



U.S. Department of the Interior

## Office of Natural Resources Revenue

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*News Release*

### Office of Public Affairs

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## **ONRR Assesses \$54,269 Civil Penalty to Wasatch Oil & Gas** *Company Cited for Failure to Pay Gas Royalties to Southern Ute Tribe*

**DENVER** – The Department of the Interior’s Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR) announced today that it assessed Wasatch Oil & Gas, LLC a civil penalty of \$54,269.25 for its knowing or willful failure to pay gas royalties to the Southern Ute Indian Tribe.

“It is imperative that companies pay the proper royalties for gas production on American Indian Tribal lands,” said ONRR Director Greg Gould. “ONRR will remain vigilant in collecting all royalties due.”

In March 2014, Wasatch Oil & Gas submitted royalty reports for a Southern Ute lease located in Colorado for the monthly reporting periods September 2011 through November 2013, but failed to pay the required royalties of \$7,669.02. During a pre-penalty teleconference, Wasatch agreed to pay those royalties and did make a payment on May 30, 2014. However, Wasatch failed to timely pay \$6,267.70 in royalties for reporting periods December 2013 through May 2014, and \$4,153.03 in royalties for the reporting periods June 2014 through September 2014.

Wasatch Oil & Gas, LLC has offices in North Salt Lake, Utah.

The Office of Natural Resources Revenue, part of the Department’s Office of Policy, Management and Budget, is responsible for collecting and disbursing revenues from energy production that occurs onshore on Federal and American Indian lands, and offshore in the Outer Continental Shelf. During Fiscal Year 2014, the agency disbursed more than \$13.4 billion to states, American Indian Tribes and individual Indian mineral owners, and to various Federal accounts, including the U.S. Treasury, the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and the Reclamation Fund.

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