

38th Annual Texas Environmental Superconference

“A STAR-SPANGLED AFFAIR”



**Thursday – Friday August 6 – 7, 2026
Four Seasons Hotel Austin, Texas**

PRESENTED BY:

Environmental & Natural Resources Law Section of the State Bar of Texas

PROMOTED BY:

Air & Waste Management Association, Southwest Section
Water Environment Association of Texas
American Bar Association Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources

SUPPORTED BY:

EarthX

THURSDAY AUGUST 6, 2026

7:30 am – 8:15 am

CHECK IN/ BREAKFAST
The Austin Tea Party

8:15 am – 8:45 am

OPENING REMARKS
By the dawn's early light

[Jeff Civins](#), *Chair*, Texas Environmental Superconference

[Trammell S. Crow](#), *Founder*, EarthX

[Joe Pere](#), *Chair Emeritus*, Central Texas Chapter, Air & Waste Management Association, Southwest Section

[Julie Nahrgang](#), *Executive Director*, Water Environment Association of Texas

[Danny G. Worrell](#), *ABA Section of Environment, Energy & Resources*

[Lisa Uselton Dyar](#), *Chair*, Environmental & Natural Resources Law Section, State Bar of Texas

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MODERATOR: [Cindy Bishop](#), *President*, C Bishop Law PC

8:45 am – 9:45 am

SUPREME COURT UPDATE

Men are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights.

[John Cruden](#), *Principal*, Beveridge & Diamond PC

[Todd Kim](#), *Partner*, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP

9:45 am – 10:15 am

CASE LAW UPDATE

Facts are stubborn things

[James E. Smith](#), *Shareholder*, Crain Caton & James

10:15 am – 10:30 am

BREAK

MODERATOR: [Ty'Meka M. Reeves-Sobers](#), *Partner*, Clifford Chance US LLP

10:30 am – 11:15 am

WATER ISSUES

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure

[Jeremy Mazur](#), *Director of Infrastructure & Natural Resource Policy*, Texas 2036

[Lynn Sherman](#), *Partner*, Jackson Walker

11:15 am – 12:15 pm

TEXAS COASTAL ISSUES

From sea to shining sea

[Jim Blackburn](#), *Outside Counsel*, Gulf Coast Protection District

[Michael Irlbeck](#), *Director Business Development*, EPCOR

Erik Eriksson, *former Chief Legal Officer*, Port of Houston Authority

12:15 pm – 1:10 pm

LUNCH

As thick as hasty pudding

MODERATOR: [Anne Austin](#), *Founder*, Austin Legal & Public Affairs

1:10 pm – 1:30 pm

REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR REMARKS

This land is your land; this land is my land.

[Scott Mason](#), *Regional Administrator*, EPA Region 6

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY UPDATE

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave

[Ashleigh Myers](#), *Partner*, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP

[Shailesh Sahay](#), *Partner*, Bracewell LLP

[A.J. Wissinger](#), *Partner*, Reed Smith LLP

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- 2:30 pm – 3:15 pm **TCEQ/EPA CHAT**
United we stand, divided we fall
Chat Leader: [Stephanie Bergeron Perdue](#), *Partner*, Baker Botts LLP
Kelly Keel, *Executive Director*, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Stacey Dwyer, *Deputy Regional Administrator*, EPA Region 6
- 3:15 pm – 3:30 pm **BREAK**
- MODERATOR:** [Pam Giblin](#), *Senior Policy Advisor*, Climate Leadership Counsel
- 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm **AIR QUALITY**
Give me liberty and give me breath
Terry Salem, *Special Counsel, Office of Legal Services*, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
[Jordan Rodriguez](#), *Shareholder*, Winstead P.C.
Parker Wilson, *Vice President of Regulatory Law*, Valero (*Retired*)
- 4:30 pm – 4:55 pm **FEDERAL ENFORCEMENT**
A Stitch in Time Saves Nine
Jeffrey Hall, *Assistant Administrator, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance*, EPA
- 4:55 PM – 5:15 pm **STATE AND CITIZEN ENFORCEMENT**
Don't tread on me
[J. Amber Ahmed](#), *Of Counsel*, Beveridge & Diamond
- 5:15 pm – 5:20 pm **CLOSING REMARKS**
The price of freedom is eternal vigilance
- 5:20 pm – 6:00 pm **RECEPTION**
O Say Can You Drink

