

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 – 5:15 pm **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
- 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

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 – 8:55 am **FEDERAL ENFORCEMENT**
A Stitch in Time Saves Nine
Jeffrey Hall, *Assistant Administrator, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance*, EPA

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- 8:55 am – 9:30 am **STATE AND CITIZEN ENFORCEMENT**
Don't tread on me
[J. Amber Ahmed](#), Of Counsel, Beveridge & Diamond
- 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

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

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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 pm – 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 - 4:00 pm

CHECK IN

4:00 pm - 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 - 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 - 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 - 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

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"YANKEE DOODLE DATA"

5:15 pm - 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 - 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.

Cynthia J. Bishop
C Bishop Law P.C.

Marcella Burke
Burke Law Group

Anthony B. Cavender
Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw
Pittman LLP

**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
Climate Leadership Council

Phillip M. Goodwin
City of Houston

Peter T. Gregg
Gregg Law P.C.

Elizabeth C. Harkrider
TCEQ

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

Christopher D. Smith
Smith Jolin LLP

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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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. We have also applied for approval from 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. We have also applied for approval from the Texas Board of Legal Specialization for 12.5 hours for the following specialty fields: Administrative Law; Civil Appellate Law; Oil, Gas and Mineral Law; and Real Estate Law.

HOTEL BLOCK UPDATE: Our room block at the Four Seasons Hotel is currently **SOLD OUT**. For your convenience, we have provided the names of several nearby hotel options below, there are others in the area. Please contact the hotels directly regarding availability, rates, and reservations.

[Austin Marriott Downtown](#)

[JW Marriott](#)

[Fairmont Austin](#)

PARKING: Four Seasons Hotel - Self Park: \$30/vehicle/day; Valet: \$32/vehicle/day; Overnight: Discounted rate of \$58/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.