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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

AUGUST 31, 2016 5:23 PM

# Drilling seismicity; flood response; no secession

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Signs are up in neighborhoods in Denton to encourage resident to vote no to the fracking ban in 2014. Joyce Marshall - Star-Telegram archives



## Drilling seismicity

Precision is the cornerstone of responsible energy production.

Likewise, the media should commit to accuracy when covering the industry.

In its Aug. 26 editorial, "[Blame for earthquakes is enough to go around](#)," the *Star-Telegram* is incorrect to persist in declaring drilling an "accomplice" to seismic activity.

This is akin to saying spoons are an "accomplice" to obesity. It has no bearing in discussions about real solutions.

Drilling has been occurring in Texas for 100-plus years and is not part of legitimate conversations about seismic activity.

The industry, academics, lawmakers and regulators take seismicity seriously. The Texas Railroad Commission hired a seismologist and expanded its authority over disposal wells.

Historical seismicity is considered in disposal well applications. If a disposal well is causing seismic activity, the commission can shut it down.

Because of enhanced rules, more than half of disposal well applications have been rejected, withdrawn or require special conditions.

Lawmakers wisely appropriated \$4.47 million for the University of Texas' Bureau of Economic Geology to study seismicity.

Robust research, overseen by the state's seismic and oil and natural gas experts, is essential to inform science-based policy.

*TODD STAPLES, PRESIDENT, TEXAS OIL & GAS*

*ASSOCIATION, AUSTIN*

## **Flood response**

Leave it to Richard Greene to never miss a chance to take a shot at President Obama, even during a natural disaster. ("[Louisiana floods expose bad behavior by Obama, media](#)," Sunday)

It has been well documented that Obama and FEMA officials were in contact with Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards from day one, and that Edwards specifically requested a delay in Obama's visit so that every available resource could be directed toward rescue and recovery.

From all indications, FEMA has delivered and is assisting all those in need.

Kudos to Donald Trump, who showed up unannounced and, along with vice presidential candidate Mike Pence, unloaded Play-Doh from a truck for about 15 minutes and delivered a check to support the recovery effort.

His appearance did bring further attention to the tragedy.

Lessons were learned from the past disaster. The response was immediate.

One wonders: Were Obama to find a cure for cancer, what would Greene's response be?

"Obama withheld cancer cure"?

Or perhaps "Obama, what took you so long?"

*J.W. SULLIVAN, ARLINGTON*

When you appoint well-qualified people to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, there is no need to rush to a Baton Rouge flood.

When you have Mike Brown running FEMA, of course President Bush had better be at the flood site

following up.

If you are seeking a photo op, of course you rush down to Baton Rouge and get your picture taken like Donald Trump.

A presidential visit early on in a natural disaster actually disrupts recovery operations.

After the Katrina response, the GOP is trying to criticize Obama?

*FRED GREGORY, ARLINGTON*

## No secession

So much federal money is infused into the Texas economy that secession would leave the state bankrupt and a Third World nation.

We are stronger in the Republic than out.


I am an American and expect to die as such.

*CHARLES ANDREWS,*

*FORT WORTH*

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Gene Campbell

SULLIVAN & GREGORY, there's no need to correct your spurious remarks; their absurdity speak for themselves!

Wrong, ANDREWS! While secession is mostly an exercise in sweet nostalgia, the economy of the financially-strongest state of the 50 (or Obama's 57) states would be free from propping-up bankrupt, Democrat-led states like Michigan and California. Incidentally, Charles, if Texas seceded (and we didn't deport you), you'd still be an "American;" Texas would still be (guess where?) in North AMERICA!

Like · Reply · 2 · Sep 1, 2016 1:52pm · Edited



Richard M. Holbrook · California State University, Northridge

CHARLES ANDREWS, you're shy of understanding our government. While Texas secession is mostly a pipe dream as far as I'm concerned, Texas wouldn't be subject to the Federal taxes that the Feds use to blackmail compliance to its wishes, schools, immigration, etc., thereby saving it for Texas use. Hypothetically, anticipating secession, Texas citizens could withhold Federal taxes and Texas would actually be more solvent, as, if I recall correctly, more Federal taxes are collected from Texas than are returned to programs and use within Texas, the excess used to fund Federal government with some to other more needy states, disasters, etc.

Like · Reply · 1 · Sep 1, 2016 2:01pm



Richard M. Holbrook · California State University, Northridge

FRED GREGORY, you're about half smart and half dumb. Why is that?

Like · Reply · 2 · Sep 1, 2016 2:10pm



Gene Campbell

And half fast?

Like · Reply · Sep 10, 2016 6:22pm



Richard M. Holbrook · California State University, Northridge

Except for your first and last parts,

"Leave it to Richard Greene to never miss a chance to take a shot at President Obama, even during a natural disaster. ("Louisiana floods expose bad behavior by Obama, media," Sunday) . . . .

And,

". . . . One wonders: Were Obama to find a cure for cancer, what would Greene's response be? "Obama withheld cancer cure"? Or perhaps "Obama, what took you so long?"

