

# Landman Contract Defeated by the Statute of Frauds

## *Insight*

Gray Reed & McGraw's Energy & the Law blog describes a contract case in which an oil and gas landman found out that the contract he signed with a purported agent for a client was unenforceable.

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# On-Demand: The Current (and Future) State of Oil and Gas M&A

## *On-Demand*

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher has posted an on-demand webcast that discusses what the firm has been seeing and expects to see in the future in regard to mergers and acquisitions in the oil and gas industry.

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# Exxon's Response to Climate-Change Case: Sue the Lawyers

## *News*

One expert asks: Does Exxon really need these depositions or is Exxon seeking the depositions to harass mayors and city

attorneys into dropping their lawsuits?

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## **Deans & Lyons Represents Family of Man Killed in Oklahoma Gas Well Explosion**

### **News**

The family of one of five workers killed in the Jan. 22 gas well explosion near Quinton, Oklahoma, has hired the Texas trial law firm Deans & Lyons, LLP.

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## **Chevron Fights California Cities' Climate-Change Lawsuits With 'Creative Lawyering'**

### **News**

Adding foreign companies to the litigation is a tactical maneuver to keep the dispute out of state court, where the cities have more favorable prospects, and force it into federal court, reports *The Los Angeles Times*.

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# Does the Insurance Policy Incorporate the Service Contract by Reference? An Examination of *In Re Deepwater Horizon*

## ***Insight***

A Steptoe & Johnson article takes a look at the way additional insured coverage under an insurance policy is analyzed when there is an underlying drilling contract limiting the additional insured coverage to the scope of the liability assumed in the service contract.

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# Can Emails Establish an Easement in Texas?

## ***Insight***

Charles Sartain, in a discussion involving a Texas case concerning a disagreement over the negotiation of the payment for a pipeline easement, addresses the issue of whether emails can create a contract.

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# **Fifth Circuit En Banc Simplifies Rule for Identifying Maritime Contracts in the Oilfield**

## ***Insight***

The Fifth Circuit en banc has handed down an historic re-working of the test for determining whether oilfield contracts are maritime or non-maritime in nature, according to a Baker Donelson post.

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# **Answers Demanded Following Deadly Oklahoma Rig Explosion**

## ***News***

As this incident moves from the recovery of the victims to the cleanup and investigation stage, a prominent Texas trial lawyer says the industry must use this tragedy as a signal to take stock of their safety procedures.

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# **Royalty Owners Seek Class-**

# Action Status Against Talisman Energy USA

## *News*

The lawsuit charges that from Jan. 1, 2013, to June 1, 2016, Talisman failed to report, account for and make royalty payments based on its lease agreements.

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# Tax Reform Impact On Energy? Short Answer: MLPs Are Fine

## *Insight*

Baker Botts partner Mike Bresson told listeners at the beginning of the law firm's recent webinar that "Master limited partnerships [MLPs] did just fine on tax reform."

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# Judge Fines Environmental Attorneys \$52,000 for 'Frivolous' Injection Well Suit

## *News*

A federal judge has ordered a pair of attorneys for an environmental group to pay \$52,000 in legal fees to an energy

company because, the judge said, they filed a “frivolous” legal challenge to a fracking waste injection well in Pennsylvania, according to a report by StateImpact.

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## **Noble, CNX Settle Legal Dispute With Marcellus Midstream Sale**

### **News**

Noble Energy Inc. reached an agreement on Dec. 15 with CNX Resources Corp. to sell its Marcellus midstream assets, quickly resolving a lingering legal dispute between the two companies, reports Oil & Gas Investor.

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## **FERC Puts Cloud Over Certain Oil Pipeline Marketing Affiliate Transactions**

### **News**

FERC’s ruling declining to approved the proposal will likely cause oil pipelines to review their current marketing affiliate contracts and will impact how marketing affiliates do business in the future, according to Dorsey & Whitney LLP.

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# A Twist in Oil Patch Arbitration

## *Insight*

Charles Sartain of Gray Reed discusses a recent case in which parties to the sale of a business sent their dispute to accountants to arbitrate.

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# Now That FERC Is Back In Action, Will It Keep Pace With States on Energy Storage?

## *Insight*

State action is robust, and state regulatory authorities are routinely emerging as thought leaders in energy storage initiatives, according to Morgan, Lewis & Bockius.

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# An Overview of Recent

# Production Deduction Cases

## ***On-Demand***

Courts in several states recently have addressed questions about post-production cost deductions in petroleum production, according to an on-demand webcast from Steptoe & Johnson.

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## **A Renewable-Energy Champion Is Suing His Scientific Critics**

### ***News***

Stanford professor Mark Jacobson has sued a prominent energy researcher and the National Academy of Sciences for defamation over a sharply-worded rebuttal of his work, reports the *MIT Technology Review*.

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## **Hydraulic Fracture Related Damage Claim: Federal Court Addresses Application of Consent and Release Agreement**

### ***News***

A U.S. District Court recently addressed issues associated



with a producing vertical well's claim for damages related to another company's subsequent installation of a horizontal well, reports Walter G. Wright for Mitchell, Williams, Selig, Gates & Woodyard.

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# **On-Demand: Impacts of Tightening Natural Gas Market on Procurement Strategy**

## ***On-Demand***

Ecova's on-demand webinar covers potential short- and long-term impacts of a tighter natural gas supply and demand balance heading into this upcoming winter.