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FRIDAY AUGUST 7, 2026

- 7:30 am – 8:15 am **BREAKFAST**
The time is now near at hand...
- 8:15 am – 8:30 am **OPENING REMARKS**
These are the times that try men's souls
- MODERATOR:** [Peter T. Gregg](#), Partner, Gregg Law PC
- 8:30 am – 9:30 am **OIL PATCH**
The shot heard round the world
- Betsy Peticolas, Environmental Attorney, Railroad Commission of Texas
 [David Terry](#), Counsel, Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP
 Dania Grundmann, Assistant Director, Water Quality Division, TCEQ
- 9:30 am – 10:30 am **CLIMATE**
Learn to think continentally
- [Jim Blackburn](#), Chairman of the Board and Founder, BCarbon
 [Aaron Ramcharan](#), Associate, Baker Botts LLP
 [Patrick Runge](#), Partner, Burke Law Group PLLC
- 10:30 am – 10:45 am **BREAK**
- MODERATOR:** [Jason A. Hill](#), Partner, Holland & Knight LLP
- 10:45 am – 11:30 am **CHEMICAL AND PRODUCT REGULATION**
The British are coming...
- [Cynthia Stroman](#), Partner, King & Spalding LLP
 [Clarissa Howley Mills](#), Partner, Holland & Knight LLP
- 11:30 am – 12:15 pm **ADMINISTRATIVE LAW UPDATE**
Reason and free inquiry are the only effectual agents against error
- Linda Secord, Attorney at Law
 [Eric Groten](#), Senior Partner, Vinson & Elkins LLP
- 12:15 pm – 1:15 pm **LUNCH**
Waste not, want not
- 1:15 pm – 1:30 PM **SBOT ENRLS MEETING**
Let us dare to read, think, speak and write

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MODERATOR: [Steve Morton](#), Attorney, The Morton Law Firm, PLLC

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

AI AND ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness

[Tracy Hester](#), Professor, University of Houston Law Center

[Glenn C. Clingenpeel](#), Deputy General Manager, Trinity River Authority of Texas

[Patricia Peterson](#), Vice President of Claims, TLIE

2:30 pm – 3:30 pm

ETHICS AND LOBBYING

Associate with men of good quality if you esteem your own reputation

[Denise Davis](#), Partner, Davis Kaufman PLLC

Sam Gammage, State Government Affairs Director-Southwest Region, Dow

[Rep. Brooks Landgraf](#), State Representative, Texas House of Representatives

3:30 – 3:35 pm

CLOSING REMARKS

Let Freedom Ring

38th Annual Texas Environmental Superconference

“YANKEE DOODLE DATA”



Data Centers and the Environment

Wednesday August 5, 2026
Four Seasons Hotel Austin, Texas

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 5, 2026

- 3:45 pm to 4:00 pm **CHECK IN**
- 4:00 pm to 4:05 pm **WELCOME AND PROGRAM OVERVIEW**
Strangers are welcome because there is room enough for all
[Mary Simmons Mendoza](#), Vice Chair, Texas Environmental Superconference
- MODERATOR:** [Carolyn Ahrens](#), Solo Practitioner and Of Counsel, Booth & Associates, P.C.
- 4:05 PM to 4:15 PM **AN INTRODUCTION TO DATA CENTERS**
Energy and persistence conquer all things
A.W. Armstrong, Principal & Texas Market Director, Ramboll
- 4:15 PM to 4:45 PM **THE FEDERAL PERSPECTIVE**
Look before, or you'll find yourself behind
Rob Seifert, Director, Infrastructure Disposition and Regulatory Policy, U.S. Department of Energy
[Rachael Marsh](#), Chief Legal Officer, Edison Electric Institute
- 4:45 PM to 5:15 PM **TEXAS WATER AND POWER SUPPLY ISSUES**
No gains without pains
[Alan Leonard](#), Director of Policy, Texas Water Foundation
[Jared Berg](#), Partner, Bracewell LLP

38th Annual Texas Environmental Superconference

“YANKEE DOODLE DATA”

5:15 PM to 5:30 PM **ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**
Well done is better than well said

Rob Seifert

[Rachael Marsh](#)

[Alan Leonard](#)

Jared Berg

MODERATOR: [Mary Simmons Mendoza](#)

5:30 PM to 6:30 PM **ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**
Haste Makes Waste

[Jason A. Hill](#), *Partner*, Holland & Knight LLP

Alicia Smith, *Principal*, Ramboll

[David B. Spence](#), *Professor*, University of Texas School of Law

6:30 PM **CLOSING REMARKS**
Wish not so much to live long as to live well

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PLANNING COMMITTEE

Jeff Civins

Haynes and Boone, LLP
Chair

Mary Mendoza

Haynes and Boone, LLP
Vice-Chair

Amber Ahmed

Beveridge & Diamond, P.C.