Good and accurate letter.

Like · Reply · 2 · Sep 1, 2016 2:18pm



Caleb Waters

Historically, Texas has given more in tax dollars to the federal government than we have given back. The last few years have not been the norm; rather, the exception. With the money we'd save cutting the size of our government, we could fairly easily control our debt. As far as being American...well, yes, I'm American, but I'm TEXAN first. Period. I want what's best for this state. And what's best for this state is Freedom from the tyranny of the federal gov't.

Like · Reply ·  1 · Sep 1, 2016 4:42pm



Jerry Allen · Team Leader House District 11 at Texas Nationalist Movement

Texans pay between 340-400 billion in state and federal taxes per year. The state and federal government spends between 227-240 billion per year. With Texans paying on average 265 billion annually to the federal government and only getting 162 billion of it spent on Texas, Texans OVER PAY on average 100-120 billion per year into the federal government. At the current level that Texas pays to both the federal and state governments, an independent Texas could preserve and maintain EVERY program within Texas' borders. Plus there would be a massive surplus of revenue that could be used to fund additional national functions, or a very significant tax relief to Texans. Now you explain to us how we would be a third world nation.

Like · Reply ·  1 · Sep 1, 2016 4:45pm



Social Security Abolitionists.COM

Jerry Allen: That's interesting data. What's the best online source for it, please?

Like · Reply · Sep 1, 2016 7:05pm



Seceder.com

Doesn't Texas pay Washington D.C. over \$300 billion annually? Meanwhile Texas owes that much in state debt, thanks in large part to having to comply with federal mandates that originated from crooked lobbyists' and "elected" officials' vote-buying antics (at our expense) in D.C.:

<http://www.usdebtclock.org/.../state-of-texas-debt-clock...>

Have you seen [USDebtClock.org](http://www.usdebtclock.org) yet, by the way? Talk about a Third World joke...

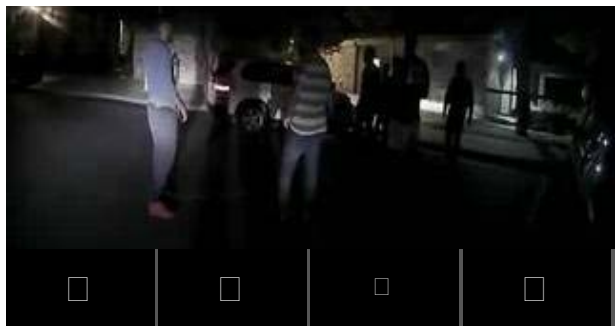
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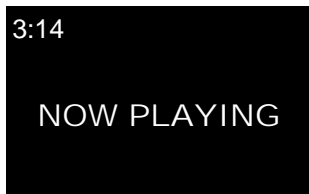


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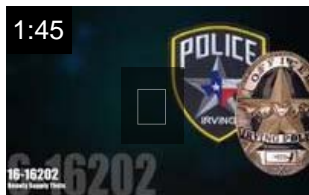




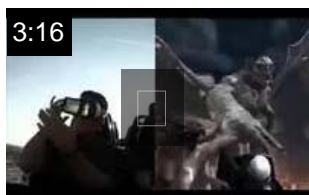
Police respond to noise complaint, get dance routine instead



Police respond to noise complaint, get dance routine instead



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extremists, not deplorable

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Memorable museum, priorities are off, vote  
for Trump, Bill's not running

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Ethics in Austin; science in schools; leaders and women; election prayers

Cheers and Jeers

Stockyards parking; too many tolls; rent-a-ballpark; symphony strike; rigged system



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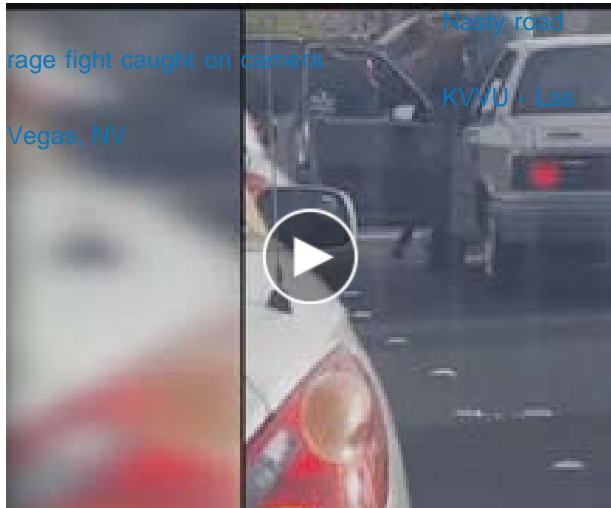
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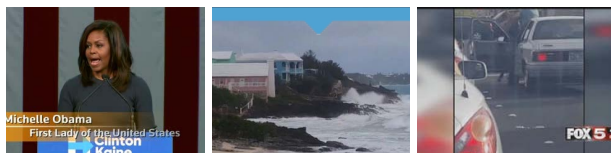
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