

## What suspending EPA's oil and gas pollution standards means for Texas

### More Pollution Headed for Texas

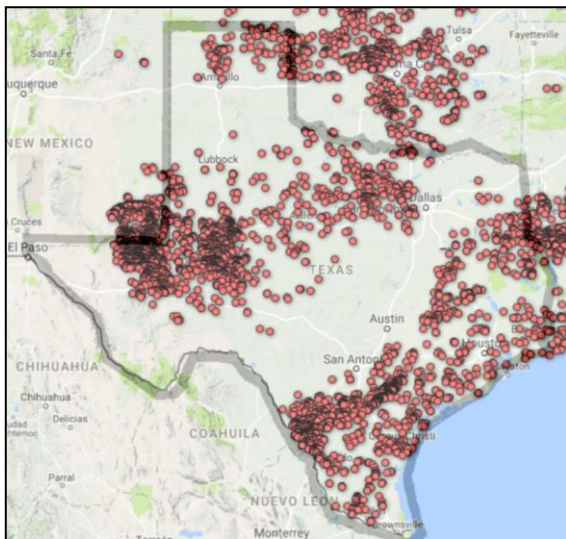
EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt's action to suspend commonsense leak detection and repair requirements creates an immediate health and environmental threat for communities in Texas. This loophole allows wells across the state to continue emitting methane, a powerful climate forcing pollutant, smog-forming volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) like benzene, a known human carcinogen. In Texas, thus far over **7,400 new and modified wells** are affected, causing approximately an estimated<sup>1</sup>:

- 2,475-9,900 tons of methane
- 675-2,700 tons of VOCs
- 25- 100+ tons of HAPs

These emissions cannot later be removed from the atmosphere, and, because of the Administrator's action, will occur during peak summer ozone season. Over **half of the top 25 counties** with the largest number of affected wells are in Texas, yet Texas does not have state standards for leak detection and repair.

	EMISSIONS [TONS]					
	COUNTIES	WELLS	POPULATION	METHANE	VOCs	HAPs
AFFECTED COUNTIES	184	7,417	20,984,083	9,930	2,738	104
OZONE NON-ATTAINMENT AREA COUNTIES	13	302	12,168,487	687	191	7

TEXAS	NATIONWIDE RANK
NUMBER OF AFFECTED WELLS	1
EMISSIONS FROM AFFECTED WELLS	1



### Affected Well Sources in Texas

New wells are being drilled every day that, because of Administrator Pruitt's action, will not need to perform common sense leak detection and repair.

Baker Hughes reports **462 active drill rigs in Texas** as of June 2, 2017--the day on which Pruitt suspended the leak detection standards. This is a **163% increase** over the same time last year.

Affected wells in the state of Texas have generated:

- **\$22 billion** in estimated revenue
- nearly **2,000,000,000 Mcf** of gas
- over **370,000,000 barrels** of oil

<sup>1</sup> Emissions estimates represent the range of additional possible 90-day estimates. Sources: Drillinginfo; U.S. EPA; U.S. Census (2016); EIA; Baker Hughes. Emissions estimates are based on annual mitigation percentages and field data showing that an initial survey can help to deliver much of this first-year benefit. The remainder of the emissions estimates in the factsheet are based on the annual percentages.

For more information, please contact Stacy MacDiarmid at 512-691-3439 or [smacdiarmid@edf.org](mailto:smacdiarmid@edf.org)

## A closer look at ozone

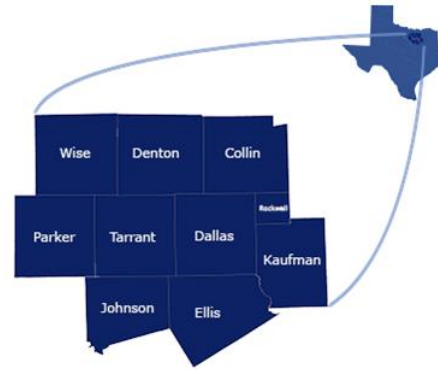
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### Emissions Impact nearby Communities

In the nonattainment area counties, **200 new and modified wells** are affected, causing an estimated:

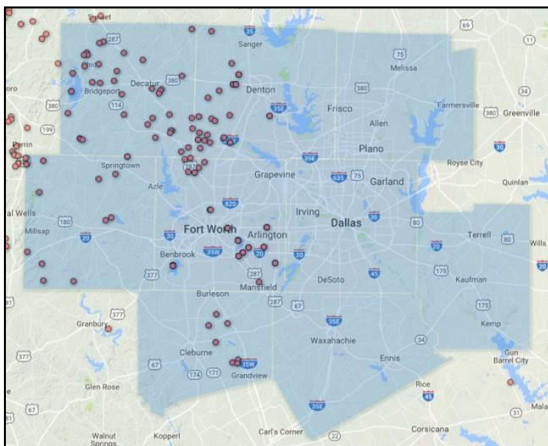
- 521 tons of methane
- 145 tons of VOCs
- close to 6 tons of HAPs

These emissions cannot later be removed from the atmosphere, and, because of the Administrator's action, will occur during peak summer ozone season.



TARRANT COUNTY SCHOOLS NEAR AFFECTED WELLS	PRODUCING WELLS	APPROX DISTANCE (METERS)
Miller Elementary	10	600
Ditto Elementary	10	900
Young Junior High	10	800
Maudrie M. Walton Elementary	9	600
Dunbar High	9	700
Jacquet Middle	9	1,300

COUNTY	POPULATION	WELLS	EMISSIONS [TONS]		
			METHANE	VOCs	HAPs
TARRANT	2,016,872	86	237	66	2.5
DENTON	806,180	49	132	37	1.4
WISE	64,455	40	100	28	1.0
PARKER	129,441	14	28	8	0.3
JOHNSON	163,274	7	19	5	0.2
DALLAS	2,574,984	4	6	2	0.1
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>5,755,206</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>6</b>



### Affected sources in the Dallas-Fort Worth Nonattainment Area

Affected wells in the Dallas-Fort Worth ozone nonattainment area have generated:

- over **\$200 million** in estimated revenue
- nearly **80,000,000 Mcf** of gas
- over **100,000 barrels** of oil.

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