Mealey’s® Fracking Report includes coverage of litigation arising from hydraulic fracturing extraction of oil and natural gas. Litigation coverage includes land rights, land use restrictions, zoning and regulations, mineral rights, jurisdictional disputes, environment concerns — including air, ground water and noise pollution — personal injury to workers and to the public and property damage.

**Litigation Snapshot**
The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) says that it cannot investigate fracking in terms of pollution or environmental damage. The EPA has since proposed new rules to limit the emissions of fracturing operations. The Department of the Interior announced proposed new rules to increase oversight of the chemicals used, but only on operations on public and Indian lands, and only after drilling is completed. Several states have filed suit against the DOI contending that the new federal regulations are a burden and violate the Administrative Procedures Act. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health has stepped into the ring with concerns over dangerous workplace levels of silica exposure related to fracturing operations. The Department of Energy has found that although fracturing is connected to earthquakes, it is not a significant danger. At the state level, litigation continues in some jurisdictions where landowners argue they should have the power to pass moratoria banning fracturing on land near their homes.

**Who Needs to Know**
» Environmental lawyers
» Toxic tort lawyers
» Corporate compliance officers
» Regulators

**Areas of Coverage**
» State and federal legislative initiatives
» Land use
» Corporate compliance
» Implications for real estate
» Environmental insurance coverage
» Endangered Species Act
» Superfund (CERCLA)
» Clean Water Act
» National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
» Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA)
» Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

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