(Project) that would add approximately 24.8 billion cubic feet of new working gas capacity and increase injection capabilities at the Tres Palacios Gas Storage Facility. The proposed Project would be located in Matagorda and Wharton Counties, Texas.

On July 31, 2026, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) issued its Notice of Application for the Project. Among other things, that notice alerted agencies issuing federal authorizations of the requirement to complete all necessary reviews and to reach a final decision on a request for a federal authorization within 90 days of the date of issuance of the Commission staff's environmental document for the Project.

This notice identifies Commission staff's intention to prepare an environmental assessment (EA) for the Project and the planned schedule for the completion of the environmental review.[1]

Schedule for Environmental Review

Issuance of EA—February 26, 2027
90-day Federal Authorization Decision Deadline[2]—May 27, 2027

If a schedule change becomes necessary, additional notice will be provided so that the relevant agencies are kept informed of the Project's progress.

Project Description

Tres Palacios proposes to construct and operate (1) three new natural gas salt dome storage caverns, by converting three existing brine caverns, with a total working gas capacity of approximately 24.8 billion cubic feet (Bcf) and a base gas capacity of approximately 8.93 Bcf, equaling a total capacity of approximately 33.73 Bcf (Smith Caverns 5, 6, and 7); (2) 5.4 miles of new 36-inch-diameter pipeline loop; (3) three 1.7-mile-long, 16-inch-diameter pipeline cavern laterals; (4) the new El Campo Compressor Station, including four 5,500 horsepower (hp) reciprocating compressor units; (5) additional facilities at the existing Tres Palacios Gas Storage Facility, including three new 5,500 hp reciprocating compressor units, a new compressor building, six cooling bays, and one gas dehydration system; (6) modifications at three existing metering and regulation stations; and (7) associated appurtenant facilities, all located in Matagorda and Wharton Counties, Texas.

Background

On September 22, 2026, the Commission issued a *Notice of Scoping Period Requesting Comments on Environmental Issues for the Proposed Tres Palacios Smith Cavern Expansion Project* (Notice of Scoping). The Notice of Scoping was sent to affected landowners; federal, state, and local government agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American tribes; other interested parties; and local libraries and newspapers. We received comments from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6 and from a member of the public.

EPA's comments addressed water quality; National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit coverage, Clean Water Act section 402; and effects of construction on groundwater. The primary issues raised by the public include potential effects on ecosystems, water resources, vegetation, threatened and endangered species, air quality, and operational noise. All substantive comments will be addressed in the EA.

Additional Information

In order to receive notification of the issuance of the EA and to keep track of formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription. This service provides automatic notification of filings made to subscribed dockets, document summaries, and direct links to the documents. Go to *https://www.ferc.gov/ferc-online/overview* to register for eSubscription.

For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, contact the Office of Public Participation at (202) 502–6595 or *OPP@ferc.gov.*

Additional information about the Project is available from the FERC website (*www.ferc.gov*). Using the ''eLibrary'' link, select ''General Search'' from the eLibrary menu, enter the selected date range and ''Docket Number'' excluding the last three digits (*i.e.,* CP26–556), and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to eLibrary, the helpline can be reached at (866) 208–3676, TTY (202) 502–8659, or at *FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov.* The eLibrary link on the FERC website also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rule makings.

(Authority: 18 CFR 2.1)

Dated: November 18, 2026.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–23835 Filed 11–23–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

[1] For tracking purposes under the National Environmental Policy Act, the unique identification number for documents relating to this environmental review is EAXX–019–20–000–1790772608.

[2] The Commission's deadline applies to the decisions of other federal agencies, and state agencies acting under federally delegated authority, that are responsible for federal authorizations, permits, and other approvals necessary for proposed projects under the Natural Gas Act. Per 18 CFR 157.22(a), the Commission's deadline for other agency's decisions applies unless a schedule is otherwise established by federal law.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA–HQ–OLEM–2026–9571; FRL–13652–01–OLEM]

Streamlining and Improving Efficiencies in the RCRA Hazardous Waste Permitting Program; Notice of Virtual Public Meetings and Request for Information

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice and request for information.

