

**May 31, 2023**  
**Greater Houston Local Emergency Planning Committee**  
**Bi-Monthly Meeting Notes**

**Logistics**

10:00AM – 12:00PM

American Red Cross, 2700 Southwest Freeway, Houston, TX 77098

**Welcome**

**Business**

Chair/Vice Chair Report

- GHLEPC is a member of the Utah State Fire Marshall's Office (UFM) application for the Pipeline Emergency Response Grant (PHMSA PERG 693JK323NF0001) and Buxus. GHLEPC's role is to conduct a Tabletop Pipeline Drill for the greater Houston area. Approximate value is \$40,000 during the first year of the grant. Will initiate planning team if approved
- Potential Fund Raiser: BBQ Cookoff under consideration for early Fall 2023.
- HCC Resiliency Center of Excellence Recognition at April Board Meeting.

Meeting Notes (available at <https://ghlepc.org/information>)

Introductions

Local Updates

- Bellaire Chemical Spill
- Hurricane Season

TCEQ Updates

- Tier II database for 2023 download in progress
- Open records request

EPA Updates

New Business

- Nomination of Officers at next meeting
- Bylaws review at July 2023 meeting.

**Treasurer Report**

Seeking a new Treasurer and donations

**PIO Report**

Houston Fire Department Updates

**Member Reports**

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 26, 2023**

**Presentation:**

**Almeda Terminal Review**

~~Al Roundtree, CEO, NuRays Energy, The Joule Power Tree, A Solar & Wind Renewable Energy Solution. (Cancelled)~~

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### Summary Statement of Revenue and Expenses for FY 2022-2023 Year To Date as of May 29, 2023

**Sept 1, 2022  
 - May 29, 2023**

Beginning Balance (as of 09/01/2023)	37,112.91
Revenue	
Contributions*	-
<b>Revenue Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 37,112.91</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Digital Services	
GoDaddy Web, Email	(1,356.65)
Google Cloud Services	-
Zoom Conferencing Services - Annual Subscription	-
<b>Meeting Services</b>	
Print Services	(432.07)
Food	(1,881.28)
Supplies & Equipment	(19.90)
<b>Professional Services</b>	
Administration (D Walker; A DeMart; O Greenwood)	(2,877.50)
<b>Fees</b>	
Bank Fees	-
<b>Expenses Subtotal</b>	<b>(6,567.40)</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 30,545.51</b>

**NOTES:**

- a) Fiscal year is September 1, XX – August 31, XX.
- b) Projector (\$790.20) purchased Nov 2022 returned Dec 2022

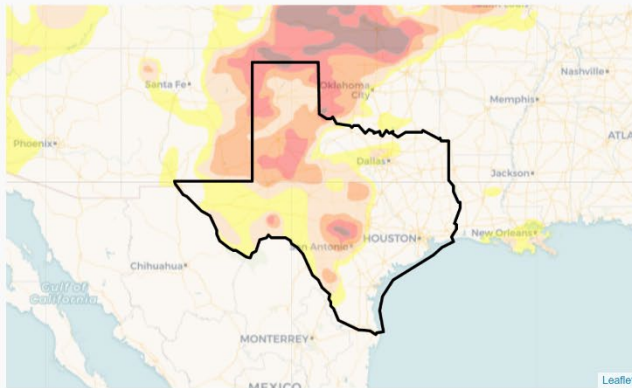
## Federal Updates

- EPA (*Safe Water Act*) **proposed National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR)** for six PFAS. The per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of chemicals used to make fluoropolymer coatings and products that resist heat, oil, stains, grease, and water. Fluoropolymer coatings can be in a variety of products. EPA expects that if fully implemented, the rule will prevent thousands of deaths and reduce tens of thousands of serious PFAS-attributable illnesses. Comment period ended 05/30/2023.
- **Investments from EPA Under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law:**
  - **Superfund Investments:** Jones Road Ground Water Plume, Total Provided \$722,700
  - **Brownfields Investments:** City of Houston, Total Awarded \$500,000.  
On February 27, 2023, EPA announced an Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent with UPRR. The consent order compels UPRR to investigate and evaluate potential contamination in and around the former wood preserving facility in the Greater Fifth Ward area of Houston, Texas. UPRR will conduct the investigation and evaluation and EPA will oversee their work. The field work is expected to begin in early Spring 2023. (<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-orders-union-pacific-assess-contamination-houstons-greater-fifth-ward-neighborhood>)

