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Subject: Fw: Docket#CC-2025-OGR-001-005 public comment
Date: Wednesday, December 24, 2025 10:53:06 AM
Attachments: [Argus Independent Fruitland denies lease agreement for its mineral rights 1-31-23.doc](#)
[Rob Ruth - Gas and oil leases worry city.doc](#)

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From: shelley brock <sbrock4idaho@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 24, 2025 10:50:48 AM
To: Filings <filings@oah.idaho.gov>
Subject: Docket#CC-2025-OGR-001-005 public comment

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Please add the following documents in their entirety to the record on Docket #CC-2025-OGR-001-005.

In my opinion, these local media stories demonstrate SROG and their former operating partner AMI's sense of entitlement and lack of integrity when it comes to drilling in sensitive residential areas of Fruitland as SROG is now proposing with their latest integration application.

Shelley Brock
President, Board of Directors - C.A.I.A.
Citizens Allied for Integrity and Accountability
Eagle, Idaho
208-559-6127

Fruitland denies leasing agreement for its mineral rights

City earned \$100K in royalties from Snake River Oil and Gas in 2022

By Corey Evan and Leslie Thompson Independent-Enterprise

Jan 31, 2023 Updated Jan 31, 2023



This photo from April of 2019 shows oil and gas facilities off Little Willow Road. Once owned by Alta Mesa, the infrastructure is now part of Snake River Oil and Gas. A leasing agreement for mineral rights owned by the city related to two small parcels of land that the company recently applied for was denied by the Fruitland City Council at its most recent meeting. Three days ahead of that meeting, the company made cash donations and purchases for athletic programs at Fruitland and Payette high schools, but a spokesperson says the timing of those was "honestly coincidental," and unrelated to the council's pending action. [Leslie Thompson, file | Argus Observer](#)

FRUITLAND — At its regular meeting Monday evening, the Fruitland City Council reviewed a request from Snake River Oil and Gas for a leasing agreement pertaining to mineral rights owned by the city. The two small parcels of land involved in the request serve as sites for an elevated water tank and a ground storage tank, according to City Administrator Stuart Grimes.

In its Dec. 14 proposal, as obtained by the newspaper on Thursday, independent petroleum landmen Travis Boney and Wade Moore proposed a four-year primary term with these benefits: \$150 per net mineral acre, a one-time signing bonus of \$534, 1/8 royalty on marketable gas and oil for the life of the well and an option to extend the primary term for three years at \$150 per net mineral acre. An approval of a title and lease form by both parties would be needed.

Mayor Brian Howell observed that the request is associated with the Barlow 2-14 well drilled beneath the city.

"I actually called and talked to their land man, Travis, and tried to get some more information," said Grimes, noting that to date his attempts have been unsuccessful.

Councilor Tom Limbaugh moved to deny the request. The motion carried with a voice vote of 3-0.

According to Ysabel Bilbao, communications director for Snake River Oil and Gas, the company aimed to avoid an integration process with a previous request relating to its mineral rights within the Fallon 1-10 well. In 2020 and 2021, no agreement was reached and the Idaho Department of Lands ultimately integrated that acreage along with a few other "small" interests in the vicinity.

"As we did previously with the City of Fruitland in the Fallon #1-10 unit, Snake River Oil + Gas [has offered] to lease the City's mineral rights at the highest bonus we are paying anywhere in Idaho," wrote Bilbao in a Friday email.

Bilbao said that since Fallon 1-10 went online, Snake River Oil and Gas has paid the city more than \$100,000 in royalties.

Community gifts days ahead of action were 'coincidental'

In a letter received by the newspaper on Jan. 30 from Bilbao and Company, a woman praised Snake River Oil and Gas for gifts to the community at recent high school sports games. This included paying for all the concessions during the first half and halftime at the Payette-Fruitland junior varsity and varsity boys basketball games on Jan. 20, T-shirts given out at those games, and donations made to each school's athletic departments.

Bilbao confirmed during a phone call with the newspaper on Monday that the company did make two separate donations of \$500 each to the school's athletic departments, noting that they had dropped the checks in the mail on Jan. 20.

The timing of the donations and gifts were "honestly coincidental," she said, and did not have anything to do with the city's pending action on Jan. 23 regarding mineral rights. Bilbao said she had been working on community outreach endeavors for "weeks and months before hand," and that when they made the

contributions and donations on Friday, she was not aware of the city's pending action item on Monday.

The city releases its agenda items on Friday's ahead of the meeting around mid-morning to early afternoon, according to City Clerk Suzanne Pearcy.

For the rival game, the company had T-shirts made which were given out to the audience by cheerleaders. They featured school logos from both schools on the front and school fight songs on the back (half the shirts had Payette's, the other half had Fruitland's). The sleeve of the T-shirts also features a small Snake River Oil and Gas logo.

Requests for comment from Payette and Fruitland school districts regarding policies over use of the schools' respective logos were not returned by press time.

Gas and oil pipelines worry city

By Rob Ruth Independent-Enterprise May 24, 2017



As currently planned by gas and oil producers, two lines that would be bored to a depth of 20 feet below the bed of the Payette River would pass close to the City of Fruitland's intake facilities for its drinking water plant.

Gas and oil producer Alta Mesa Idaho wants to start drilling its first Fruitland area well this summer, but the current planned route for a pair of pipelines that would go from the drilling site and pass under the Payette River has run into opposition.

The opponent is the City of Fruitland, which has its drinking water intake between the two planned pipelines, which come would quite close to the sensitive city site.

City officials learned of the proposed siting Monday night, when Mark Cranford, of Woodland, Texas, firm Tie Land LLC, asked the Fruitland City Council to grant the pipeline project's needed easements across city property.

In a later interview, Cranford said the well site itself is on a spacing unit of approximately 619 acres adjoining the city-owned land.

Although his business card says he's with Tie Land, Cranford said he's a contractor representing Alta Mesa-associated firm High Mesa Services in the matter of the pipelines. He said the planned well is as yet unnamed and Alta Mesa refers to it as "Well A." He said it's on one of three fully approved well spacing units in the Fruitland area, but its approval by state regulators was only recently finalized after a challenge of the unit's integration was ultimately decided in the company's favor.

Members of Fruitland government immediately balked when they looked at the Google Earth printouts Cranford handed them showing the route the pipelines would be taking.

"You notice that little square. ... That's the water intake facility for the water treatment plant," Mayor Ken Bishop remarked, referring to the printout.

"I'll be honest with you. I can't think of a worse location for a pipeline," said Councilor Reece Hrizuk.

In answer, Cranford told Hrizuk the company "originally wanted to trench north of that location and then bore across the river."

He said plans call for boring 20 feet below the bottom of the river. One bore location is on the drill site property, and the other is across the river and east of U.S. Highway 95.

Cranford said the pipelines would eventually tie in with an existing line on Little Willow Road, taking an approximately nine-mile-long route to get there.

Pending the outcome of drilling to confirm the well's ability to produce, Cranford said the company planned to construct the pipeline shortly thereafter, probably starting in July or August.

He said agreements have already been signed with landowners for most of the needed easements along the route.

"I don't understand why you didn't meet with the city engineer and city staff," Councilor Ed Pierson complained to Cranford. He said the Council's responsibility is "to make sure that we're protecting our water plant. That's the bottom line."

"I don't think running it underneath our intake structure will be acceptable in any way," Mayor Bishop declared.

"Or even close [to the intake]," Pierson added.

"I just want to know why was there no consideration," Councilor Jeff Carpenter said a few minutes later. "Were you guys trying to just bully us through?"