

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 23, 2016 8:22:54 AM

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-----Original Message-----

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2016 8:34 PM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: RAILROAD COMMISSION TEXAS RRC

First Name: John

Last Name: Young

Title: Mr

Organization you are affiliated with: Member of LRGV Sierra Club and saveRGVfromLNG

Email:

City: San Benito

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or  
Opposed:

I see the Lower Rio Grande Valley where my wife and I live (roughly the Cameron and Hidalgo County area) increasingly encircled by oil and gas operations closing in on us. Three LNG export companies seeking FERC approval to build and operate at our local Port of Brownsville, a number of natural gas pipelines heading our way (including the 140 mile dual 42" Rio Bravo Pipeline that's to provide the gas feed for the proposed Rio Grand LNG project; a 42" TransCanada / Spectra / Valley Crossing Pipeline that's to take Eagle Ford gas down to Brownsville, TX, for Mexico), and so on.

I read about the corruption rampant within the Texas Railroad Commission and see how it brushes aside local concerns and interests including public health and safety in favor of oil and gas commercial interests. It's procedures for letting the general public know about projects heading their way is totally inadequate. For all the good it seems to do local communities in asserting any kind of local control over the invoking of eminent domain by the companies or over the kinds and extent of the health and safety threats brought to their door steps by the permitted pipelines and drilling and other such operations.

A postcard should be sent to every resident and land and property owner who might have concerns about theses operations. The notifications posted on websites, posted at libraries, printed in the classifieds section of a local newspaper, sent to local government entities -- these have proven insufficient.

I support the comments made regarding the Texas Railroad Commission made by Public Citizen Texas and Texas Campaign for the Environment, by the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club, and by Environment Texas. Especially regarding the issue of conflicts of interests involving the Commissioners.

I was born in Fort Worth back when it was known as "Cow Town," two weeks before the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. My wife and I own a home and two rent houses here in San Benito, TX. If every community looked

around the way I have and found themselves surrounded by such a mess of oil and gas operations closing in on them, and found out about all the health and safety risks brought their way by such operations ("risks" being too tame a word for the real wreckage of health and lives involved), it would shake our state and our nation to their foundations.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: There needs to be a public advisory commission that includes members independent of the types of operations regulated by the Texas Railroad Commission but knowledgeable about environmental health issues, and other such issues close to the hearts and heart beats of the local communities placed in harms way by these operations.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 23, 2016 8:22:30 AM

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-----Original Message-----

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2016 10:07 PM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: RAILROAD

First Name: John

Last Name: Young

Title: Mr

Organization you are affiliated with: Member of LRGV Sierra Club and saveRGVfromLNG

Email:

City: San Benito

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: Additional comment: The Texas Railroad Commission has neither the budget nor staffing sufficient to the challenge of regulating desperate business operations facing a weakening market or to handle the shuttering of these operations in whole or in part as they collapse and/or are abandoned (leaving the state responsible for the resulting caretaking and clean up operations).

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: The Railroad Commission must be given the authority and revenue streams sufficient to meeting the challenges of a collapsing oil and gas market and the resulting company bankruptcies and abandonments.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree