

LEGAL NOTICE

YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE A CASH PAYMENT

YOU SHOULD READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY BECAUSE IT WILL AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS.

A settlement has been proposed in a class action lawsuit pending in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio captioned *Gregor v. Rice Drilling D, LLC*, Case No. 2:21-CV3999.

According to our records, you may be a member of the proposed Settlement Class.

This notice explains the nature of the lawsuit, the general terms of the proposed settlement, and your legal rights and obligations.

DEADLINES CONTAINED IN THIS NOTICE

YOU MAY:	DUE DATE:
Submit a Class Membership Form	Postmarked by: November 21, 2025
Exclude Yourself From The Settlement	Postmarked by: November 21, 2025
Object To The Settlement	Postmarked by: November 21, 2025
Request To Appear At The Fairness Hearing	Postmarked by: November 21, 2025
Return Your Signed Ratification	Postmarked by: 90 days after checks are mailed

WHAT THIS CASE IS ABOUT

This matter concerns a putative class action, *Gregor v. Rice Drilling D, LLC*, Case No. 2:21-CV3999 (the “Litigation”). Plaintiffs are landowners who raised a number of issues with Defendants related to the Smith Goshen Leases, including issues related to the calculation of royalty payments made by Defendants, deductions of Post-Production Costs by Defendants, and the stratigraphic depths granted to Defendants. Defendants Rice Drilling D, LLC, EQT Production Company, EQT Energy, LLC, and EQT Corporation deny all wrongdoing.

The Parties have concluded that it is in their best interests to settle the Litigation on the terms generally set forth herein in order to avoid expense, inconvenience, risk of negative outcome, and interference with ongoing business operations.

Magistrate Judge Elizabeth Preston Deavers of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio has provisionally determined that the Litigation should proceed as a class action, for purposes of settlement only, with Plaintiffs Dorothy Bowman, Maple Ridge Farm, LLC, and OK Ridge Farm, LLC serving as the representative of the Class. The Court has granted preliminary approval of the settlement, subject to a final fairness hearing discussed below.

THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT

Defendants have agreed to make a payment of \$0.15/MMBtu to the Settlement Class for production from January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2024, which will be distributed pro rata to Settlement Class members based on the respective volumes of production they were paid on during that period by Defendants. In addition, Defendants have agreed to make a bonus payment to Settlement Class members who are current Smith-Goshen lessors of \$450/acre which would be distributed pro rata based on each class members’ net mineral interest, and the producing acreage of each Settlement Class member’s lease. Defendants will

also separately reimburse Settlement Class Members for any deductions for Post-Production Costs and taxes that have been deducted in the calculation of royalty payments, to the extent any were.

In return, all Settlement Class Members who do not opt-out will release claims that could have been brought in the Litigation. To receive payment, Settlement Class Members must sign and return a ratification of a lease amendment. The lease amendment will: (1) clarify that Defendants must continue to calculate royalty payments on the TETCO M2 index price per MMBtu produced; and (2) clarify the “formations” Defendants are granted pursuant to the lease.

Subject to Court approval, Class Counsel will request to be paid Attorneys’ Fees of up to one-third of the total settlement fund, plus up to \$250,000 in reimbursement for Litigation Expenses, and Plaintiff Dorothy Bowman and Joseph Duvall (the owner of Plaintiffs Maple Ridge Farm LLC and OK Ridge Farm LLC) will request \$10,000 incentive awards. The final decision regarding the amount of attorneys’ fees, costs, and incentive awards that will be paid to Class Counsel and the Class Representatives are subject to the Court’s approval.

JUDGMENT AND RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS

If the Court approves the proposed settlement, it will enter a final judgment. Under the final judgment, all Class Members who do not validly and timely request to be excluded from the proposed settlement will release any and all claims against Defendants related to the payment of royalties on gas produced and sold by Defendants under the lease (including breach of contract, fraud, conspiracy, breach of implied duties and covenants, unjust enrichment, or accounting) and any and all claims that Defendants extracted minerals from strata, subsurface formations, or shales that were allegedly not granted in the lease (including trespass or mineral trespass, conversion or mineral conversion, unjust enrichment, and injunctive relief).

FINAL FAIRNESS HEARING

On January 22, 2026 at 1:30 PM, a hearing will be held on the fairness of the proposed settlement. At the hearing, the Court will be available to hear any objections and arguments concerning the fairness of the proposed settlement. The hearing will take place before Magistrate Judge Elizabeth Preston Deavers of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, located at the Joseph P. Kinneary Courthouse, 85 Marconi Boulevard, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

HOW TO RECEIVE YOUR SETTLEMENT BENEFITS

If the settlement is granted final approval, the Settlement Administrator will mail you a lease amendment and ratification form. **To negotiate (e.g., deposit or cash) your payment check included with the lease amendment and ratification form, you must also sign and return a ratification of a lease amendment that is postmarked within ninety (90) days after the form is mailed to you.** The lease amendment will: (1) allow Defendants to continue to calculate royalty payments on the TETCO M2 index price per MMBtu produced; and (2) clarify the “formations” Defendants are granted pursuant to the lease.

