

**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TO TEXNET AND BUREAU OF ECONOMIC GEOLOGY**

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 18, 2025 – 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

OPENING

The meeting of the TexNet Technical Advisory Committee was called to order at ~ 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 18, 2025.

PRESENT

Alexandros Savvaidis, Manager of TexNet
Brian Stump, Committee Chair
Jeff Nunn, Committee Member
Chris Hillman, Committee Member
Aaron Velasco, Committee Member
Larry French, Committee Member
Dave Cannon, Committee Member
Mark Boyd, Committee Member
Stefan Hussenoder, Committee Member
Lorena Moscardelli, Director, Bureau of Economic Geology
Elizaveta Rybina, TexNet Admin Program Coordinator
Shelly Dutta, ExxonMobil

ABSENT

Scott Mitchell, Committee Member
Seyyed Hosseini, Program Director, Bureau of Economic Geology

AGENDA FOR NOVEMBER 18th, 2025 MEETING

1. Approval of previous minutes (5 min)
2. Options to increase funding for the next fiscal year (9/1/2026 – 8/31/2027)
3. Letter to the Governor's office about funding needs and communication with high-level people regarding additional funding
4. Interim report for March 2026 and plans for Q1 and Q2 meetings in 2026
5. Suggestions for the subsequent meetings

INTRODUCTIONS AND APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 9th, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

Stefan Hussenoder introduced Shelly Dutta, an ExxonMobil expert in induced seismicity analysis, who also joined the Q4 2025 TexNet TAC Meeting.

Alexandros Savvaidis informed the TAC that Lorena Moscardelli would join the meeting for the last 30 minutes to discuss TexNet TAC's plans for moving forward.

The Committee reviewed and approved the October 9th, 2025 Meeting Minutes.

OPTIONS TO INCREASE FUNDING FOR THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR (9/1/2026 – 8/31/2027)

The meeting began with an agenda review and discussion of the plan for the next 6 months, as well as options to increase funding for the next fiscal year and long term.

Following the presentation of Alexandros Savvaidis at the TexNet TAC meeting of October 9th, 2025, regarding the possibility of a cooperative agreement between TexNet and USGS, Brian Stump shared that the USGS typically supports costs for instrumentation for other networks and recommended developing and pursuing cooperative agreement with the USGS for the next year as a future opportunity. He also emphasized the importance of maintaining computer infrastructure and instruments.

Alexandros Savvaidis shared that TexNet does not expect any funding from other projects and anticipates higher expenses due to increased costs.

Alexandros and the TAC discussed the budget for the second fiscal year of the biennium. Alexandros emphasized that costs associated with salaries, stations, and equipment maintenance will remain high due to increased costs and salary adjustments, while costs associated with other budget categories will decrease. Seismic station replacements will remain at \$0. Brian noted that lowering the magnitude threshold that the analysts manually review would require hiring additional personnel.

Alexandros shared that a 6-month notice is needed to inform any affected staff, if a decision is made to adjust the balance between instrumentation costs and staffing resources, and lay off personnel due to lack of financial resources.

The TAC discussed other options for additional funding for the next fiscal year, such as conducting a strategic review to determine human resources for long term planning and incorporating the findings into the upcoming funding request. The group also discussed establishing regular communication with UT regarding TexNet's needs.

The TAC explored the possibility of direct appropriation of state funding for equipment renewal from the legislature, with potential support from BEG and UT, to ensure the monitoring system functions effectively, provides high-quality data, and meets USGS requirements. Currently, state funding comes through UT.

The TAC recommended requesting a budget increase from BEG, as TexNet operates under the Bureau. If the Bureau is unable to support this request and allocate additional funding to support TexNet in the next fiscal year, the TAC suggested that the Bureau communicate the matter to UT to explore potential contingency options within UT budget.

If a budget increase is not feasible for the next fiscal year, the TAC recommended TexNet reassign existing funds to address critical priorities without exceeding the current budget.

The TAC members asked Alexandros to provide information on the number of seismometers measuring seismicity in Irving, Midland, and Odessa.

PLANS FOR 2026 Q1 AND Q2 MEETINGS AND INTERIM REPORT FOR MARCH 2026

The TAC discussed the possibility of holding Q1 TAC Meeting downtown on February 18, 2026, and inviting UT Government Affairs, Dean JSG, TXRCC, TXOGA, Representative Drew Darby, Commissioner Jim Wright, Representative Tony Gonzales, and Governor's representatives to discuss the role of TexNet and its short-term budgetary issues and long-term needs.

The group also discussed preparing an interim report outlining accomplishments and needs by March 2026 as part of the planning and alignment strategy between TexNet and UT for the next biennium.

Lorena Moscardelli joined the meeting at 10:40 a.m. Alexandros briefed Lorena on the items previously discussed during the meeting.

Lorena shared that her priority list includes addressing TexNet's infrastructure renewal to sustain operations and establishing communication with UT Government Affairs to ensure TexNet's needs for additional funding are conveyed on time for consideration in the next biennium funding request.

As part of the discussion on TAC exploring additional funding from the Bureau of Economic Geology, Lorena explained during the meeting that the Bureau does not have funding available to support TexNet in the next fiscal year. The TAC and Lorena also discussed the best ways to follow proper protocols for securing a funding increase for the next fiscal year. Lorena requested the TAC provide her with documentation to check whether TexNet's need for additional funding for the next fiscal year can be addressed further through UT.

Lorena supported holding Q1 TexNet TAC Meeting downtown to discuss shortfalls, interim solutions for the next fiscal year, and future planning considerations.

The TAC decided to hold an additional remote meeting on January 20th, 2026.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE SUBSEQUENT MEETING

- Review and discuss potential strategies to increase funding for the next fiscal year
- Updates on external communications with high-level state and industry representatives
- Shortfalls, interim solutions for the next fiscal year, and future planning
- Discuss the need for drafting a letter to the Governor

Lorena left the meeting at 11:10 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at ~ 11:20 a.m. by Brian Stump, Committee Chair

Minutes submitted by: Elizaveta Rybina, TexNet

Minutes reviewed by: Alexandros Savvaidis, TexNet

Minutes approved on January 20, 2026, by:

Brian Stump, Committee Chair

Jeff Nunn, Committee Member

Aaron Velasco, Committee Member

Larry French, Committee Member

Dave Cannon, Committee Member

Stefan Hussenoeder, Committee Member