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*.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.”

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.

New Report Highlights Cyber Threat to US Electric Industry

Insight

Critical infrastructure industrial control systems could be susceptible to a new type of malware, reports Morgan Lewis in its Power & Pipes blog.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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*.

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.

The Coal Ash Rule: Regulation, Litigation, and Strategies to Minimize Risk

Event, Dec. 13, 2017

Steptoe & Johnson's Energy and Environmental, Products & Mass Tort Groups will host a webinar to discuss the implementation of the Coal Ash Rule, the current litigation landscape surrounding coal ash, and strategies for avoiding courtroom and regulatory challenges.

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.

Oil Majors Face Lawsuits on

Climate Change Issues

News

The plaintiffs hold the fossil fuel companies accountable for rising sea levels, changing landscapes, higher global temperatures and increased risk of storms and droughts, Zacks reports.

Litigating Climate Change: An Overview of Suits Against the Oil and Gas Industry

Event, Oct. 18, 2017, 1 p.m. EDT

The Institute for Energy Law will present a webinar discussing the various climate change-based lawsuits and current trends in climate change litigation.