Texas Supreme Court Rules Pipeline Can Take Land by Eminent Domain

News

Typically, the power of eminent domain is granted to governmental entities rather than private institutions. Under Texas law, however, a common carrier has the right and power of eminent domain, according to Snell & Wilmer L.L.P.

Utility-Scale Battery Storage Systems: Legal Issues and Opportunities

Insight

Utility-scale battery storage projects present land use, permitting and environmental and health and safety issues, according to an article published by Farella Braun + Martell LLP.

Hunton & Williams Launches

Sustainability and Corporate Clean Power Initiative

News

Hunton & Williams LLP announces the formation of a global cross-disciplinary legal team to advise corporations and investors on issues related to sustainability and efforts to increase utilization of renewable energy

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Are We Dialing Down Nuclear Power at Precisely the Wrong Time?

Insight

Nuclear plants are disappearing at a faster rate than the EPA forecasted due to a variety of economic, regulatory and political factors, according to an article published by FTI Consulting Inc.

Fracking Fluid Dynamics: New Trade Secrets Movements

Insight

As oil prices remain volatile, trade secret and intellectual property protection continues to be a key component of

ensuring profitability, according to Orrick's Trade Secrets Watch.

Skadden Publishes 2016 Edition of Energy Law Handbook

Insight

The updates cover such topics as compliance programs, audits and investigations, criminal and civil penalties, FERC market manipulation enforcement, CFTC regulation, antitrust enforcement, reliability, affiliate rules, natural gas, false statements, and more.

Rio Tinto Terminates Executives Over Simandou Investigation

News

Mining giant Rio Tinto PLC said it fired one of its most senior operational executives and its head of legal and regulatory affairs based on the findings from a continuing internal probe into $10.5 million in payments to a consultant who helped acquire mining rights in Guinea, reports *The Wall Street Journal*.

Energy Outlook: Platts U.S. Election Webinar

On-Demand

S&P Global Platts has posted an on-demand webinar taking a look at the potential impact the recent presidential election could have on petroleum, natural gas, power and metals.

Two New Cases: Fractional Royalty, Fraction of Royalty, or Mineral Interest?

Insight

Two new opinions, one from the San Antonio Court of Appeals and one from the El Paso Court of Appeals, again tackle the task of construing mineral and royalty conveyances and reservations, reports John McFarland in his Oil and Gas Lawyer Blog.

ScottMadden Releases Latest

Edition of Energy Industry Update

Insight

On its website, ScottMadden says this issue focuses on strategic drivers that are propelling the industry like nuclear challenges, changing energy supply and demand patterns, and federal-state policy friction

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Talisman Energy Facing Texas Federal Lawsuit Over Unpaid Oil, Gas Royalties

News

Attorneys representing oil and gas royalty owners with interests in the Texas Eagle Ford Shale have filed a federal lawsuit against Talisman Energy USA Inc. based on claims that the company manipulated oil and gas production volumes by as much as 20 to 30 percent and consistently shorted royalty payments, according to a news release posted by Androvett Legal Media and Marketing.

ExxonMobil Accounting

Practices Probed By New York Attorney General

News

New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman is investigating why Exxon Mobil Corp. hasn’t written down the value of its assets, two years into a pronounced crash in oil prices, reports *The Wall Street Journal*.

Law Profs Issue Takedown of Decision Striking Fracking Rule

News

The 36 professors take issue with the lower court’s interpretation of the Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended by the Energy Policy Act of 2005, writes E&E Publishing reporter Ellen M. Gilmer.

Debate Over Allocation Wells Continues

Insight

Horizontal wells drilled across lease lines were clearly not contemplated in a typical oil and gas lease, and lessors

should not be forced to accept a formula for royalty payment to which they have not agreed, advises John McFarland of Graves Dougherty Hearon & Moody in an article published in Oil and Gas Lawyer Blog.

Managing Catastrophic Events: What to Expect With Incident Investigation Reports

On-Demand

Norton Rose Fulbright has posted an on-demand video from a recent webinar that discusses best responses for companies dealing with sudden catastrophic events.

BP Fined $20 Million for Rigging U.S. Natural Gas Markets

News

BP Plc faces more than $20 million in penalties and surrendered profits after a U.S. regulator found that the energy giant manipulated commodity markets in Texas, according to a report by Bloomberg and published by *The Business Times*.

Energy Investors Celebrate Price Jump, Then Call the Lawyers

News

With U.S. crude oil prices climbing and natural gas gaining about 38 percent just since May 26, stakeholders in at least three bankrupt energy companies are contending that corporate assets have risen so much in value that they deserve a bigger payout, reports Bloomberg News.

E&P Hedging Alternatives During the Bankruptcy & Restructuring Process

Article

It is estimated that roughly 300 upstream energy companies will file for bankruptcy in 2016, and many management teams are curious about hedging alternatives during the restructuring and bankruptcy process, write Ryan Bouley & Shane Randolph, Managing Directors at Opportune LLP.

U.S. State Prosecutors Met With Climate Groups As Exxon Probes Expanded

News

A coalition of U.S. state attorneys general received guidance from well-known climate scientists and environmental lawyers in March as some of them opened investigations into Exxon Mobil for allegedly misleading the public about climate change risks, documents seen by Reuters showed, Reuters is reporting.

Texas Power Players Sit Out Political Opposition to Clean Power Plan

Article

Some Texas energy companies are not joining the effort to block the Obama administration from implementing its new clean power regulations, reports Mose Buchele for NPR.