

University of Texas Professor Dr. Katherine Romanak shows the effect of CO2 in Water

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The meeting featured presentations from University of Texas, Senior Research Scientist at Jackson School of Geosciences Dr. Susan Hovorka and Research Professor at the Bureau of Economic Geology Katherine Romanak, who discussed the science behind underground carbon dioxide storage, federal permitting requirements and groundwater protection.

Hovorka told attendees that underground carbon dioxide sequestration projects are subject to the federal Class VI permitting process, which she described as one of the most stringent underground injection permit programs. She said Class VI wells are designed to protect underground sources of drinking water by requiring carbon dioxide to be injected into deep geologic formations that are isolated from freshwater aquifers.

Hovorka said she was initially skeptical of carbon sequestration but became more supportive after studying the regulatory framework and scientific data. She encouraged residents to ask project developers detailed questions about the regulated depth of proposed storage formations and the protections in place for groundwater.

Romanak presented research examining approximately 800 wells, saying the studies found ... [READ MORE - https://www.easttexasbanner.com/newton-county/university-of-texas-researcher-professors-field-carbon-capture-questions/article_5bcfaf6a-08ba-4c91-8895-f5f2cc390c99.html](https://www.easttexasbanner.com/newton-county/university-of-texas-researcher-professors-field-carbon-capture-questions/article_5bcfaf6a-08ba-4c91-8895-f5f2cc390c99.html)