2026 Technical Conference on Environmental Permitting & Construction

February 2 – 4, 2026 | New Orleans, LA | Registration Open This Fall

Keynote Address: Amos J. Hochstein

Managing Partner, TWG Global

Permitting at the Speed of Demand: Is Washington Finally Listening?

Project delays in the energy sector are increasingly caused by permitting bottlenecks, not material shortages. This session features Amos Hochstein who will break down the post-FERC backlog, the Mountain Valley Pipeline saga, and the impact of the Inflation Reduction Act. Attendees will hear what's changing in Washington—and whether it's enough to meet rising demand.

General Sessions

- What's Happening in Washington? An in-depth look at recent and pending revisions to key regulatory statutes affecting the natural gas industry. This session will explore the implications of these changes and provide insights into how companies can prepare for evolving compliance requirements.
- Impacts of the "Trump Effect" on Domestic Gas Industry - Industry experts will examine the ongoing influence of Trump-era policies and political dynamics on the U.S. natural gas sector. The panel will discuss regulatory rollbacks, market shifts, and the broader implications for infrastructure development and investment.
- FERC Update- A timely update on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's latest actions, priorities, and policy directions. Attendees will gain insights into how FERC's evolving stance may impact project approvals, compliance strategies, and long-term planning.
- Tackling Last-Minute Delays: A Roundtable on Construction Planning Challenges- Discussion focused on strategies to mitigate unexpected delays during project execution. As regulatory scrutiny intensifies and interpretations shift, this session will explore proactive planning techniques and real-world solutions to keep projects on track.

Track 1: Environmental Permitting

- So I Have This Project – Part 3: Scoping and budgeting for projects with incomplete information is a challenge for both consultants and operators. In this third and final installment of the popular "So I Have This Project" series, we will take all of the information shared in the previous two sessions and put it all together in a live, real-time scoping of a sample project.
- Software Solutions for Environmental Due Diligence: Environmental research for route design and site selection can be time consuming and cumbersome. Utilization of environmental due diligence software can streamline this process. Getting ahead of possible permitting hurdles not only saves time, it can save your project timelines from unnecessary risk and cost.
- Emergency Projects and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers- Explore how individual USACE districts are currently interpreting and managing "emergency projects." This session will provide real-world examples and discuss the variability in district-level approaches.

- Fast-Tracking Energy Development: NEPA Alternative Arrangements- A timely discussion on the U.S. Department of the Interior's proposed emergency permitting procedures under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Learn how these alternative arrangements aim to accelerate domestic energy and critical mineral projects.
- FERC Filing Strategies: Traditional vs. Pre-Filing- What's driving the choice between traditional and pre-filing processes at FERC? This session compares the two approaches, examining current trends, timelines, and the pros and cons of each path.
- Environmental Justice in a Shifting Landscape- As anti-ESG sentiment grows, how can practitioners continue to address Environmental Justice (EJ) effectively? This session explores alternative tools, strategies, and frameworks for meaningful EJ analysis in today's regulatory climate.
- Section 106 Compliance in an Era of Budget Cuts- With funding and staffing constraints affecting agencies and stakeholders alike, this session will explore how Section 106 consultation and compliance are being managed—and what practitioners can do to adapt.

Track 2: Construction

- Western U.S. Gas Transmission Projects: Navigating Regional Challenges- This session explores the unique complexities of developing multi-segment gas transmission projects in the Western U.S., including permitting on BLM-managed lands, managing burrowing owl habitats, and addressing regional water scarcity and environmental constraints.
- Pipeline Waterway Crossings: Risk and Resource Management- Explore best practices for assessing and managing risks associated with pipeline crossings of rivers and streams, with a focus on projects involving freshwater mussel habitats and other sensitive aquatic resources.
- Permitting and Construction of the Evangeline Pass Project- A detailed look at the permitting and construction process for the Evangeline Pass Project in South Louisiana. This session highlights lessons learned, regulatory coordination, and environmental considerations in a complex coastal environment.
- Pipelines in Coastal Habitats: Managing Impacts to Marine Mammals, Essential Fish Habitat, and Other Protected Species: Construction of pipelines in coastal habitats can present unique challenges in mitigating risks to marine mammals, essential fish habitats, and other protected species. Consideration must be given to habitat fragmentation and loss in marsh areas, construction noise, and physical disturbances, which can adversely affect the breeding, feeding, and migration patterns of aquatic species, marsh birds, and other wildlife. Development of effective planning and management strategies in collaboration with regulatory agencies is crucial to identify, minimize, and mitigate these impacts. Using recent experience on multiple pipeline and LNG projects, this presentation will focus on best practices for early and effective management of wildlife and aquatic species in coastal areas, with a focus on swamp habitat.
- Challenging Crossings: Landfills, Mines, and Shallow Bedrock- This session presents recent project examples involving complex crossings through landfills, reclaimed mines, and shallow bedrock in streams and wetlands. It includes a discussion on blasting in aquatic environments and compliance with Section 404(b)(1) of the Clean Water Act (LEPDA).
- Creative Mitigation Strategies: Thinking Beyond the Checklist- Explore innovative and adaptive mitigation approaches that go beyond standard practices. This session will highlight creative solutions developed in collaboration with regulators and stakeholders to address complex environmental and permitting challenges.
- Blasting in Wetlands and Waterbodies- Permitting Challenges and Lessons Learned: Review of recent projects where blasting in streams and wetlands was required and permitted under Section 404(b)(1) of the Clean Water Act. Learn how teams navigate regulatory hurdles and what these examples reveal about permitting in sensitive environments.

Track 3: Air Quality

- Common Pitfalls in Air Quality Permitting and Compliance- A practical overview of frequent mistakes in air permitting, including vague project details, assumptions about emergency equipment, misclassified portable sources, and compliance risks when idling stations. Learn how to avoid these issues and streamline your permitting process.
- Navigating and Managing Air Permitting and Compliance in an Uneven and Evolving Landscape- This interactive session explores the complexities of air permitting and compliance amid shifting federal and state regulations. Topics include stakeholder expectations around methane, recent regulatory developments, and practical strategies for managing variability across jurisdictions.
- Air Permitting Essentials: Tanks, NSPS Kc, and More- A focused session on general air permitting guidelines, with an emphasis on tank permitting. Learn the differences between fixed roof, internal floating roof (IFR), and external floating roof (EFR) tanks, and get up to speed on updates to NSPS Kc
- Implementing an LDAR Program in the Era of OOOOb and OOOOc- With new methane rules on the horizon, this session will walk through the steps to establish and maintain a Leak Detection and Repair (LDAR) program. Learn what's required, what's changing, and how to stay ahead of compliance expectations.
- Lessons Learned from EPA GHG Reporting Changes- Explore recent changes to EPA's greenhouse gas reporting requirements and how they've impacted compliance strategies. This session will share lessons learned and offer guidance for adapting internal systems and processes
- Integrating Data Intelligence and AI into Environmental Compliance- Discover how emerging technologies—like AI and advanced data analytics—are transforming environmental compliance. This session will showcase tools and strategies for improving accuracy, efficiency, and decision-making in air and GHG compliance programs.
- Climate Risk Assessment Requirements: Implications for Oil & Gas- As new regulations mandate corporate-level climate risk assessments, this session will explore their implications for oil and gas operations. Learn how to identify vulnerabilities across assets, integrate climate risk into asset management, and build operational resilience in a changing regulatory environment.