



## Questions for Candidates for Texas Railroad Commissioner Conservative Coalition of Harris County

*Our questionnaire is for candidates to indicate their reasons and opinions concerning issues surrounding their races. This questionnaire will be posted onto the Conservative Coalition of Harris County website for public voter viewing.*

Candidate Name	Position for which Candidate is Running
James Matlock	Texas Railroad Commission

*Please give your answer to each of the following questions and please include your rationale with each answer. Please be concise and clear.*

1. Please describe the qualifications and experience that make you the best candidate in your political race.

**Answer: I have spent the past twenty years working in the oil and gas industry. I began in the trucking and SWD side of the industry. I have worked in sales, completions, safety, and pumping.**
2. Please explain what you believe are the most significant issues in this race, why you are running for this position and what differentiates you from the other candidate(s).

**Answer: This race is vital to Texas and our future. We have several issues that need to be addressed by the state and water is one of those issues. With the large number of AI data centers going in, we need to get creative about supplying the centers with the vast amounts of water required. The oil and gas industry currently produces 588 million gallons of waste water per day. We have the technology to clean the water to where the data centers wouldn't need to disrupt our aquifer system.**
3. What will be your top 3 priorities during your upcoming term?

**Answer: I will support the small businesses and the independent producers in Texas. I will work to ensure that our landowners and mineral owners are protected. I will work remove all 8,000 orphaned wells from the state's liability roll by working with the independent producers to get them in production for oil and gas, lithium, water or plugged.**
4. What changes can be made to the Railroad Commissioner office to improve productivity, reduce waste and increase efficiency?

**Answer: first thing that needs to be addressed is the website. We need to make changes that would make it more streamlined for the operators. The next task**

would be contract review. We have a lot of unnecessary expenses.

5. What are your strategies to attract new investment in mining for “rare earth” minerals within Texas (lanthanides, uranium, etc.) to help reduce the US dependence on China?  
**Answer: I am pushing the Texas Legislature to pass a bill that I coauthored requiring the AI data centers to utilize recycled oilfield waste water for cooling. By pushing for the reuse of the water, the lithium could be extracted at the point of recycling. By helping Texans and the independent producers better understand the process, we could create a stronger economy for Texas.**

BY RETURNING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE, THE CANDIDATE ASSUMES FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL ANSWERS TO THIS QUESTIONNAIRE. THE ANSWERS ON THE FOREGOING REFLECT THE CANDIDATE’S BEST EFFORTS TO ANSWER THIS QUESTIONNAIRE HONESTLY AND DIRECTLY.

PLEASE SAVE YOUR COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE TO YOUR LOCAL MACHINE IN THE EVENT THAT THERE ARE ANY TECHNICAL PROBLEMS WHEN YOU ATTEMPT TO EMAIL IT BACK.

Once this questionnaire has been completed, please email it to:

[alex@cchc-pac.org](mailto:alex@cchc-pac.org)

**\* Please note:** You **must** return your questionnaire from the email address to which it was sent. Questionnaires returned from any other email address will be considered fraudulent and will **not** be recorded and no answers will be published in the voter’s guide. CCHC-PAC deems a return from the proper email address as authentication of the correct respondent.