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Gov. Perry Names Three to the Texas Advisory Panel on Federal Environmental Regulations

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AUSTIN – Gov. Rick Perry has appointed three members to the newly created Texas Advisory Panel on Federal Environmental Regulations. The panel's initial work will be to assess the potential impacts to Texas of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposed framework for regulating greenhouse gas emissions through the Clean Air Act and to report to the governor on the findings.

Bryan W. Shaw of Bryan is a commissioner of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and an associate professor in the Biological and Agricultural Engineering Department of Texas A&M University (TAMU). He was formerly associate director of the Center for Agricultural Air Quality Engineering and Science, and formerly served as Acting Lead Scientist for Air Quality and Special Assistant to the Chief of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service. In December 2007 he was appointed by Governor Perry to the Texas Environmental Flows Advisory Group. He is also a member of several committees for the EPA Science Advisory Board, including the Environmental Engineering Committee, Committee on Integrated Nitrogen, and an ad hoc panel for review of EPA's Risk and Technology Review Assessment Plan. He is also a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Air Quality Task Force. Shaw received a bachelor's and master's degree in agricultural engineering from TAMU and a doctorate degree in agricultural engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He will serve as chairman of the Task Force.

Barry T. Smitherman of Austin is chairman of the Texas Public Utility Commission (PUC), and has served on the PUC since 2004. He has held leadership positions in public finance with J.P. Morgan, Bank One, and Credit Suisse. He is also a former Harris County prosecutor and a former adjunct professor of public administration at the University of St. Thomas. Smitherman is an ex officio board member of the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, and a member of the State Bar of Texas and the Governor's Competitiveness Council. He is also a member of the Regional State Committee for the Southwest Power Pool, Texas Regional Entity, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment, and serves as one of 30 inaugural members of the U.S. Department of Energy's Electricity Advisory Committee. Smitherman received a bachelor's degree from Texas A&M University, a law degree from the University of Texas, and a master's degree in public administration from Harvard University. He will serve as a vice-chairman of the task force.

Michael Williams of Austin is chairman of the Railroad Commission of Texas, which regulates pipelines and energy resources, and has served on the Commission since 1999. He led the Texas FutureGen effort, chairs the Governor's Clean Coal Technology Council and initiated the Texas Breathe Easy Propane School Bus Tour, all of which focus on using Texas resources with clean technologies for improved air quality. He also serves on the National Coal Council, an advisory board to the U.S. Secretary of Energy. He represents the Governor and the Railroad Commission on both the Southern States Energy Board and the Interstate Mining Compact Commission. Additionally, he chairs the Governor's Competitiveness Council. Williams received a bachelor's degree, master's degree and law degree from the University of Southern California. He will serve as a vice-

chairman of the task force.

Serving as staff to the Task Force will be David Schanbacher of the TCEQ; Leslie Savage of the RRC; Richard Greffe of the PUC; Dub Taylor of the State Energy Conservation Office with the Comptroller of Public Accounts, and Cary Dupuy of the Texas Department of Agriculture.

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