

FRACKING: THE COST OF ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

*4 HOURS OF CLE CREDIT

This symposium is presented in conjunction with the 2014 Andrews Kurth Moot Court National Championship.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2014

10:00AM-3:00PM

LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

THE DOUBLETREE HOTEL
400 DALLAS ST.
HOUSTON, TX 77002

Hydraulic fracturing, or “fracking,” is the process of injecting fluid into a previously drilled wellbore at a high pressure in order to fracture subterranean formations to release hydrocarbons. Hyperbole surrounding fracking is widespread with claims of national energy independence mixed with videos of flammable tap water and assertions of environmental destruction. This symposium sets out to present both sides of the coin, while also analyzing related legal and policy issues.



JACQUELINE L. WEAVER

Jacqueline L. Weaver is the A.A. White Professor of Law at the University of Houston Law Center. Her teaching and research interests cover oil and gas law, energy law and policy, international petroleum, and environmental and natural resources law. She is a co-author of the nationally used casebook titled *Energy, Economics and the Environment*, and the treatise *International Petroleum Exploration & Exploitation Agreements* (Barrows Publishing 2009). She also coauthors the *Texas Law of Oil and Gas*, a 3-volume treatise updated annually. More information about Professor Weaver can be found at <http://www.law.uh.edu/faculty/main.asp?PID=45>.



ROBERT HOWARTH

Professor Howarth is the David R. Atkinson Professor of Ecology & Environmental Biology at Cornell University. Trained as an Earth systems scientist, Dr. Howarth has worked on global change and pollution from the oil and gas industry for 35 years. He has published over 200 books and papers, including several on the greenhouse gas footprint of shale gas. He has testified before the US Congress and the EU Parliament on shale gas, and was named one of “50 People who Matter” in 2011 for his shale gas research. More information about Professor Howarth can be found at www.eeb.cornell.edu/howarth/.



STEPHEN HOLDITCH

Dr. Holditch was the Director of the Texas A&M Energy Institute from January 2011-January 2013. From January 2004-January 2012, Dr. Holditch was the Head of the Harold Vance Department of Petroleum Engineering. Dr. Holditch is currently a Professor Emeritus of Petroleum Engineering at Texas A&M. In 2011, Dr. Holditch was appointed to a subcommittee of the United States Secretary of Energy’s Advisory Board to make recommendations to improve the safety and environmental performance of natural gas hydraulic fracturing. More information about Dr. Holditch can be found at <http://www.holditch.com/>.



WILLIAM WOOD

Willie Wood is Head of Norton Rose Fulbright’s Energy and Infrastructure group in the United States. He is a member of the Global Supervisory Board. Willie concentrates his practice on the defense and prosecution of US and international commercial, business litigation and arbitration cases, with an emphasis on energy industry matters. Additional information on Mr. Wood can be found at <http://www.nortonrosefulbright.com/people/90613/william-d-wood>.



ANN ALEXANDER

Ann Alexander is a Senior Attorney with the Midwest Program of the Natural Resources Defense Council, where she has worked since 2007. She is engaged on a wide variety of environmental matters, including litigation and advocacy under the federal environmental statutes, and also including work on hydraulic fracturing-related issues throughout the Midwest. She was the lead negotiator for a broad coalition of environmental groups that helped to develop legislation governing hydraulic fracturing in Illinois, and has been spearheading environmentalist efforts in the state to ensure that the implementing regulations now under development are sufficiently stringent and comprehensive. More information about Ms. Alexander’s work can be found on her NRDC blog at <http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/aalexander/>.

Registration:

\$75.00 per Registrant

To Register:

<http://www.law.uh.edu/blakely/menc/championship.html>
or contact The Blakely Advocacy Institute at 713-743-2065.

Presented by:

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