Carolyn Ahrens

Booth & Associates, P.C.

Anne Austin

Austin Legal & Public Affairs

Debra Tsuchiyama Baker

Baker Wotring, LLP

**Stephanie Bergeron
Perdue**

Baker Botts, L.L.P.

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C Bishop Law P.C.

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Burke Law Group

Anthony B. Cavender

Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw
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Richard Dexter

Patrick Dexter

R-D Consulting, Inc.

Shelly M. Doggett

State Office of Administrative
Hearings

Lisa Dyar

Beveridge & Diamond, P.C.

Pamela M. Giblin

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Gregg Law P.C.

Elizabeth C. Harkrider

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Jason A. Hill

Holland & Knight LLP

David Klein

Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle &
Townsend, P.C.

Phillip Ledbetter

TCEQ

Shannon Love

Office of the Attorney General
of Texas

Arnoldo Medina

Valero Energy Corporation

Steve Morton

The Morton Law Firm PLLC

Julie Nahrgang

Water Environment
Association of Texas

Michael J. Nasi

Jackson Walker LLP

Ty'Meka Reeves-Sobers

Clifford Chance

Benjamin Rhem

Jackson Walker LLP

Jeffrey A. Saitas

Saitas and Seales

Paul C. Sarahan

Earth & Water Law, LLC

Cindy C. Smiley

Smiley Law Firm

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Cynthia Stroman

King & Spalding LLP

David Terry

Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP

Andrew Van Osselaer

Haynes and Boone, LLP

Ryan Vanderlip

Vinson & Elkins LLP

Michael F. Vitris

Beveridge & Diamond, P.C.

Brooke Wallery

U.S. EPA

Dorothy E. Watson

Foley & Lardner LLP

Timothy A. Wilkins

Bracewell LLP

Suzanne Wilson

Edward Aquifer Authority

Danny G. Worrell

Baker Botts LLP

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Thank you
To all of our Supporters & Sponsors

CONSULTANTS

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FRIENDS OF SUPERCONFERENCE

PERTINENT INFORMATION

CLE: Wednesday’s Program: This course has been approved for Minimum Continuing Legal Education credit by the State Bar of Texas Committee on MCLE in the amount of 2.5 hours of CLE credit, all of which can be applied to the legal ethics/professional responsibility requirement. It also has been approved by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization for 2.5 hours for the following specialty fields: Administrative Law; Civil Appellate Law; Oil, Gas and Mineral Law; and Real Estate Law.

Thursday and Friday’s Programs: This course has been approved for Minimum Continuing Legal Education credit by the State Bar of Texas Committee on MCLE in the amount of 12.5 hours of CLE credit, of which 1.5 hours can be applied to the ethics requirement. It is also has been approved by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization for 12.25 hours for the following specialty fields: Administrative Law; Civil Trail Law; Property Owners Association Law; Oil, Gas and Mineral Law; and Real Estate Law.

HOTEL: We’ve arranged a limited hotel block with discounted rates at the FOUR SEASONS HOTEL, 98 San Jacinto Blvd., Austin, Texas 78701. To book a room, please contact the Four Seasons – by phone (512-478-4500) or online www.fourseasons.com .

Discounted rates for our hotel block are: City View – \$345.00/night and Lake View – \$415.00/night.

Group Name: Texas Environmental Superconference 2026
Block Rate Code: 260805TES

PARKING: Four Seasons Hotel - Self Park: \$30/vehicle/day; Valet: \$32/vehicle/day; Overnight: \$67/vehicle/night

DRESS CODE: Casual (It’s Austin! It’s summer!)

QUESTIONS: If you have any questions, please contact: The Superconference at superconference@haynesboone.com

CANCELLATION POLICY:

- Full refunds available for cancellations received by 5:00 PM CT on July 10th.
- Cancellations received by 5:00 PM CT on July 15th incur a \$200 fee.
- No refunds on cancellations received after 5:00 PM CT on July 31st, but attendee substitutions are accepted via email until 5:00 PM CT on August 3rd.

Registrants are responsible for canceling hotel reservations and complying with the hotel’s cancellation policy. Check the hotel’s cancellation policy carefully.