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South Texas Drilling Permit Roundup: It's shaping up to be a busy year for one local driller

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San Antonio-based **Gulftex Energy** is on its way to a potentially productive 2019, filing six new permits to drill this past week.

Gulftex has drilled 25 new wells this year, compared to 29 all of last year. All but one of its wells over the past two years have been drilled in Karnes County, with the exception being drilled in Atascosa County in October 2017. Karnes is the most active county in the Eagle Ford Shale and the second-most active county in Texas.

Last week, Gulftex tied for number of new drilling permits submitted with Chesapeake Energy Corp., one of the top oil drillers in the state and the number three producer in the shale.

The San Antonio company's six new leases — for which it is still waiting approval — are on its Concord South lease 10 miles southwest of Falls City. It already operates five wells on the lease and one on its Concord North lease, which is a few miles closer to Falls City.

Gulftex — backed by private capital from Wells Fargo, Prudential Capital Group and GSO Capital Partners — has been in business since 2006. It also operates in West Texas' Permian Basin.

South Texas Drilling Permit Roundup



COURTESY OF GULFTEX ENERGY IV LP
Gulftex Energy IV LP has nearly filed as many new drilling permits in the first half of 2019 as it did during all of 2018, all in Karnes County.

The South Texas Drilling Permit Roundup is a weekly review of new drilling permit applications filed with the Railroad Commission of Texas for a 67-county area of South Texas. For the full drilling data table, see below.

Date Range: June 24 to 30

New Permit Applications: 60

Companies Filing: 35

Most Active County: Karnes County with 14 applications

Most Active Company: Chesapeake Energy Corp. and Gulftek Energy with six applications each

New and Noteworthy:

Edwards County saw rare activity last week. San Antonio-based **PNP Operating Co. LLC** and Houston-based **American Resources Inc.** filed to drill in the county, which has only seen 52 new drilling permits in the last 2.5 years. PNP and American Resources will drill oil wells in the Turney Field, also known as "the poor man's Permian," on the Edwards Plateau about 25 miles northwest of Rocksprings.

Aransas County, which has had only eight permits filed in the last two and a half years, also saw a new application last week. Rockport-based **Lamar Oil & Gas Inc.** will recomplete a well it first drilled in 2007 by raising the depth of the well slightly. The offshore well produces oil and gas and sits in the Copano Bay, which is surrounded on three sides by Aransas County.