To assist the Settlement Administrator in determining whether you are a Settlement Class Member, you may provide the Settlement Administrator with the information requested in the Class Membership Form (attached hereto as Exhibit 1). Returning a Class Membership Form is optional and is not required to receive a settlement payment, as the Settlement Administrator will, in good faith, determine if you are in fact a member of the Settlement Class based on records provided to the Settlement Administrator.

You must postmark your optional Class Membership Form to the address below **no later than November 21, 2025:**

**Settlement Administrator
Schneider Down & Co., Inc.
65 E. State St., Suite 2000
Columbus, OH 43215**

HOW TO EXCLUDE YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT

You have the right to exclude yourself from the Class and the settlement. To exclude yourself from the Class, you must send a letter by U.S. Mail saying that you wish to do so.

A request for exclusion is not timely and properly submitted unless it is in writing, is signed by the person or entity requesting exclusion, is mailed in a postage-paid envelope to the Settlement Administrator, postmarked no later than the due date established by the Court in the Preliminary Approval Order, and otherwise complies with the instructions contained in the Settlement Notice. The request for exclusion must be personally signed by any natural person requesting exclusion; it cannot be signed by that person's lawyer or other agent, unless the person is incapacitated. Requests for exclusion may not be made on a class or representative basis. If the entity requesting exclusion is a corporation, partnership, or other legal entity, the request must be personally signed by a duly-authorized officer, partner, or managing agent. A request for exclusion is also not properly submitted or valid if it requests a qualified or partial exclusion or any other qualification.

You must postmark your exclusion request to the address below **no later than November 21, 2025**.

**Settlement Administrator
Schneider Down & Co., Inc.
65 E. State St., Suite 2000
Columbus, OH 43215**

REQUESTS FOR EXCLUSION THAT ARE NOT POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 21, 2025 WILL NOT BE HONORED.

You cannot exclude yourself by telephone or by email. You cannot exclude yourself by mailing a request to any other location or after the **November 21, 2025** deadline. The letter must be signed by you personally.

If you timely and validly request exclusion from the Class, you will be excluded from the Class, you will not be bound by the judgment entered in the Litigation, and you will not be precluded from otherwise prosecuting any individual claim, if timely, against Defendant based on the conduct complained of in the Litigation.

HOW TO OBJECT TO THE SETTLEMENT

If you are a Class Member, you can object to the proposed settlement if you do not think the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate. You can give reasons why you think the Court should not approve it. The Court will consider your views. To object, you must send a letter stating that you object to the proposed settlement. Be sure to include all of the following: (a) the objector's full name, address, telephone number and email address; (b) information identifying the objector as a Settlement Class Member, including proof that the objector is a member of the Settlement Class; (c) a statement as to whether the objection applies only to the Settlement Class Member, to a specific subset of the Settlement Class, or to the entire class; (d) a clear and detailed written statement of the specific legal and factual bases for each and every objection, accompanied by any legal support for the objection the objector believes applicable; (e) the identity of any counsel representing the objector; (f) a statement whether the objector intends to appear at the Final Approval Hearing, either in person or through counsel and, if through counsel, identifying that counsel (g) a list of all persons who will be called to testify at the Final Approval Hearing in support of the objections and any documents to be presented or considered; and (h) the objector's signature and the signature of the objector's duly authorized attorney or other duly authorized representative (if any).

Mail your Objection to the following place, postmarked no later than **November 21, 2025**:

**Settlement Administrator
Schneider Down & Co., Inc.
65 E. State St., Suite 2000
Columbus, OH 43215**

If your objection is rejected, you will be bound by the final judgment just as if you had not objected.

You may, but need not, enter an appearance through counsel of your choice. If you do, you will be responsible for your own personal attorneys' fees and costs.

ATTENDING THE FINAL FAIRNESS HEARING

You do not have to attend the hearing. Class Counsel will answer questions the Court may have. You are welcome, however, to come at your own expense. If you submit a written objection, you do not have to come to Court to talk about it. As long as you submitted your written objection on time, the Court will consider it. You may also pay your own lawyer to attend, but it is not necessary.

You may ask the Court for permission to speak at the Fairness Hearing. To do so, you must send a letter stating you intend to appear at the Fairness Hearing. Be sure to include (1) the name of the Litigation ("*Gregor v. Rice Drilling D, LLC*"); (2) your full name, current address, and telephone number; (3) your signature; (4) the words "Notice of Intention to Appear" at the top of the document; (5) the points you wish to speak about at the Fairness Hearing; and (6) the identity (name, address, and telephone number) of any lawyer who will speak on your behalf at the Fairness Hearing.

Please send your Notice of Intention to Appear to the Settlement Administrator at the address listed above, postmarked by **November 21, 2025**.

You cannot speak at the hearing if you have excluded yourself from the settlement or if you are otherwise excluded from the Class.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This description of the Litigation is general and does not cover all of the issues and proceedings thus far. For further information, you may visit www.smithgoshenohroyaltyclass.com or contact the Settlement Administrator Schneider Downs & Co., Inc. at (412) 697-5030.

DO NOT ADDRESS ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SETTLEMENT OR THE LITIGATION TO THE CLERK OF THE COURT OR TO THE JUDGE.

EXHIBIT 1

Class Membership Form (optional)

Owner Number	
Lease Information (if known, Lease Number, Lease Date, Original Lessor)	
Well Information (if known, Well Name, Well Number)	
Name	
Address	
Additional Contact Information	