

Media Advisory



Western Energy Alliance
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Oral Arguments in *Western Energy Alliance v. Interior Secretary Ken Salazar* *Western oil and natural gas industry challenges breach of law on paid but unissued leases*

(Washington DC) – Oral arguments will take place for *Western Energy Alliance v. Interior Secretary Ken Salazar* in the U.S. District Court of Wyoming, Chief Judge Nancy D. Freudenthal, on Wednesday, June 29th at 8:30 a.m.

Western Energy Alliance and six western oil and natural gas producers filed [a brief](#) in federal court on April 29, 2011. The case for Western Energy Alliance will be argued by Rebecca W. Watson, Wellborn Sullivan Meck & Tooley, Denver, CO. Wednesday's hearing is the latest legal development in the lawsuit regarding the failure of the Department of the Interior to issue leases within sixty days of receipt of payment from the winning bidders, in violation of the Mineral Leasing Act.

Kathleen Sgamma, Director of Government & Public Affairs will be available to answer questions after the hearing.

Who: Western Energy Alliance on behalf of six western oil and natural gas producers

What: Oral arguments before the US District Court for the District of Wyoming in *Western Energy Alliance v. Interior Secretary Ken Salazar*

When: 8:30 a.m., Wednesday, June 29, 2011

Where: U.S. District Court of Wyoming, 2120 Capitol Avenue, Room 2131, Cheyenne, WY

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About Western Energy Alliance

Western Energy Alliance, founded in 1974, is a non-profit trade association representing more than 400 companies engaged in all aspects of environmentally responsible exploration and production of oil and natural gas in the West. More information on Western Energy Alliance and its members is available at www.westernenergyalliance.org.