

## Carrie Schweitzer

I want TCEQ to write new tough methane rules that will investigate citizen complaints quickly and, if necessary repeatedly; will be enforced promptly; and will hold the oil and gas industry accountable - financially, if need be - when they break the rules! The stakes are too high to compromise. The health of Texans is at stake. It is not hyperbole: over 5 million Texans live within the half mile radius of a well, drill site or compressor and each is likely to have their health compromised by toxic emissions including methane. Those of us in heavily populated North Texas are among the most vulnerable after living decades in "serious"(now "severe") non-compliance with EPA air quality standards. 20,369 oil and gas production sites are located in North Texas, forecast to become the densest region in the nation. The epicenter is Arlington, TX. In Tarrant County one million people live within the half mile zone of a natural gas compressor or other emitter. And all of us in the region are susceptible to the dangerous methane emissions which can cause or exacerbate asthma, respiratory disease, congenital heart disease and even pregnancy complications. Children are especially vulnerable to the emissions and resulting bad air quality. Methane is also a greenhouse that has some 86 times the impact on our climate than even carbon dioxide measured over a 20-year time period. Our health and the health of our planet is at stake. New methane rules must be impactful!