SUMMARY: This document announces and initiates an EPA effort to streamline the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) permit program and to remove associated barriers to redevelopment. This effort will satisfy an Agency Priority Goal established by the EPA Administrator to streamline the permitting process and improve efficiencies to unleash economic growth. In this document, EPA seeks information to help identify inefficiencies in the permit process and ideas for streamlining, including ideas that would reduce the time, uncertainty, and costs involved in issuing a permit. EPA also seeks information to help identify situations where the RCRA permit presents barriers to redevelopment of and/or parceling of RCRA treatment, storage, and disposal facilities, and ideas to overcome those barriers. EPA will consider information submitted as it develops a plan to address the inefficiencies in, and barriers presented by, the current RCRA permit program. This document also announces four virtual public engagement sessions that will supplement the request for information by providing individual participants an opportunity to provide oral comments on these issues as well.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before January 25, 2027.

ADDRESSES: Any member of the public may send comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OLEM–2026–9571, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal: https://www.regulations.gov* (our

preferred method). Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

- *Mail:* U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA Docket Center, Office of Land and Emergency Management Docket, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460.
- *Email: docket_OLEM@epa.gov.* Include Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OLEM–2026–9571 in the subject line of the message.
- *Hand Delivery or Courier:* EPA Docket Center, WJC West Building, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. The Docket Center's hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. EST, Monday-Friday (except Federal Holidays).

Instructions: All submissions received must include the Docket ID No. for this action.

Comments received may be posted without change to *https://www.regulations.gov/,* including any personal information provided. For detailed instructions on sending comments and participating in the virtual public engagement sessions, see the ''Public Participation'' heading of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information on the sections of this document addressing improvements to the permit process, contact Nadja Solis Marcano, Waste and Chemical Implementation Division, Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, telephone number (202) 566–0356, email address: *nadja.solismarcano@epa.gov;* or Lilybeth Colon, Waste and Chemical Implementation Division, Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery, telephone number (202) 566–0320, email address: *colon.lilybeth@epa.gov.* For information on the sections of this document addressing barriers to redevelopment and parceling of RCRA facilities, contact Barbara Foster, Waste and Chemical Implementation Division, Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery, telephone number (202) 566–0382, email address: *foster.barbara@epa.gov.*

To register for the virtual engagement sessions, please either submit the online registration form available at EPA's Hazardous Waste Permitting website at *https://www.epa.gov/hwpermitting* or contact Nadja Solis Marcano at the contact information above. For information on access or services for individuals with disabilities, or to request accommodation of a disability, please contact Nadja Solis Marcano, at the contact information above, at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting to give the EPA as much time as possible to process your request.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Participation

The Agency requests public comment on issues described later in this document. Public comment can be submitted to the docket for this rulemaking as described in the Addresses section above. The Agency also announces four public engagement sessions during which EPA will also accept oral comments on the issues discussed in this document. The public engagement sessions are intended to supplement the requests for information in this document; participation in the public engagement sessions is not required to submit public comment on the issues discussed in this document. EPA will take notes to document comments made at the public engagement sessions, which will be made available in the docket, but the Agency strongly encourages speakers to submit their presentations to the docket as well.

The dates and times of these public engagement session and instructions for participating are available on the Hazardous Waste Permitting Program's website at *https://www.epa.gov/hwpermitting.* For purposes of organization, each of the virtual public engagement sessions is targeted to an audience representing a sector of the general public. Though participants are encouraged to attend their targeted session, all sessions are open to the general public.

Advance registration is encouraged to secure a place on the agenda. A general agenda listing pre-registered speakers in approximate order will be available in the docket and on EPA's Hazardous Waste Permitting website at *https://www.epa.gov/hwpermitting* the day before each meeting.

