



PRESS RELEASE

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OKLAHOMA SUPREME COURT RULING ON LADRA V. NEW DOMINION, LLC

Oklahoma City, OK – July 1, 2015 – On Tuesday, June 30, the Oklahoma Supreme Court reversed and remanded a district court’s ruling in Ladra vs. New Dominion, LLC, et al, that the district court lacked jurisdiction because the Oklahoma Corporation Commission had exclusive jurisdiction over the claims.

The Supreme Court’s decision was not based on the question of liability or responsibility. The Court ruled that because this case does not seek to reverse, review, or modify an OCC order, but simply seeks to recover damages, jurisdiction is proper in the district court.

The case has a long way to go through the court system before the issues of liability and damages, if any, will be resolved.

President Chad Warmington stated, “We feel that the argument made by the defendants in the Ladra case regarding the jurisdiction of the Corporation Commission had merit, but we respect the Court’s ruling to the contrary. However, even with this ruling, there has been a general inability to connect any specific earthquakes to any specific oil and gas operations. As a result, we anticipate that the plaintiffs in any cases of this kind will face a significant obstacle in trying to make the required evidentiary showings that are needed in order to succeed in their lawsuits.”

“This decision will in no way sidetrack our efforts to work collaboratively with the Oklahoma Corporation Commission to minimize potential seismic activity that may be connected to our operations. We remain confident that the companies in our industry operate in the most responsible manner possible with the health and safety of their employees and the citizens of Oklahoma as a top priority.”

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