



DIVISIONS

ENERGY
GAS AND OIL
GEOLOGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES
MINED LAND RECLAMATION
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 14, 2015

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Gas Owners to Receive Royalty Payments from Escrow Need to Complete W-9 IRS Form

Lebanon, Va.- Millions of dollars in disbursements will be given to Virginians who qualify this year. Legislation that allows gas owners to claim royalties from coalbed methane wells goes into effect in July.

To qualify for royalties, the person receiving payment must own the gas rights on the property where natural gas is produced. Generally, the company that owns the wells will notify the gas owner that they need to complete the [W-9 form](#). That form will be returned to the company so it can file for a disbursement from the escrow account with the Gas and Oil Board.

Also, in order for these disbursements to be approved by the Gas and Oil Board and processed by the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy, gas owners that qualify must complete a [W-9 IRS form](#) before they can be issued a check.

“We believe that we will be able to release around \$20 million from the escrow fund“, said Gas and Oil Board Chairman, Butch Lambert. “But, the bank cannot issue gas owners their payment unless they have completed the [W-9 form](#).”

Residents can also visit DMME’s website to view the [escrow estimator](#). There, they can search their address to see if they have money in escrow. The [W-9 form](#) and more information on new legislation can also be found on that website under Gas and Oil.

Operators are required to have all disbursement requests to the Gas and Oil Board before January 2016. Royalties from wells drilled after July 2015 will be paid directly to the gas owners.

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