

# Energy Contract Lawsuits Expected to Jump in Harvey's Wake

## **News**

Lawyers expect a spate of force majeure contract lawsuits after Hurricane Harvey tore through Southeast Texas and parts of Louisiana last month, paralyzing a fifth of U.S. fuel output and pushing some oil production offline, Reuters reports.

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# Trump Administration Working Toward Renewed Drilling in Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

## **News**

The Trump administration is quietly moving to allow energy exploration in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for the first time in more than 30 years, according to documents obtained by *The Washington Post*, with a draft rule that would lay the groundwork for drilling.

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# Despite EPA's Insistence, Clean Power Plan Remains 'The Law Of The Land,' Democratic State Officials Insist

## **News**

The battle over the Clean Power Plan has intensified as Democratic state officials are publicly locking horns with the U.S. EPA over the legal advice that he has given to states that oppose the Obama-era carbon-cutting plan, reports *Forbes*.

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# Liability in the Oil and Gas Fields: The Gap Between Your Company and Its Employees

## **Insight**

Marcy Rothman of Kane Russell Coleman Logan explains that a new opinion from the Eastland Court of Appeals is highly relevant for petroleum owners, operators and drillers.

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# How Oil & Gas Technology

# Investments Help Executives Secure Project Payback

*Webinar: Oct. 3, 2017, 9 a.m. CDT*

The fall in oil prices has driven energy executives to focus on reducing production costs, according to Schneider Electric. However, are the benefits accrued from this price-influenced cost cutting only temporary or can they be made permanent and sustainable?

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# FERC is Back and Faces a Full Plate of Electricity Issues

*Insight*

With two new commissioners confirmed by the Senate and sworn in, FERC's seven-month period without a quorum is over and it can get back to business, reports Covington & Burling on its Inside Energy & Environment blog.

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# Could State Subsidies for Renewable Energy Face Legal Challenges?

*Insight*

The latest developments in federal courts indicate that state

subsidies for renewable energy, including renewable-energy portfolio standards and mandated procurement programs, are safe from challenges, at least for now, according to an O'Melveny & Myers article.

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## **Quick Legal Appeal in the Works for Illinois Zero-Emissions Credit Ruling**

### ***News***

Nuclear generators in other states also are seeking legislative and administrative support to help plants compete against cheaper gas and renewables, reports Platts.

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## **What Does Your Reservation Clause Mean?**

### ***Insight***

Two Locke Lord lawyers authored a discussion about a court decision that emphasizes the importance of properly phrasing a reservation clause, as to avoid inadvertently granting an interest in a mineral estate.

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# Energy Department Seeks Input on Regulatory Reform

## *News*

This is part of a government-wide initiative to overhaul the federal government's regulatory regime, set in motion with an executive order signed by President Trump, reports K&L Gates.

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# Emerging Trends Series: Offshore Wind

## *On-Demand*

Foley Hoag's Energy and Cleantech practice and NECEC have posted an on-demand webinar with offshore wind developers, leading public officials, investors and experts at the cutting edge of the Northeast's emerging offshore wind market.

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# Suit for Bad Frac Job Requires a Certificate of Merit

## *Insight*

Gray Reed & McGraw's Energy & the Law Blog discusses a case that asked whether a court must dismiss an engineering defect lawsuit filed without a certificate of merit with prejudice or

may dismiss without prejudice.

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## **A New Start for U.S. Offshore Oil, Gas Drilling?**

### ***Podcast***

A podcast from the Center on Global Energy Policy discusses the latest executive order on offshore oil and gas drilling and what political and legal challenges the order will face.

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## **The Nation's First Legislative Fracking Ban Is on the Books**

### ***Podcast***

In an episode of Kane Russell Coleman Logan's energy law podcast, director Tom Ciarlone discusses the nation's first legislative fracking ban.

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# Can Reworking a Saltwater Disposal Well Maintain a Lease?

## *Insight*

Charles Sartain of Gray Reed & McGraw asks the question: Should the sufficiency of reworking operations under the cessation-of-production clause of an oil and gas lease be limited to the producing well?

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# Removal of Energy 'Burdens' Could Have Huge Impacts

## *Insight*

A provision of the "energy independence" executive order signed by President Trump is so broad in scope that legal experts say it could affect numerous government responsibilities far beyond those that deal directly with energy and climate change, according to a post by Climate Central.

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**Court: FERC's Regulatory**

# Structure Not Biased in Favor of Pipeline Applicants

## *News*

The district court concluded that if plaintiffs “are unhappy” with Congress’s chosen appropriations to FERC, plaintiffs’ “recourse lies with their legislative representatives,” according to Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP’s Gavel2Gavel blog.

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# The U.S. Tax Reform and the Energy Sector

## *Insight*

Reforms in the U.S. tax code proposed being considered in Congress could have significant implications for the energy industry in the U.S., and worldwide, according to an article published on the website of Hogan Lovells.

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# Disaster Response for the Gulf Oil Spill Webinar

## *Event, March 16, 1 p.m. EST*

Textron Systems will present a webinar demonstrating how remote sensing and geospatial mapping products can be employed



to quickly respond to an evolving oil spill.

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# Pipeline Opponents Face High Legal Hurdles Challenging Trump

## *News*

Reuters is reporting that opponents of two controversial oil pipelines face an uphill battle if they fight construction of the lines.