SCOTT DOUGLASS McCONNICO

John W. Camp

OF COUNSEL

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Overview

John joined the firm in 1983 after working for 8 years with the Railroad Commission of Texas in various positions including Director of the Gas Service/Utilities Division and General Counsel of the Oil and Gas Division. John's Gas Service/Utilities Division practice involves utility rate and service matters including pipeline-to-pipeline rate charges, producer/pipeline transportation rate and service disputes along with pipeline safety matters. Before the Oil & Gas Division, his practice includes well permitting, field rule applications, productive acreage hearings, forced pooling applications, ratable take proceedings under the Common Purchaser Act, oil and gas proration matters, unitization and secondary recovery proceedings, disposal and injection well applications, legal enforcement proceedings, operation/drillsite designations, and rulemaking proceedings. John's practice also includes transactional work and litigation pertaining to gas purchase and sale contracts, unit operating agreements, oil and gas lease provisions, and trial and appellate work related to appeals involving Railroad Commission decisions. John also represents producers in pooling applications and royalty audits before the General Land Office.

Experience

Represented mineral lessees in separate proceedings in obtaining favorable decisions by the Railroad Commission and the appellate courts force pooling clients' acreage into producing well units.

Represented gas well operator before the Railroad Commission and the appellate courts obtaining favorable decisions denying former royalty owners' application for force pooling.

Represented municipality in defeating declaratory judgment action by major gas distribution company before state district court and court of appeals involving issues of first impression for Railroad Commission pipeline ratemaking authority.

Represented producers in proceedings before the Railroad Commission to successfully resolve by settlement attempts of pipeline operators to abandon takes of production.

Represented producer/shipper of natural gas liquids before the Railroad Commission to successfully prevent partial abandonment of transportation service by NGL common carrier pipeline.

Represented a major transmission pipeline company in a Railroad Commission proceeding in a dispute with a large gas distribution system over rate and service obligations that led to a successful resolution through settlement.

Defended electric power generation plant in arbitration with pipeline company regarding gas transportation contract service issues.

Represented mineral lessee of state lands in obtaining favorable ruling and settlement from General Land Office that offshore lease did not terminate for failure to pay delay rentals timely.

Represented land developer against major oil company in obtaining favorable ruling from Railroad Commission establishing limited drilling/operation sites for mineral activity to facilitate residential and commercial development.

Selected Reported Cases

Railroad Commission v. Bishop Petroleum, 736 S.W. 2d 724, (Tex. App.—Waco, 1987); aff'd per curiam, 751 S.W.2d 485 (Tex. 1988)

Railroad Commission v. Broussard, 755 S.W.2d 951, (Tex. App.—Austin, 1988, writ den.)

Buttes Resources Company v. Railroad Commission, 732 S.W.2d 675 (Tex. App.—Houston [14th Dist.], writ ref'd n.r.e.)

CenterPoint Energy Entex v. Railroad Commission of Texas and City of Tyler, 208 S.W.3d 608, (Tex. App.—Austin 2006, no writ.)

Articles & Presentations

- Forced Pooling in Texas—The Mineral Interest Pooling Act—When Can I Use It and How Does It Work?
- Survey of Pipeline Regulation—What Pipelines Can Do To You and For You.
- Successful Land Development in Oil and Gas Producing Regions— Designating Drillsites under Railroad Commission Rule 76.

Practice Areas

- Oil & Gas Business Advice
- Oil & Gas Litigation
- Oil & Gas Regulatory
- Public Utilities

Education

- University of Texas, B.A., with honors, 1971
- University of Texas School of Law, 1974

Admissions

- Board Certified, Oil, Gas & Mineral Law, Texas Board of Legal Specialization, since 1987
- State Bar of Texas