**Section 166.140 Hearing Officer**

a) The Hearing Officer shall be designated by the Director of the Agency.

b) The Hearing Officer shall have all authority necessary to conduct a fair and orderly hearing including, but not limited to, the power to:

1) Schedule the hearing;

2) Require prior submission of expert testimony and written exhibits;

3) Require participants to state their position with respect to the issuance of the permit;

4) Administrator oaths and affirmations;

5) Examine witnesses to clarify testimony;

6) Rule on the admissibility of evidence offered;

7) Require persons who testify to do so under oath;

8) Establish the time for making written submissions and closure of the record; and

9) Continue a hearing from day-to-day or adjourn it to a later date, after considering the availability of the hearing location and the wishes of the participants.