Increased Swaption Activity May Present Financial Reporting Challenges for Oil & Gas Companies

Insight

An increased use of swaptions may help upstream oil and gas producers weather lower natural gas prices, but they present financial reporting challenges.

2020 Renewable Energy Outlook: Waning Incentives, Redevelopment Opportunities, and Community Opposition

Insight

Authors of the Schiff Hardin post discuss three key issues facing the industry for the coming year.

The Economics of Flaring

Insight

Author Gabriel Collins argues that instead of flaring gas, it

should be liquefied and sold in the international market.

Legal Fight Over Flaring in the Eagle Ford

News

The dispute, between Williams MLP Operating and Exco Operating Co., has moved to district court in Travis County in Austin.

Thompson & Knight Advises Oilfield Water Logistics on Sale to InstarAGF Asset Management

News

Thompson & Knight LLP advised Oilfield Water Logistics, LLC (OWL) in connection with the sale of its midstream water infrastructure and services business.

Legal Battle Continues Over Drilling And Fracking Wastewater Well

News

The long-running legal battle, which is being watched for its potentially precedent-setting outcome, pits a township, which wants to protect water wells from contamination, against a state environmental protection agency.

LIBOR Phase-Out: Considerations for Oil & Gas Companies

Insight

Oil and gas companies are encouraged to consider the impact of the phase-out to their organization and take steps to assess existing agreements and carefully monitor the execution of new agreements.

Thompson & Knight Counsels

Conflicts Committee of American Midstream Partners in Going-Private Merger with ArcLight

News

Thompson & Knight LLP advised the Conflicts Committee of American Midstream Partners, LP in its merger with an affiliate of ArcLight Energy Partners Fund V.

Duke Energy Sued for 2014 Coal Ash Spill Environmental Harm

News

Duke Energy pleaded guilty to federal environmental crimes in 2015 and agreed to pay $102 million.

Houston Oil Executive Gets 18 Years in Prison for

Defrauding Investors

News

The *Houston Chronicle* reports that a Houston oil executive was sentenced to state prison for defrauding investors who thought they were paying for the drilling and testing of wells – but instead paid the executive's mortgage.

Texas Adds New Statutory Requirements on Land Leases for Wind Farms

Insight

Future land leases in Texas for wind power facilities should include provisions to comply with the new statute's requirements, advises Holland & Knight.

Supreme Court Holds State Wage and Hour Laws are Inapplicable to Offshore Drilling Platforms

News

A Liskow & Lewis blog post discusses a recent U.S. Supreme

Court ruling that could have far-reaching implications concerning wage-and-hour laws for workers on oil and gas platforms located in open water on the Outer Continental Shelf.

Fracking Companies Lost on Trespassing, But a Court Just Gave Them a Different Win

News

A week after the West Virginia Supreme Court unanimously upheld the property rights of landowners battling one natural gas giant, the same court tossed out a challenge filed by another group of landowners against a different natural gas company.

PG&E Ordered to Prove New Board is Fit to Serve

News

PG&E has seen a cascade of management-level changes following the deadly November 2018 Camp Fire that burned more than 18,000 buildings and ruined the town of Paradise, according to Courthouse News Service.

Groundwater Law Can Bring Some Unwelcome Surprises to Property Owners

Insight

Gray Reed provides some analysis of the state of groundwater law in Texas and discusses some of the effects of a Texas Supreme Court case that should now be a concern to land purchasers in every transaction.

Judge Orders PG&E Directors to Visit Town Destroyed by Wildfire

News

The judge said he wanted the energy company executives to “see the gravity of what happened up there” and indicated he likely will join the tour.

Mineral Interests: Net Royalty Acres Defined

Insight

Mineral buyers often make offers in terms of dollars per net royalty acre. If the recipient of the offer does not know for sure what she owns, it can be difficult to evaluate the offer, according to Graves, Dougherty, Hearon & Moody.

The Troubling Intersection of Royalty Disputes and Consumer Protection Laws

Insight

There could be trouble ahead for operators if the future of royalty disputes lies increasingly within the province of states' attorneys, according to Kane Russell Coleman Logan.

Judge Dismisses Pipeline Operator's Racketeering/Defamation Suit

Against Greenpeace

News

“Posting articles written by people with similar beliefs does not create a RICO enterprise,” a federal judge wrote in his dismissal order.

Environmental Defense Fund Satellites to Monitor Methane Emissions From Oil and Gas Operations

News

An EDF spokesman said the satellite will be able to distinguish emissions from ambient methane and trace them back to their source.