



TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE

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PRESS RELEASE

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16th annual Border Energy Forum returns to Texas

The Texas General Land Office will lead the conference, focusing on efficiency and sustainability

AUSTIN — The U.S.-Mexico Border Energy Forum will be celebrating its Sweet 16 by coming back to Texas this October, for the first time since 2003 and the first time ever in Houston. The Texas General Land Office will lead dozens of U.S. and Mexican businesses, government agencies, universities and NGOs in this year's Border Energy Forum in Houston, Oct. 15-16. Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson will speak at the conference, which is entitled "Energy and the Environment: Good Border Business."

"Every year, great minds join forces to discuss ways the U.S. and Mexico can improve energy efficiency along our border," Patterson said. "Nothing makes more sense than developing better, cheaper and cleaner energy – and that's what we'll be talking about in Houston."

The future of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects throughout the American Southwest and northern Mexico tops this year's agenda. Energy officials from Canada will also attend.

Under Patterson, the General Land Office has been a pioneer for sustainable energy in Texas and nationwide.

In 2005, Patterson awarded the first offshore wind leases in the nation. In 2008, The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency awarded funding to the Land Office to build a 45-kilowatt solar array in San Benito to help power the city's water treatment plant. In July, the Land Office awarded a wind lease to build the world's first green data center, right in the Texas Panhandle.

Along with the the Texas General Land Office, sponsors of this year's forum include BP America, Reliant Energy Solutions, The Energy Council, Center for Legislative Energy and Environmental Research, Texas A&M energy Systems Laboratory, Rice University, Clean Energy, West Texas Gas, Inc., El Paso Corporation, Thompson & Knight LLP, The University of Texas at Austin, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, North American Development Bank, U.S.-Mexico Border 2012 Program and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Workshops will cover everything from transportation fuels and carbon solutions to natural gas and energy policy. Special events include a reception at the Houston Museum of Natural Science and an energy tour of the Port of Houston.

“This forum is all about maximizing our energy dollars, while minimizing environmental impacts,” Patterson said. “When energy leaders of this caliber get together, innovative thinking comes easy.”

For more information, including a complete list of partners, schedule and registration information, please visit www.borderenergyforum.org.

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