



Texas Journal of Oil, Gas, and Energy Law

THE DRILL • October 2008

The TJOGEL staff has been hard at work this month, and not even halfway through the fall, Issue 4:1 of the Journal is well into the editing process. We are thrilled to be publishing an article by Professor Ernest E. Smith this semester—see below for a recap. Professor Smith has been a strong supporter of the Journal, and we greatly appreciate all of the advice and support he has provided. TJOGEL has already hosted two events, the Back-to-School Happy Hour and the first Roundtable Luncheon, both of which had extraordinary turnouts. The upcoming Career Panel will be open to all students, and the editorial board is looking forward to honoring our Board of Advisors at our annual dinner. The Spring Symposium will feature an impressive collection of speakers from all areas of the energy law industry, and we encourage you to plan now to attend and earn your free CLE hours (including ethics). The Journal would like to thank all those who support and subscribe to the Journal as we work to make this year's Journal the most successful yet.



The Main Event

Roundtable Luncheon with Gary D. Compton— TJOGEL held its first Roundtable Luncheon of the year on Monday, September 29, with speaker Gary D. Compton of Winstead PC. Mr. Compton fielded questions from over twenty staff editors and society members in attendance regarding his background and practice, which includes both governmental affairs and regulatory work. He provided a unique perspective on various energy technologies including wind, CNG, LNG, solar, nuclear, ethanol, and traditional oil and gas, and offered advice on future career opportunities in the energy legal field. Mr. Compton represents T. Boone Pickens and furnished insight into the Pickens Plan. The students in attendance received valuable advice on careers in energy law beyond transactional and litigation work.

Dates to Remember

- October 23, 2008 – Career Panel at UT Law School
- October 23, 2008 – Board of Advisors Dinner at UT Club
- November 3, 2008 – Roundtable Luncheon featuring Brian Sullivan at UT Law School
- January 22-23, 2009 – Annual Symposium at the Thompson Conference Center
- January 22, 2009 – Annual Banquet at UT Club

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Articles to Look For

The Growing Demand for Oil & Gas and the Potential Impact on Rural Land: Professor Ernest E. Smith's article addresses concerns of rural landowners given a higher demand for oil and gas. Professor Smith suggests that the increasing price and demand for domestic production of both oil and gas will necessarily lead to exploration and development of rural land currently used for farming, ranching, or recreational purposes. This paper addresses the implications such development could have on agricultural activities, wildlife habitation, and the overall permanent damage to rural land and offers recommendations as to the best legal protection afforded to farmers to minimize these potential negative impacts. Professor Smith is the Rex G. Baker Centennial Chair in Natural Resources Law at the University of Texas School of Law and a member of the TJOGEL Board of Advisors.

Carbon Dioxide Sequestration— Transportation, Storage and Other Infrastructure Issues: Larry W. Nettles and Mary B. Conner co-authored this article on long-term geologic carbon sequestration and the momentum that is building due to new legislation and studies in various U.S. states. The authors review the EPA's long-awaited proposed rulemaking for carbon sequestration injection, the possibility that the federal government will institute a carbon cap in the next few years, and expectations that carbon sequestration is likely to prove to be one of the more visible mechanisms to curb CO2 emissions. Nettles and Conner further propose that the "carbon revolution" will present many opportunities in Texas and beyond. Mr.

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mechanisms to curb CO2 emissions. Nettles and Conner further propose that the “carbon revolution” will present many opportunities in Texas and beyond. Mr. Nettles is a partner and the administrative/environmental law co-section head at Vinson & Elkins in Houston. Ms. Conner is an associate, also with Vinson & Elkins in Houston, and primarily practices environmental law.

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Alumni

Keeping in Touch- Current TJOJEL members would like to thank TJOJEL alumni for all of their hard work in founding the Journal. We encourage all alumni to keep in touch with the Journal and request that alums register their current contact information by sending their name, address, email address, and work information to alumni@tjogel.org. Alumni are also encouraged to [subscribe](#) to or become a [Friend of the Journal](#). Friends of the Journal receive a volume of the Journal (two issues), registration for the Spring Symposium (get your CLE hours!), and an invitation to the Annual Spring Banquet where the Ernest E. Smith Lifetime Achievement Award is presented.

Meet the Board



Billie Ann Maxwell, Managing Editor: As Managing Editor, Billie Ann Maxwell directs the daily operations of the Journal and works closely with the Editor-in-Chief as well as staff members. She also served TJOJEL as the 2007-2008 Director of Public Relations. Billie Ann earned her Bachelor of Arts in Government from the University of Texas at Austin in 2006. In undergrad, she interned for Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst, and Attorney General Greg Abbott. Billie Ann confirmed her interest to work in the oil and gas industry while clerking at the Railroad Commission of Texas after her first year of law school. From Kilgore, Texas, Billie Ann will be the third generation in her family involved in the oil and gas industry as she has accepted a position at K&L Gates in Dallas to do oil and gas transactions and litigation.



Atman A. Shukla, Treasurer: Atman Shukla is a second-year law student from Sugar Land, Texas. Atman’s interest in energy work stems from his interests in several areas that involve energy such as securitization, project finance, and mergers and acquisitions. Atman would like to have an international practice that taps into emerging markets such as India, China, and Brazil. He has a strong interest in expanding the free market’s use of alternative, renewable, and environmentally friendly energy sources. Atman is a 2007 graduate from the University of Pennsylvania where he earned his Bachelor of Arts in Economics.

Please send questions or comments to info@tjogel.org or visit our website at www.tjogel.org.

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