

1-1 By: Blanco S.B. No. 1762
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 28, 2025; March 13, 2025,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Business & Commerce;
1-4 April 7, 2025, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 11, Nays 0; April 7, 2025,
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

1-8	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			
1-18	X			
1-19	X			

1-20 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1762 By: Schwertner

1-21 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-22 AN ACT

1-23 relating to the authority of the Railroad Commission of Texas to
1-24 designate certain persons as the operator of an orphaned oil or gas
1-25 well.

1-26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-27 SECTION 1. Section 89.047(a)(1-a), Natural Resources Code,
1-28 is amended to read as follows:

1-29 (1-a) "Geothermal energy [~~Energy~~] conservation well"
1-30 means a well used for the retention of energy that may be used to
1-31 provide dispatchable generation of electricity for the power grid.
1-32 A geothermal energy conservation well is not a battery energy
1-33 storage resource.

1-34 SECTION 2. Section 89.047(f), Natural Resources Code, is
1-35 amended to read as follows:

1-36 (f) The commission shall designate the person as the
1-37 operator of the well if the person files with the commission:

1-38 (1) a factually supported claim based on a recognized
1-39 legal theory to a continuing possessory right in:

1-40 (A) the mineral estate accessed by the well, as
1-41 established by a current oil and gas lease, a recorded deed
1-42 conveying a fee interest in the mineral estate, or any other
1-43 documentation of an interest in the mineral estate;

1-44 (B) the geothermal energy and associated
1-45 resources estate accessed by the well, as established by a current
1-46 geothermal lease, a recorded deed conveying a fee interest in the
1-47 geothermal estate, or any other documentation of an interest in the
1-48 geothermal estate; or

1-49 (C) the geologic space accessed by the well for
1-50 the purpose of a geothermal [~~an~~] energy conservation well, as
1-51 established by a recorded deed conveying a fee interest in the space
1-52 accessed by the well or any other documentation of an interest in
1-53 that space;

1-54 (2) a completed certificate of compliance; and

1-55 (3) a nonrefundable fee in the amount of \$250.

1-56 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-57 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-58 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-59 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-60 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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