II. Request for Comment

A. The Permit Process

The EPA Strategic Plan for FY 2026–2030 (Strategic Plan) establishes as a priority goal to, by September 30, 2027, streamline the permitting process and improve efficiencies so the Nation can unleash economic growth while providing cost savings to hardworking Americans. The Strategic Plan explains that by implementing cost-effective regulations and streamlining permitting processes, the EPA will demonstrate that protecting human health and the environment goes hand-in-hand with economic prosperity, and that streamlining permitting processes is a crucial step for facilitating investment and promoting economic growth. The Strategic Plan further explains that the effort to simplify regulations will remove redundancies and reduce delays, while providing clear guidelines to aid businesses in navigating requirements.

The Agency is issuing this document to obtain information from the public that will support RCRA's implementation of the permitting effort announced in the Strategic Plan. EPA is requesting comment in two general areas—comment that will help identify inefficiencies and redundancies in the current RCRA permit process, and comment that will provide innovative solutions to overcome those inefficiencies and redundancies.

EPA seeks comment on situations where the regulated community has experienced inefficiencies, including unreasonable delays and/or redundancies, in all areas of the permit process including but not limited to:

- Permit issuance and renewal—information required by the application process, turnaround timeframes, process redundancies or unnecessary processes.
- Permit modification—determining the applicable class of permit modification, information required, process redundancies or unnecessary processes.

EPA seeks comment on ways to improve the efficiency of the permit process including but not limited to:

- Ways to modernize application and renewal procedures through electronic tools.
- Revisions to the permitting process, including the permit modification processes, that might avoid redundancy and repetition.
- Streamlined processes or information requirements that could be implemented at particular phases of a facility's life (*e.g.,* post-closure).
- Ways to promote risk-based clean closure to eliminate the need for post-closure permits.

B. Financial Assurance

A key goal of RCRA is to avoid the creation of Superfund sites, and adequate financial assurance for closure, post-closure, third-party liability, and corrective action is a vital component of the regulatory scheme established to meet that goal. EPA is considering whether revisions to the RCRA financial assurance program are necessary to ensure that adequate and effective financial assurance mechanisms are available at RCRA facilities.

EPA is requesting comment to identify situations where the current RCRA Subtitle C financial assurance

program is outdated, inefficient, or ineffective including, but not limited to:

- Outdated aspects of the financial assurance mechanisms in 40 CFR part 264 subpart H and part 265, subpart H to reflect changes in commercial practice, experience, and standards since the mechanisms were promulgated.
- Experiences related to unavailability of instruments or instrument failure due to constraints imposed by the current regulations.
- How to best address situations and promote redevelopment where there is no longer a viable owner or operator, and no financial assurance is available.

EPA is also requesting comment on ways to improve the current financial assurance program including but not limited to:

- Ways that use of electronic financial assurance documents and other electronic practices could improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the financial assurance program.
- Improvements that could be made to the financial assurance regulations to overcome barriers to the availability and effectiveness of the financial assurance instruments.
- Improved methods to provide financial assurance for long-term obligations such as post-closure care obligations (including those that extend beyond the 30-year period) and corrective action obligations.
- Potential streamlining of the process for obtaining instruments by expanding the scope of closure and post-closure mechanisms to include corrective action costs.

C. Transferring Permit Obligations to Alternate Authorities

1. Background

RCRA section 3005(c)(3) requires that permits contain terms and conditions as necessary to protect human health and the environment. Section 3004(u) provides that, where corrective action is not completed before permit issuance, permits issued to RCRA treatment, storage, and disposal facilities must contain schedules of compliance for corrective action for all releases of hazardous waste or hazardous constituents from any solid waste management unit and assurances of financial responsibility for completing such corrective action. RCRA section 3004(v) further requires that corrective action be taken beyond the facility boundary as necessary to protect human health and the environment.

Currently, EPA has implemented these statutory requirements by requiring renewal of RCRA permits until the post-closure period is complete,[1] and until the obligation to address facility-wide corrective action for releases of hazardous waste and hazardous constituents from all solid waste management units at the facility is satisfied.

