



TNSC Adds Grid and Community Leadership Experts

Bill Blevins and Ector County Judge Dustin Fawcett Join TNSC to Bring Grid Reliability and Local Economic Expertise to Texas Communities

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AUSTIN, Texas, Aug. 5, 2026 – The Texas National Security Council (TNSC) today announced that Bill Blevins, a power systems veteran who helped create and then lead ERCOT’s large load integration group, and Ector County Judge Dustin Fawcett, who has consistently championed responsible economic growth for Texas, joined the organization as independent advisors and subject matter experts in their fields.

Blevins will serve as TNSC's expert on the electric grid including reliability, and Fawcett will serve as TNSC's community expert on economic impact and local accountability, helping local officials understand how communities can secure the economic growth data centers bring while maintaining the oversight and accountability residents expect.

They join TNSC’s security expert Steven C. McCraw, retired Executive Director of Texas Department of Safety and FBI. McCraw has been active in communicating the criticality of data centers to house personal data, including banking and health records, and importance to national security in the race to AI supremacy.

Blevins brings more than 30 years of power systems experience spanning grid operations, reliability and nuclear power. He currently serves as Head of Grid Strategies at Cipher Digital, a developer and operator of industrial-scale data centers, a role he began in June 2026. Blevins joined Cipher from the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT), where he served as Director of Grid Coordination.

“Texans deserve straight answers about what data centers mean for the grid, not talking points from either side,” Blevins said. “I’ve spent my career making sure the lights stay on in this state, and I know firsthand that a data center built and connected the right way makes our grid stronger, not weaker. I’m glad to help TNSC bring that perspective directly to the communities asking these questions.”

Fawcett has served as Ector County Judge since January 2023. He began his public policy career as a legislative staffer in the Texas House of Representatives before serving as vice president of the Midland Odessa Transportation Alliance, where he worked on transportation policy on behalf of Ector and Midland counties and the cities of Midland and Odessa. As county judge, Fawcett describes himself as a “solution-oriented Republican,” focused on solving problems through good governance. He has led major infrastructure initiatives in Ector County, including a new county courthouse, a juvenile detention facility, county airport improvements, a library, a coliseum and new cemetery grounds.

“Local officials aren't opposed to growth, we're responsible for it,” Fawcett said. “When a data center comes to a county like mine, our residents want to know it will be held to the same standards as any other business, and that the benefits show up in their schools, their roads and their tax bills. That's not too much to ask, and it's exactly the kind of accountability TNSC is helping communities pursue.

For more information about the Texas National Security Council, visit <https://www.texasnationalsecuritycouncil.com>.

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