## State Updates

- **Renew Resource Exchange** (<http://renewtx.net/>) This tool is designed to help facilities worldwide exchange materials that would otherwise be disposed of. RENEW allows you to see materials available at a facility or post your own materials. Facilities who post materials can avoid disposal costs, and possibly reduce their regulatory burden. Searching for available materials helps you find materials for your facility at a reduced cost, often free.
- **TCEQ Stormwater Construction General Permit Authorization Renewals.** Currently permitted construction sites with ongoing activities need to renew their stormwater Construction General Permit (CGP) authorization **by June 5, 2023, at 8:00 PM CST**. Active construction sites that fail to renew by the deadline can receive a violation and potential fines. This applies to operators of ongoing large construction activities that disturb five or more acres or are part of a common plan of development that disturbs five or more acres.
- **TCEQ** is accepting applications under the Governmental Alternative Fuel Fleet (GAFF) Program. The GAFF Program will be providing an estimated \$3.9 million in grant funding to help government entities with 15 motor vehicles or more purchase or lease new vehicles that operate primarily on compressed natural gas, liquified natural gas, liquified petroleum gas (propane), hydrogen fuel cells, or electricity. Visit <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/airquality/terp/gaff> for details.
- **Texas Department of Insurance Updates (effective 9/1/2023)** (Visit <https://www.tdi.texas.gov/fire/rules/index.html> for details):
  - Standards and fees for State fire Marshal Inspections
  - Fire extinguisher rules 28 TAC §34.507 SUBCHAPTER F
  - Fire alarm rules 28 TAC §34.607 SUBCHAPTER G
  - Fire sprinkler rules 28 TAC §34.707
- **Texas Emergency Management Conference – 2023**, May 30-June 2 at the Fort Worth Convention Center in Fort Worth.

## The Situation Report for Texas



39% of Texas is experiencing **no** drought ↑ 11,633,415 people

19% of Texas is experiencing **abnormally** dry conditions ↑ 5,561,863 people

21% of Texas is experiencing **moderate** drought ↑ 6,205,680 people

14% of Texas is experiencing **severe** drought ↑ 4,080,488 people

7% of Texas is experiencing **extreme** drought ↑ 2,166,921 people

1% of Texas is experiencing **exceptional** drought ↑ 152,012 people

Texas is 264,627 sq. mi. in size with a population of 29,806,340. There are, on average, 112.6 people per square mile. Drought data is updated every 2 weeks and was last updated 1 week ago.

### Large Incidents in Texas

There are 0 wildfires burning 0 ACRES in Texas right now.

100% of Harris County is experiencing **no** drought ↑ 4,778,365 people

*Harris County, Texas is 1,749 sq. mi. in size with a population of 4,778,365. There are, on average, 2,732.5 people per square mile. Drought data is updated every 2 weeks and was last updated 1 week ago.*

Source: <https://www.fireweatheravalanche.org/wildfires/dashboard/texas>

### TCEQ Rulemaking Activities as 05/30/2023

(available by visiting <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/rules/prop.html>)

1. No significant updates since March 31, 2023.

### TCEQ Pending Enforcement Action – TCEQ Cases

Details are available by filing an open records request at

<https://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oce/penenfac/>

### I. Training Opportunities

1. Visit [www.ghlepc.org/training](http://www.ghlepc.org/training) for listing of training.
2. TCEQ, the State of Texas Environmental Electronic Reporting System (STEERS), Tier II Reporting (TIERII) visit <https://www3.tceq.texas.gov/steers/>
3. **ONLINE & IN-PERSON HazMat Training. TRANSCAER®** (Transportation Community Awareness and Emergency Response). <https://www.transcaer.com/training>
4. **Texas School Safety Center (TxSSC)**. Visit <https://txssc.txstate.edu/tools/pipeline-safety/> for details.
5. **FEMA Virtual Instructor Led Courses**  
Register on the OBP/CDP Schedule & Registration Page at: <https://cdp.dhs.gov/obp> to receive updates. Note: FEMA Student Identification (SID) number and password are required to apply. To obtain a FEMA SID, go to: <https://cdp.dhs.gov/femasid/register>.
6. Other Training Opportunities:
  - a. <https://preparingtexas.org>

- b. [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)
- c. [www.harriscountycitizencorps.com](http://www.harriscountycitizencorps.com)
- d. <https://houstonuasi.com/regional-training-registration-2021/>
- e. **Texas Department of Insurance**