

April 17, 2012

Dear William Stallings,

I am a 38-year resident of Panna, Colorado, and am distressed at the Justice Dept.'s proposed settlement allowing Huron Energy Corp. and 56 interests to pay a minimal fine for colluding on natural gas leases and, what's worse, retaining those leases that were acquired illegally, depriving the government of a legitimate return on our public lands.

I ask the Justice Dept. to set aside its settlement in order to levy a more appropriate punishment. I applaud the public-spirited action of whistleblower Anthony Bale but cannot understand why the two companies are being treated so lightly. The current penalties of minimal fines, which have been publicly mocked by Huron Energy, need to be more than a slap on the wrist, and, of course, the leases need to be taken ^{back} by the government and bid again to assure a fair and legal auction of our natural resources.

Thank you,

Betsy Pilot Muston

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