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.

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.

‘Express Written Consent’ Means Express Written Consent—No More, No Less

Insight

When drafting contracts, you should say what you mean and mean what you say, and reliance on oral representations directly contrary to the terms of a written agreement between sophisticated parties is not justifiable.

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.

Burlington v. Texas Crude – Another Texas Supreme Court Case on Post-Production Costs

News

The Texas Supreme Court has denied motion for rehearing of its opinion in a case that addresses deductibility of oil and gas post-production costs in the context of an overriding royalty.

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.

Thompson & Knight Successfully Defends BP in Landmark Texas Oil and Gas Lease Cases

News

A Thompson & Knight trial team earned a unanimous verdict for BP America Production Company in a retrial of a 12-year-old lease termination dispute.

Strip-And-Gore Leads to 30 Acres of Minerals Underlying

a Highway

Insight

Several reported cases in recent years have involved title to minerals underlying roadways, points out Austin Brister for the McGinnis Lochridge Oil and Gas Law Digest.

Texas Court Addresses the Use of Contract Operators

Insight

A recent Texas ruling illustrates the problems that can arise when parties to a joint operating agreement elect to have a non-owner serve as the operator, points out Austin Brister in the McGinnis Lochridge Oil and Gas Law Digest.

Broad Settlement Discharges Mineral Liens

Insight

When you prepare, review and/or sign settlement agreements you sometimes pay less attention than you should to the details of those “standard” releases, writes Charles Sartain in Gray Reed’s Energy & the Law blog.

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.

Mineral Interests: Executive Right Holder Liable for Refusing to Lease

Insight

The article in the Energy & the Law blog explains that the case presented an opportunity for the court to apply the guidelines outlined in an earlier ruling to a different scenario: whether the executive breached the duty by *refusing* to lease.

The Law of Hydraulic Fracturing

Insight

A new article by two Gray Reed & McGraw lawyers in Houston covers the benefits and risks of hydraulic fracturing.

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.

Haynes and Boone Issues Energy Roundup for Spring 2019

Insight

Haynes and Boone’s Spring 2019 Energy Roundup highlights an evolving United States oil and gas industry responding to recent commodity price volatility, the firm said on its website.

Do Indemnity Obligations Cover First-Party Claims, Or Only Third-Party Claims?

Insight

The Supreme Court of Texas is considering whether to grant a petition for review to establish whether an indemnity provision covers only third-party claims, not first-party claims, unless the provision unequivocally states otherwise, writes D.C. Toedt III in the On Contracts blog.

Top 4 Indicators Shaping Upstream Oil and Gas in 2019

Insight

Opportune takes a look at a few key indicators shaping the upstream oil and gas sector so far in 2019.

Appeals Court Allows Quick-

Take of Land for Mountain Valley Pipeline

News

Landowners objected to a lower-court ruling granting immediate possession of the disputed land before deciding how much each property owner should be compensated.

Texas Court Addresses Bad Acts in an Oil-Patch Lease Play

Insight

Was a partnership formed by a letter agreement, a participation agreement and the actions of the parties?