

**SUBJECT:** Delegating certain purchasing powers to the Railroad Commission

**COMMITTEE:** Energy Resources — favorable, without amendment

**VOTE:** 9 ayes — Paddie, Herrero, Bailes, Craddick, Darby, Gutierrez, Harris,  
Perez, Rosenthal

0 nays

2 absent — Anchia, Geren

**WITNESSES:** For — None

Against — None

On — Adam Levy, Railroad Commission of Texas; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Amy Comeaux, Comptroller of Public Accounts; Corey Crawford and Vanessa Burgess, Railroad Commission of Texas)

**BACKGROUND:** Government Code sec. 2155.150 delegates all purchasing functions related to abandoned oil and gas wells and the Oil and Gas Regulation and Cleanup Fund to the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Some have suggested that requiring the Railroad Commission to seek approval from the comptroller for procurement of goods and services related to mine reclamation is burdensome and delays projects. Providing the Railroad Commission with similar purchasing authority regarding abandoned mines that it currently holds relating to oil and gas wells and the Oil and Gas Regulation and Cleanup Fund could expedite projects.

**DIGEST:** HB 2270 would delegate all purchasing functions related to coal and uranium mine reclamation projects to the Railroad Commission of Texas.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2019.