

1-1 By: Blanco S.B. No. 1210  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 24, 2023; March 9, 2023,  
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Natural Resources &  
1-4 Economic Development; April 11, 2023, reported adversely, with  
1-5 favorable Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 9,  
1-6 Nays 0; April 11, 2023, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	<u>Birdwell</u>	X		
1-10	<u>Zaffirini</u>	X		
1-11	<u>Alvarado</u>	X		
1-12	<u>Blanco</u>	X		
1-13	<u>Hancock</u>	X		
1-14	<u>Hughes</u>	X		
1-15	<u>Kolkhorst</u>	X		
1-16	<u>Miles</u>	X		
1-17	<u>Sparks</u>	X		

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1210 By: Blanco

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to the authority of the Railroad Commission of Texas to  
1-22 designate certain persons as the operator of an orphaned oil or gas  
1-23 well.

1-24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-25 SECTION 1. Section 89.047(a), Natural Resources Code, is  
1-26 amended by adding Subdivisions (1-a) and (1-b) to read as follows:

1-27 (1-a) "Energy conservation well" means a well used for  
1-28 the retention of energy that may be used to provide dispatchable  
1-29 generation of electricity for the power grid.

1-30 (1-b) "Geothermal energy and associated resources"  
1-31 has the meaning assigned by Section 141.003.

1-32 SECTION 2. Section 89.047(f), Natural Resources Code, is  
1-33 amended to read as follows:

1-34 (f) The commission shall designate the person as the  
1-35 operator of the well if the person files with the commission:

1-36 (1) a factually supported claim based on a recognized  
1-37 legal theory to a continuing possessory right in:

1-38 (A) the mineral estate accessed by the well,  
1-39 ~~[such]~~ as established by ~~[evidence of]~~ a current oil and gas lease,  
1-40 ~~[or]~~ a recorded deed conveying a fee interest in the mineral estate,  
1-41 or any other documentation of an interest in the mineral estate;

1-42 (B) the geothermal energy and associated  
1-43 resources estate accessed by the well, as established by a current  
1-44 geothermal lease, a recorded deed conveying a fee interest in the  
1-45 geothermal estate, or any other documentation of an interest in the  
1-46 geothermal estate; or

1-47 (C) the geologic space accessed by the well for  
1-48 the purpose of an energy conservation well, as established by a  
1-49 recorded deed conveying a fee interest in the space accessed by the  
1-50 well or any other documentation of an interest in that space;

1-51 (2) a completed certificate of compliance; and

1-52 (3) a nonrefundable fee in the amount of \$250.

1-53 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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