



Texas Journal of Oil, Gas & Energy Law

The Drill

January/February 2014



Content

Recent Events, pg. 2
Upcoming Events, pg. 3
Meet the Board, pg. 3
Recent Developments, pg. 4
Forthcoming Articles, pg. 4

What's New?

TJOGEL had a busy fall 2013 semester. In September, the Journal partnered with the Energy Center to celebrate Professor Ernest Smith's distinguished career of fifty years of scholarship, teaching, and leadership in energy law. In October, the Journal held its annual fall happy hour at Benji's Cantina in downtown Austin, and hosted Andrews Kurth for a "Straight Talk Luncheon" with TJOGEL students in the Eidman Jury Room at UT Law.

The Journal held a number of events in November, including a roundtable discussion on energy policy with former Houston mayor and current Lazard energy banking chairman Bill White (pg. 2), its annual energy law career panel with distinguished practitioners from across the industry spectrum (pg. 2), the annual Board of Advisors Dinner, and a retreat for Journal Board members (pg. 2).

TJOGEL is excited to kick off 2014 with its 9th annual Symposium on February 13-14th at the Etter-Harbin Alumni Center at UT (pg. 3). Additional events for the Spring 2014 semester include the publication of issue 9:1, the selection of the new Board, the annual spring happy hour, and roundtable luncheons.

The Journal would like to thank its partner student organizations, the Energy Center, its Board of Advisors, and its sponsors for helping to make all of this possible. Read on to learn more about these exciting updates!

Sponsors

Platinum Sponsors

Andrews Kurth
Baker Botts
Bracewell & Giuliani
Jones Day
Latham & Watkins
Locke Lord
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius
Sidley Austin
Vinson & Elkins

Gold Sponsors

Looper Reed & McGraw
Porter Hedges
Scott, Douglass &
McConnico

Silver Sponsors

Jackson, Sjoberg, McCarthy
& Townsend
Thompson & Knight
Watts Guerra

Bronze Sponsors

Anadarko Petroleum Corp.
Beirne, Maynard & Parsons
Harrison, Bettis, Staff,
McFarland & Weems
Hays & Owens
Jackson Walker
Kelly Hart & Hallman
King & Spalding
Wagner & Brown
Zaragoza Resources

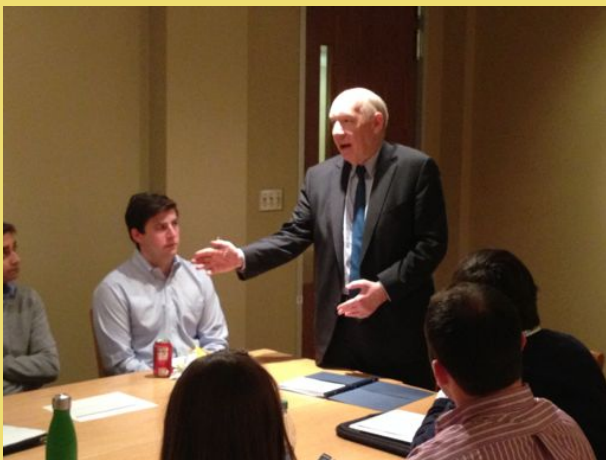


TJOGEL Board Retreat, November 2013

Recent Events

Bill White Roundtable

On November 14th, the Journal hosted a roundtable discussion on energy policy with former Houston mayor and current Lazard energy banking chairman Bill White. Mr. White spoke on a number of issues, including LNG exports and the future of Houston as the world's energy capital (for which he is optimistic). The Journal would like to thank Mr. White for attending the roundtable and sharing with us his extraordinary insight on current energy issues.



Mr. White Speaking with TJOGEL Students in UT Law's Fleming Room on November 14, 2013

Andrews Kurth Straight Talk Luncheon

In October, Andrews Kurth hosted a "Straight Talk Luncheon" for TJOGEL students in the Eidman Jury Room at UT Law. Associates from Andrews Kurth's Houston office discussed advice they wish they had known as summer or first-year associates.

Energy Law Career Panel

The Journal hosted its annual fall career panel in UT Law's Eidman Courtroom on November 7th. Panelists fielded a variety of questions from students interested in pursuing careers in the energy sector. The Journal would like to thank this year's excellent panelists: John B. Connally IV and Liz Devaney of Vinson & Elkins, Brandon Seale of Zaragoza Resources, Nathan Vassar of Lloyd Gosselink, and Caleb Troxclair of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Flag Football Championship

In November, the TJOGEL flag football team won its first flag football championship in the co-ed graduate student league. The game's decisive play came late in the first half with a twenty-yard touchdown pass to the corner of the endzone from Christine Mainguy to Benjamin Goodman.



TJOGEL's 2013 Champion Flag Football Team

Upcoming Events

TJOGEL Symposium

February 13-14, 2014

Etter-Harbin Alumni Center

The Journal is excited to host its biggest event of the year. The Symposium will feature panels and presentations on topics in a variety of energy practice areas. Participants can earn 10+ CLE hours and 1 Ethics hour in one two-day conference.

