

PROJECT UPDATES – March 2016

Summary – Since Governor Abbott signed HB 2 into law on June 22, 2015, project personnel at the Bureau and across UT-Austin have been working to create the foundation for a successful program. Effort thus far has focused on several main areas: acquisition, recruitment, partnerships, research, and outreach - some of which are described below in greater detail.

Acquisition:

- A contractor to manufacture and install the TexNet monitoring seismic stations has been selected through a rigorous and competitive public bid process and a contract has been signed.
- Scouting and site testing of proposed permanent station sites begins in April 2016.
- Locations of permanent and transportable seismic station deployment have been identified and we are in the process of requesting land use permission.

Partnerships:

- Critical to the success of TexNet-CISR is the establishment of an Industrial Associates (IA) program that provides a mechanism for which private industry can engage with talent, data and financial support for research. Eight companies have committed to joining and many more are in the final stages of deliberation. An IA Formational Meeting was held in March 24th to welcome the inaugural participant companies and collect feedback of industry demands and interests. Representatives from each TexNet+CISR research group and representatives from the IA member company were in attendance to facilitate collaboration.
- Governor Abbot named members of the Seismic Advisory Panel. The new Seismic Advisory Panel members are:
 - o **Robbie Vaughn** – Committee Chair, Vaughn Capital Partners, LLC (Dallas)
 - o **Dan Hill** – Professor and the Stephen A. Holditch Department Head Chair of the Harold Vance Department of Petroleum Engineering at Texas A&M University (College Station)
 - o **Chris Hillman** – City Manager for the City of Irving (Irving)
 - o **Dana Jurick** – Manager of Seismic Analyses of the Geoscience and Reservoir Engineering Organization at ConocoPhillips Company (Houston)
 - o **Hal McCartney** – Geoscience Manager of Sustainable Development for Pioneer Natural Resources (Irving)
 - o **Kris Nygaard** – Senior Stimulation Consultant for ExxonMobil Upstream Research Company (Houston)
 - o **Craig Pearson** – State Seismologist for the Railroad Commission of Texas (Midland)
 - o **Brian Stump** – Professor and the Albritton Chair of Geological Sciences at Southern Methodist University (McKinney)
 - o **Scott Tinker** – State Geologist of Texas, director of the Bureau of Economic Geology, acting Associate Dean of Research and Edwin Allday Endowed Chair of Subsurface Geology and professor at The University of Texas at Austin Jackson School of Geosciences (Austin)

Research:

- The Social Science team has been working with CISR scientists, industry affiliates and social scientists at Sam Houston University to develop the survey instrument and sampling strategy for Phase I – Survey of their study. An initial one thousand surveys will be mailed out to a sampling of Texas residents, with a goal response rate of 500 surveys.

Outreach:

- Reservoir Characterization and Social Science team members presented in Fort Worth at the SPE-SEG Workshop: Injection Induced Seismicity – Engineering Integration, Evaluation and Mitigation.