Increasingly, facilities are completing closure of their treatment, storage, and disposal units, and these post-closure and/or corrective action requirements are the only remaining permit obligations. EPA is considering whether continuation of the permit throughout the post-closure care period and until corrective action is complete is necessary to meet the requirements of the statute or whether, and under what conditions, the statutory requirements of section 3005(c)(3) and sections 3004(u) and (v) could be met if post-closure and/or corrective action requirements were transferred to an alternate state authority.

EPA has long recognized that state authorities such as enforcement orders, if used as an alternative to RCRA corrective action requirements for releases from solid waste management units, may impose substantive cleanup requirements that are equivalent to those imposed under a RCRA permit through RCRA corrective action authority. However, EPA also recognizes that the existing RCRA permit systems in place that provide for implementation and oversight of corrective action and post-closure care provide procedural protections to help ensure protectiveness.

2. Request for Comment on the Benefits of an Alternate Authority Approach to Post-Closure Care and Corrective Action

EPA requests comment on the benefits of replacing RCRA permits with alternate authorities to implement post-closure care and/or corrective action obligations where the RCRA permit obligations present barriers including but not limited to:

- Examples of situations where the RCRA permit has been a barrier to redevelopment of contaminated property.
- Aspects of the permit or the permitting process that are of particular concern in redevelopment scenarios.
- Aspects of alternate authorities that make them preferable to the RCRA permit to implement post-closure care and corrective action for releases from solid waste management units.

3. Request for Comment on Alternate Approaches to Meeting the Statutory Requirements

EPA is soliciting comment on how alternative authorities can provide equivalent statutory corrective action and post-closure requirements. EPA is also soliciting comment on how alternative authorities can provide the protections currently afforded by the permit process—that is, if post-closure and/or corrective action permit conditions were transferred to an alternate authority, how the standard to protect human health and the environment would continue to be met until post-closure and/or corrective action is complete. EPA is soliciting comment on how alternative authorities could replace the protections currently provided by a permit including but not limited to:

- Reporting and notice—Procedural requirements that ensure releases, corrective action needs, and possible post-closure extensions are brought to the permitting authority's attention.
- Continuity of responsibility—Transfer of permit responsibilities to a new owner/operator, long-term responsibility for post-closure care and corrective action obligations, and protections to ensure these responsibilities remain enforceable during bankruptcy.
- Accountability and inspection—Authority to make enforceable comments on draft permits to ensure protective conditions are included, as well as authority to inspect and enforce permit conditions, including state-issued conditions.
- Financial assurance—Requirements for financial assurance for post-closure care and corrective action.
- Public participation and transparency—Requirements for public participation during permit issuance, modification, and renewal.

D. Parceling

The issue of transferring permit obligations to an alternate authority also arises when an owner sells a portion of a RCRA permitted facility. Owners and operators of RCRA facilities may seek to amend the boundaries of the facility described in the RCRA permit to remove a parcel being sold from the facility. Purchasers of property may be hesitant to sign on to a RCRA permit and become jointly and severally liable for facility-wide corrective action obligations and

[1] *See* RCRA section 3004(u), 40 CFR part 264, and 40 CFR part 270. *See* also discussion of these authorities in the preamble of an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking entitled Corrective Action for Releases From Solid Waste Management Units at Hazardous Waste Management Facilities, 61 FR 19432@19463, May 1, 1996; and in a memorandum from Barnes Johnson to the RCRA Division Directors, December 15, 2016 entitled: Guidelines for Evaluating the Post-Closure Care Period for Hazardous Waste Disposal Facilities under Subtitle C of RCRA at page 13.

seek to address remaining corrective action obligations through an alternate authority. Regulators may be hesitant in parceling scenarios to release owners and operators and property purchasers from RCRA permit obligations because of concerns that doing so may allow them to avoid corrective action obligations. Regulators further may be concerned that selling parcels of a facility may deplete resources available to address corrective action obligations on the remaining facility.

These concerns may slow parceling decisions and hinder or even prevent real estate transactions, including transactions that might have provided for cleanup of facilities that might otherwise not be addressed. EPA is seeking to develop parceling practices for RCRA facilities that will provide guidelines for regulators enabling them to make timely and informed parceling decisions that promote redevelopment while ensuring that the goals of the statute are satisfied.

