

# Landowners, Energy Companies Seek to Capture Court's Ruling in Historic Hydraulic Fracking Case

## *News*

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania has agreed to hear a case to consider whether the rule of capture applies to hydraulic fracking, reports The Hydraulic Fracking Blog of Norton Rose Fulbright.

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# Pennsylvania, Texas Courts Disagree on Whether Rule of Capture Applies to Fracturing

## *Insight*

A recent Superior Court of Pennsylvania ruling in a case concerning hydraulic fracturing runs counter to a ruling in a similar case by the Texas Supreme Court, reports Graves, Dougherty, Hearon & Moody.

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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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# Study Says Local Benefits From 'Fracking' Outweigh the Costs

## *Insight*

The study explored revenue generated in communities where drilling takes place, local income and employment, benefits to local governments, decreases in the quality of life, and increases in housing prices.

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# Oil Producers Can Avoid Earthquake Potential over Disposal Wells

## *Insight*

Contracting out the disposal of oil and gas well wastewater may not totally free producers from a potential lawsuit given the recent widespread publicity about earthquakes, says Leonard Dougal, an environmental lawyer with Jackson Walker LLP in Austin.

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# Where Oil is King – When State and Local Fracking Rules Clash

## *White Paper*

Municipalities may be able to ensure compliance with environmental regulations by oil and gas companies and minimize some of the environmental harms associated with fracking, even when they cannot enact outright bans on the practice.

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# Ex-Chesapeake CEO Aubrey McClendon Indicted Over Lease Bid Rigging

## *News*

Aubrey McClendon, the co-founder and former chief executive officer of Chesapeake Energy Corp., was indicted on charges that he conspired to rig bids for the purchase of oil and natural gas leases in northwest Oklahoma, reports Bloomberg.