chair and without objection, the meeting was adjourned subject to the call of the chair.

Rep. Landgraf, Chair

Marco Fuentes, Clerk