



**Texas
Independent
Producers and
Royalty Owners
Association**

Who We Are

- ✚ TIPRO is a trade association representing the interests of more than 2,000 independent oil and natural gas producers and royalty owners throughout Texas. Started in 1946, we are one of the nation's oldest and largest associations of this kind. Our members range from small family-owned businesses to the largest publicly traded independent producers and mineral owners, estates and trusts comprising millions of acres of production in Texas. Our members own and produce more than 85% of the natural gas and 70% of the oil within Texas.
- ✚ We are strictly upstream explorers and producers – exploration and production (E&P). Our job is to find the minerals in the ground and get them out so energy can be produced for America. We operate under American wage and labor laws and American safety and environmental standards.
- ✚ We contribute to the economy of our state. In 2008, Texas producers paid over \$4 billion in oil and natural gas severance taxes, a tax no other energy source pays. We paid over \$1 billion to the Permanent School, University and Investment Fund. We provided approximately 77,500 jobs in Texas. We pay local property taxes on both structures and minerals.
- ✚ We are a capital-intensive industry with project timelines that can take years. This needs to be considered when reviewing how proposals impact small producers in the news headlines or legislation about oil and gas taxes. Often we are confused with the much bigger integrated companies – the Majors – who have gas stations -- that's not us. We're the wildcatters who get it out of the ground and we run very different businesses than them.
- ✚ We depend on statutes, contracts, and case law to allow us access to minerals. That's why issues on oil and gas legal access to lands or natural resources affect small independent producers differently when legislative issues hit the energy industry.
- ✚ We support all forms of energy. Our products are an essential part of the energy mix both now and in the future. We have always been on the cutting edge of technology that lets us do this in less invasive and more environmentally sensitive ways. We ask that you remember us and consider how proposals will impact small producers when you see headlines or legislation about oil and gas environmental regulations.
- ✚ We support funding for the Texas Railroad Commission, the agency that regulates our industry. They provide inspectors for the public, permitting and technical regulations that advise us of best business practices and complaint and dispute resolution services. Texas needs a strong and funded Railroad Commission.