

Railroad Commission Update

Tim George

45th Annual Ernest E. Smith
Oil, Gas and Mineral Law Institute
UT Law CLE
Houston, Texas

March 29, 2019

1

Overview

- Double-Assignment of Acreage
- Mineral Interest Pooling Act
- Allocation Well Permitting
- Disposal Well Permitting
- Recent Statewide Rule Amendments



Double-Assignment of Acreage

- What is double-assignment of acreage?
 - -Tract of land
 - -Assigned to two different wells
 - -Same RRC field
 - For permitting, proration, and production



3

3

Double-Assignment of Acreage

- Historically banned by the RRC
 - —Statewide Rule 40 prohibits double assignment of acreage to a "well for drilling and development, or for the allocation of allowable."



1

Double-Assignment of Acreage

- Under Statewide Rule 40:
 - if acreage is assigned to a well to receive an allowable in a field, then no other well can produce from that same acreage in that same field



5

5

Double-Assignment of Acreage

- Initial problem:
 - Vertical Wells vs. Horizontal Wells
 - Fields originally developed with vertical wells are later developed with horizontal laterals
 - Assignment of acreage to Vertical Wells left no acreage to assign to Horizontal Wells



6





Find the full text of this and thousands of other resources from leading experts in dozens of legal practice areas in the <u>UT Law CLE eLibrary (utcle.org/elibrary)</u>

Title search: Railroad Commission Update

Also available as part of the eCourse

<u>Case Law and the Railroad Commission Updates</u>

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the $45^{\rm th}$ Annual Ernest E. Smith Oil, Gas and Mineral Law Institute session "Railroad Commission Update"