

Kirkwood Oil & Gas, Which Drills For Oil In Bears Ears National Monument, Is The Biggest Beneficiary Of BLM's Royalty Relief Bailout

Kirkwood Oil And Nerd Gas Are The Largest Recipients Of Royalty Relief Bailouts From Donald Trump's Bureau Of Land Management

Kirkwood Oil & Gas Is One Of The Biggest Beneficiaries Of Interior's Royalty Relief Bailout To Public Lands Oil And Gas Drillers

BLM Has Offered A Pandemic Bailout To Public Lands Oil Producers Through Lease Suspensions And Royalty Relief. "In all, more than 1,000 applications for royalty relief or lease suspensions have flooded Western BLM state offices following Interior guidance last month that promised rapid processing during the COVID-19 pandemic, according to the documents. Interior officials have not released full information about those requests amid scrutiny of what critics have deemed a bailout to industry, prompting frustrated House Democrats to push for hard numbers." [E&E, [05/20/20](#)]

Kirkwood Oil & Gas Has Received Royalty Relief For 54 Separate BLM Oil & Gas Leases In Utah. Kirkwood is a co-lessee with Nerd Gas on 54 separate oil and gas leases covering 71,328 acres of public land in Utah. Its royalty rate has been reduced from 12.5% to 0.5%. [BLM LR2000 Lease Suspension And Royalty Relief Database, [06/01/20](#)]

- **Of All The Companies Receiving Relief, None Has Received More Than Kirkwood and Nerd.** [BLM LR2000 Lease Suspension And Royalty Relief Database, [06/01/20](#)]

Additionally, Kirkwood Oil Has Received Lease Suspensions For Two BLM Leases In Wyoming Totaling 1,963 Acres. [BLM LR2000 Lease Suspension And Royalty Relief Database, [06/01/20](#)]

Kirkwood Oil & Gas Drills For Oil In What Used To Be Bears Ears National Monument...

Bears Ears National Monument Included BLM Leases Held By Kirkwood Oil & Gas. "Under President Barack Obama's Bears Ears proclamation on Dec. 28, the monument's 1.3 million acres were withdrawn from future mineral leasing. But existing mineral rights are honored, such as those held by Kirkwood Oil and Gas, one of the firms that also had asked to lease additional lands inside what are now the boundaries." [Salt Lake Tribune, [06/19/17](#)]

Even Though The Monument Designation Protected Kirkwood's Mineral Rights, The Company Wanted To Drill More In Bears Ears, And Opposed The Monument. "But industry is curious about lands in the north end of the new monument, in the Canyon Rim area just across the Colorado River from Canyonlands National Park. Here the Bears Ears designation overlaps two exploratory oil and gas fields – known as Hatch Point and Three Mile – that had



long been approved by BLM, according to Steven Degenfelder spokesman for Kirkwood. The company can drill on the leases it had before the designation, but without the ability to expand operations onto new leases nearby, the project might not be economically feasible. For that reason, 'we were concerned with the monument initially that it negatively impacts some of our existing lease rights,' he said." [*Salt Lake Tribune*, [06/19/17](#)]

Kirkwood Also Drills Just Outside The North Entrance To Canyonlands National Park. "The Casper, Wyo.-based producer has acquired a highly productive oil field at nearby Big Flat, outside Canyonlands' north entrance, and an interest in three San Juan County fields. Kirkwood has three nonproducing wells at Hatch Point, but hopes to keep looking and plans a seismic study." [*Salt Lake Tribune*, [06/19/17](#)]

...And Got Royalty Relief For A Lease That Was Cut From The Monument's Boundary

Kirkwood Oil Received A Reduced Royalty Rate On Lease UTU 079184. The case recordation shows that lease UTU 079184, for which Kirkwood Oil & Gas and Nerd Gas Co are each lessees with a 50% interest, was approved for a reduced royalty rate of 5% on April 30, 2020. [BLM Case Recordation UTU 079184, accessed [06/08/20](#)]

UTU 079184 Was Cut From Bears Ears National Monument When Donald Trump Ordered A Reduction Of The Monument. UTU 079184 is a BLM oil & gas lease on 1,638 acres of public land. [Western Values Project, [12/18/18](#)]

- **Kirkwood Is A Lessee For 10 Other Leases Cut From The Bears Ears National Monument Boundary.** [Western Values Project, [12/18/18](#)]

Steven Kirkwood Of Kirkwood Oil Was A Donor To Donald Trump's 2016 Campaign

Steven Kirkwood Of Kirkwood Oil & Gas Gave \$800 To Donald Trump's 2016 Presidential Campaign.

- Steven C. Kirkwood Of Kirkwood Oil & Gas Gave \$400 To Donald J. Trump For President, Inc. On July 19, 2016. [FEC, [07/19/16](#)]
- Steven C. Kirkwood Of Kirkwood Oil & Gas Gave \$400 To Donald J. Trump For President, Inc. On August 24, 2016. [FEC, [08/24/16](#)]