

Coppell West Side Gas Lease Coalition Progress Report

This email summarizes progress made by Coppell's Westside Gas Lease Coalition during the month of August.

1. A four person negotiating committee was established to coordinate negotiations with multiple oil companies. The diverse skill set of this group includes a lawyer, an oil field geologist, a drilling engineer, and a heavy equipment salesman.
2. The negotiating committee has interviewed and retained Mark Nastri as its legal counsel. Mark has an impressive track record representing communities, such as the NW360 group, to negotiate leases in the Barnett Shale. The negotiating committee has met with Mark to formulate plans using methods that have proven successful in past negotiations.
3. According to Mark, coalition unity is a major factor in collective bargaining. During the past three weeks, HOA leadership and volunteers have conducted an outreach campaign to educate homeowners about the coalition's purpose and to enlist support via a one page, non-binding, registration form. So far, over 500 homeowners have joined the coalition using this process. In percentage terms, this represents over 70% of the homeowners living in neighborhoods participating in the current sign-up campaign.
4. Members of the coalition met with Coppell's City manager and non-coalition HOA leaders to discuss leasing and drilling issues relevant to our city. The purpose of this meeting was to establish open communication links between all neighborhoods and city government.

The committee believes that a significant amount of organizational progress has been accomplished in a short amount of time. Some of you may be holding active lease offers from Cheseapeake's agent – PFM. Even if you have already joined the coalition, you are legally within your rights to individually negotiate with them. Be advised however that the internet is filled with recent examples showing the power of community based collective bargaining to achieve optimal results. The process of negotiating oil and gas leases is similar to the process of buying a home. There are usually multiple offers exchanged between buyers and sellers before mutually acceptable terms are reached. As long as the coalition continues to show unified purpose, the odds are good that our efforts and patience will be positively rewarded.

Your support of the coalition is greatly appreciated. Please direct any questions or comments to the coalition webpage (<http://coppellwestsidegascoalition.info/>) or Philip Frink (pfrink@valinorusa.com) who is leading the negotiating committee.