1. Benefits of Parceling

EPA requests comment on, and specific examples demonstrating, the benefits of removing portions of facilities from RCRA permits upon property transfer including but not limited to:

- Situations where removing the RCRA permit requirement from a facility parcel provided funds that otherwise would not have been available to implement corrective action as necessary to protect human health and the environment, including situations where the permittee was no longer viable.

2. Barriers to Parceling

EPA requests comment to help identify and better understand any barriers to parceling that may be created by the RCRA permit including but not limited to:

- Information explaining why the permit may be a barrier to a property transaction.
- Examples where the RCRA permit may have prevented or slowed property transfer, particularly where the transfer of property would have promoted cleanup.

3. Concerns Raised by Parceling Actions

EPA requests comment to help identify and better understand how parceling of a RCRA permitted facility and releasing the owner/operator and/or purchaser from permit obligations may impact whether the statutory obligation to protect human health and the environment is satisfied. EPA requests comment on regulators' experiences including but not limited to examples where parceling transactions have created incentives or hinderances for cleanup and redevelopment.

4. Overcoming Barriers to Parceling

EPA also requests comment on ways to overcome the barriers to parceling RCRA facilities while ensuring that the statutory requirement of RCRA for permit conditions necessary to protect human health and the environment, and for corrective action permit conditions and financial responsibility until corrective action is complete, discussed above, are met. In particular, EPA solicits comment on:

- Examples where a facility was parceled successfully and the permit was retained, and how barriers were overcome in that process.
- Ways to support program implementers processing requests for permit modifications associated with parceling transactions to enable them to process those requests in a timely manner.
- Practices or components of regulatory alternatives relied on in parceling actions that regulators have found to effectively assure that corrective action obligations at both the remaining RCRA permitted facility and at the parcel will be addressed after the parcel is sold and separated from the facility.
- Financial mechanisms that program implementers can rely on to finance future cleanup actions when RCRA financial assurance requirements no longer apply.

E. Other Areas for Permitting Reform

Finally, EPA is soliciting comment on any other opportunities for the Agency to improve the RCRA permitting program, streamline the RCRA permitting process, and improve efficiencies so the Nation can unleash economic growth while providing cost savings to hardworking Americans. Because protecting human health and the environment goes hand-in-hand with economic prosperity, the Agency requests input on ways to simplify regulations, remove redundancies, and reduce delays, while providing clear guidelines to aid businesses in navigating requirements and maintaining protectiveness. EPA is generally soliciting comment on RCRA permitting and specifically seeks ideas that would reduce the time, uncertainty, and costs involved in issuing a permit and enable the Agency to advance its strategic objective of achieving operational efficiencies while upholding its mission to protect human health and the environment.

III. Authority

EPA is authorized to implement the Hazardous Waste Permit Program under the authority of sections 1006, 2002(a), 3002, 3003, 3004, 3005, 3010, 3013, and 7004 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act of 1970, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, as amended, by the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984 (HSWA), 42 U.S.C. 6905, 6912(a), 6922, 6923, 6924, 6925, 6930, 6934, and 6974. These public laws combined are commonly referred to as the ''Resource Conservation and Recovery Act'' (RCRA). EPA is soliciting comments and announcing the virtual public engagement sessions to help inform future policy actions under this RCRA authority.

Steven Cook,

Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Land and Emergency Management.

[FR Doc. 2026–23882 Filed 11–23–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[FR ID 378871]

Deletion of Item From November 19, 2026 Open Meeting

November 18, 2026.

The following item was adopted by the Commission on November 16, 2026 and deleted from the list of items scheduled for consideration at the Thursday, November 19, 2026, Open Meeting. The item was previously listed in the Commission's Sunshine Notice on Thursday, November 12, 2026.

Item No.	Bureau	Subject
4	Wireline Competition	*Title:* Reforming the High-Cost Program for an All-IP Future (WC Docket No. 26–96) and Connect America Fund: A National Broadband Plan for our Future High-Cost Universal Support (WC Docket No. 10–90).