



Monthly Summary from STPRA's Austin Team

August 2016

--**The Senate Agriculture, Water, and Rural Affairs Committee** held a marathon committee hearing on July 25th that delved heavily into groundwater ownership, production, and transfer. As usual, the major issues centered around the confluence of private property interests, local control, state oversight, and demand from water user groups, particularly as related to urban development. A follow-up meeting that was scheduled for August 15th has been cancelled.

--**The House Committee on Land and Resource Management** will hold a hearing on August 22nd concerning coastal erosion and natural disaster response preparedness.

--**The House Committee on Defense and Veterans' Affairs** will hold a hearing in Wichita Falls on August 24th concerning the impact of wind energy development on the operations of military bases.

--**The House Committee on Transportation** will hold hearings on August 30th to get updates from TxDOT on their projects and funding priorities.

These interim hearings do not involve the consideration of any specific proposed legislation, since bills for next spring's legislative session cannot be filed until November.

Archived and live videos of committee hearings can be accessed at:

<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/>

--**The Austin-based Texas Tribune** will host a conversation with Sen. Chuy Hinojosa and State Representatives Bobby Guerra and Terry Canales in Edinburg on August 26th. Further information about the event can be found here: https://www.texastribune.org/events/2016/08/26/a-conversation-with-sen-hinojosa-and-reps-canales-guerra/?mc_cid=641c1250b1&mc_eid=52fe9b30ca

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