Registration includes all programming, plus breakfast and lunch on both days.

Registration Fees:
\$750 Unlimited Firm (11+ attendees)
\$375 Firm Group (Up to 10 attendees)
\$75 Individual

Please note, registration fees are waived for the Journal's sponsors.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Symposium!

To register for the Symposium, please visit the following link:
http://tjogel.org/?page_id=159

For more information on the Symposium, please contact Anna Lee Alford, Symposium Director, at symposium@tjogel.org.

Meet the Board



Alex Robertson serves as TJOGEL's Assistant Managing Editor. His responsibilities include reviewing and editing Journal articles, managing the Journal's outline bank, and publishing TJOGEL's bi-monthly newsletter, *The Drill*.

Alex grew up in Oklahoma and graduated *summa cum laude* from the University of Missouri with degrees in finance, banking, and real estate. Prior to law school, Alex traveled throughout Australia and New Zealand and interned in Washington, D.C. for Congressman Dan Boren, a member of the U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources.

This summer, Alex will be clerking at the Houston offices of Vinson & Elkins and Bracewell & Giuliani, where he will be working on energy transactions. In his spare time, Alex enjoys playing golf, watching SEC football, and traveling.



Michelle Hood is a second-year student at UT Law and serves as an Associate Editor for TJOGEL. She also received her undergraduate degree from the University of Texas at Austin, graduating with honors with degrees in finance and economics.

Born and raised in Amarillo, Michelle is a third-generation private pilot and spends her free time flying, traveling, and skiing. This past summer, Michelle obtained practical energy law experience through working in both the litigation and the corporate securities practice groups at Andrews Kurth in Houston.

This summer, Michelle will be clerking for Williams and Connolly in Washington, D.C. and Haynes and Boone in Dallas.

Recent Developments

TJOGEL Society Program

The Journal has made great strides over the past year developing its Society Program. The Society Program, which is geared towards 1Ls but open to all students, exposes non-Journal members to the energy law community through roundtable discussions, happy hours, and the annual fall career panel. This year the Journal implemented a new Society Representative Program, in which six first-year students were selected to help increase 1L involvement in the Society. The 1L Society Rep Program was a huge success with over 50 first-year students joining the Society in the fall, approximately 1/7th of the first-year class.

The Journal would like to thank this year's 1L Society Reps: Courtney Canning, Jonathan Seliger, Sean Gallagher, Zach Savrick, Casey Sherley, and Chris Stimpson.

The Selected Works of Ernest E. Smith

In January, the Journal will release a special publication honoring Professor Ernest E. Smith's fifty years of scholarship and teaching.

The Journal would like to thank Project Director and Executive Editor Cooke Kelsey, as well as the publication's sponsors: AIPN, CAIL, EMLF, RMMLF, and the Oil, Gas & Energy Resources Law Section of the State Bar of Texas.

Volume 9: 2013-14 Board

Executive Board

Editor-in-Chief: Mike Marek

Executive Editor: Cooke Kelsey

Managing Editor: Tom Hillebrand

Chief Articles Editor: Greg Sorensen

Recent Developments Editor: Dave Player

Chief Financial Officer: Sean McKinley

Symposium Director: Anna Lee Alford

Director of Submissions: Shawn Schmidt

Editorial Board

Assistant Managing Ed.: Alex Robertson

Director of Public Relations: Jaclyn Joseph

Online Content Editor: Callie Clemons

Director of Media: Rob Goodin

Director of External Affairs: Chris Fox

Symposium Associates: Andrew Klein & Bart Nebergall

Directors of Development: Christine

Mainguy & Minator Azemi

Assistant Submissions Editors: Jordan

Hahn & George Liu

Associate Recent Development Editors:

Aashish Kapadia & Gen Li

Associate Editors: Michelle Hood, Danny

Williams, Lander Brandt, Sarah

Lancaster, Carlos Mejias, Kara Ramsay

Forthcoming Articles – Issue 9:

Offset Clauses in a World Without Drainage

By Jason Newman and Louie Layrisson

Horizontal drilling has posed significant challenges to courts interpreting traditional oil and gas leases. In *Offset Clauses in a World Without Drainage*, Jason Newman and Louie Layrisson of Baker Botts' Houston office explore the impact on the offset drilling clause at a time when experts agree there is little-to-no drainage from the typical horizontally fracked wellbore. This insightful article highlights several legal issues Texas courts will face in the future as disputes arise over offset wells in a world without drainage and discusses how Texas courts may apply modern offset clauses in litigation arising from horizontal drilling.

Revisiting the Executive Right Holder's Authority to Pool Non-Executive Interests

By Will Thanheiser

Third-year law student Will Thanheiser presents an overview of the executive right holder's authority to pool non-executive interests. Thanheiser argues that the Texas position, where the executive right holder may not authorize a lessee to pool a non-executive's interest without consent of the non-executive, is inferior to the Louisiana position, where the executive right holder may pool the non-executive's interest without consent. Thanheiser argues that the Louisiana position supports the Texas public policy of waste prevention and voluntary pooling while adequately protecting the non-executive through the duty imposed on the executive and lessee.