Oil And Gas Companies Lock Up Millions Of Acres Of Utah For Drilling (And Polluting) While Racking Up Extra Profits Thanks To An Outdated Federal Leasing Program.

SUMMARY: Oil and gas corporations operating on federal public lands benefit from a "sweetheart deal" thanks to the outdated federal leasing program that favors big oil over taxpayers. In Utah, the state with the third most public lands leasing, oil giants and major polluters like Caerus Oil & Gas, Ovintiv, and Anschutz Exploration lock up hundreds of thousands of acres of public land for oil and gas development while depriving taxpayers of fair compensation for often harmful use of their public lands.

If the royalty rate were more in line with what states pay, Utah may have seen **as much as $52 Million in additional revenue in 2019**.

Utah has 2,902 oil and gas leases totaling 2.9 million acres of federal land. The 17 biggest land leaseholding corporations in the United States hold 582,734 acres of public land in Utah – 20% of the state's federal acres - across 1,013 leases, where they benefit from outdated federal leasing terms. Top lessees in the state include:

- **Caerus Oil & Gas**, a private company spending millions to buy assets from big oil companies and locking away 182 leases worth of Utah's public lands;

- **Ovintiv**, the "poster child" for everything wrong with the oil and gas industry that has been sued for bid-rigging and millions worth of dodge royalties; and

- **Anschutz Exploration**, the billionaire-owned oil and gas company who's CEO called the outdated federal leasing program "generous."

17 Big Oil Companies Hoard Hundreds Of Thousands Of Acres Of Federally Managed Land In Utah Where Their Profits Are Boosted By Outdated Leasing Laws.

Utah Has The Third Most Federal Oil And Gas Leases In The Country…

In Utah, 2,880,985 Acres Of Federal Managed Land Is Leased To Oil And Gas Companies As Of October 1, 2020. [BLM, Oil And Gas Statistics, National Totals By State, 10/01/20]

There Are 2,902 Leases Of Federal Managed In Utah As Of October 1, 2020. [BLM, Oil And Gas Statistics, National Totals By State, 10/01/20]

Utah Has The Third Most Federal Oil And Gas Leases In The Country. [BLM, Oil And Gas Statistics, National Totals By State, 10/01/20]

…With 17 Of The Biggest Leaseholders Nationwide Locking Away 582,734 Acres Of Public Land In Utah For Oil And Gas Development.

17 Of The Top Federal Leaseholders In The Country Are Active In Utah, Holding 582,734 Acres Of Land For Oil And Gas Development.

	Utah	
Company	Number Of Leases	Acreage
Caerus Oil & Gas	182	98,138
Ovintiv	175	58,747
Anschutz Exploration	127	141,493
EOG Resources	123	69,045
Kirkwood Oil & Gas	119	75,901
Occidental Petroleum	70	19,511
ExxonMobil	58	25,630
ConocoPhillips	52	5,577
Robert L Bayless Production	33	29,572
Citation O&G	23	13,833
Devon Energy/ WPX	14	14,063
Liberty Petro Corp	11	13,128
Magnum Producing LP	8	7,479
Merit Energy	7	1,316
Chevron	5	1,034
Stephen Smith Inc	5	7,370
R&R Royalty LTD	1	897
Total	1,013	582,734

Source: Bureau of Land Management

The 100-Year-Old Royalty Rate Has Long Made Federal Oil And Gas Leasing A "Sweetheart Deal" To Big Oil And The Expense Of Taxpayers.

When Oil Corporations Drill On Public Lands, They Compensate The Mineral Owners (The Public) With Royalty Payments, An Important Revenue For State And Local Governments.

There Are Three Main Sources Of Revenue From Federal Lands Oil Production That Go To State Governments; Royalties, Rents, And Bonuses. "Companies pay a wide range of fees, rates, and taxes to extract natural resources in the U.S. The amounts differ depending on the ownership of the resources. We'll cover some of the major types of payments companies make here. They are usually called "revenue" because they represent revenue to the American public. When companies extract natural resources on federal onshore lands and the Outer Continental Shelf, they pay revenue to the Department of the Interior (DOI). In general, companies pay bonuses, rents, royalties, or fees and penalties (if incurred) to ONRR, and in some cases bonuses and rents to the Bureau of Land Management." [Interior Office Of Natural Resource Resources, accessed 02/25/21]

- **Energy Royalties Are "An Integral Component Of Many Western States' Budgets."** "While a small portion of federal government revenue, energy royalties are important to resource-rich states in the mountain west that receive about half of what Washington collects inside their borders. 'These oil and gas royalties are an integral component of many western states' budgets, and suspending their collection would have a direct negative effect on states,' the Western Governors' Association wrote in early April to David Bernhardt, a former oil lobbyist who serves as interior secretary." [*Financial Times*, 06/28/20]

The Mineral Leasing Act Of 1920 Set The Current Public Lands Oil And Gas Royalty Rate At 12.5%.

The Mineral Leasing Act Set The Royalty Rate AT 12.5% Of The Market Value Of The Product To Be Paid To The Mineral Owners. On Public Lands, That's The Public. "The Mineral Leasing Act (MLA) defines the minimum royalty rate on oil and natural gas produced on federal lands to be 12.5%. Royalties (i.e., revenue from the application of the royalty rate to production) reflect the product of the royalty rate and the market value of the commodity produced. Royalty rates are defined in the terms of each lease and are not expected to change during the term of the lease." [Congressional Research Service, 09/22/20]

- **The Royalty Rate Is Unchanged Since The Mineral Leasing Act Was Passed In 1920.** "The current royalty rate, 12.5%, was established in 1920. Changing the royalty rate for new leases would not be expected to affect an operator's production from producing wells, but it could influence interest in future leases and impact bonus payments received during lease sales." [Congressional Research Service, 09/22/20]

The Artificially Low Royalty Rate Is Characterized By Some In Congress As A "Sweetheart Deal" For Oil Companies

Senator Chuck Grassley: Artificially Low Royalty Rate Is A "Sweetheart Deal" For Oil Companies. "The law no longer reflects fair market value. It has become a sweetheart deal for legacy energy companies. It's shortchanging the taxpayer and depriving public coffers from their fair share of revenue generated from public lands." [Senator Chuck Grassley, 03/06/20]

The Federal Royalty Rate Is Substantially Lower Than What Western States Charge On State Public Lands…

The GAO Found That States Get A Better Return On Public Lands Oil Royalties Because They Charge Higher Rates For Oil Production. "Also, preliminary observations from GAO's ongoing work indicate that selected states charge royalty rates for oil and gas produced on state lands at a higher rate than the federal government charges for production on federal lands." [Government Accountability Office, 09/24/19]

Utah's Royalty Rate Is 16.67 Compared To The Federal Government's Onshore Rate Of 12.5%. [Government Accountability Office, 09/24/19]

Table 1: Federal and State Lease Terms and Practices for Onshore Oil and Gas Leases, as of September 2019

	Primary Term years)[a]	Minimum bonus bid[b] (per acre)	Rental rate[c] (per acre)	Royalty Rate (percent)
Federal Lease Terms				
Onshore	10	$2.00	$1.50 or $2.00[d]	12.5[e]
Selected State Lease Terms				
Colorado	5	None	$2.50	18.75 or 20[f]
Montana	10	None	$1.50/2.75/4.00[g]	16.67
New Mexico	5	Varies[h]	$0.25 – 1.00	12.5, 16.67, 18.75 or 20[i]
North Dakota	5	$1.00	$1.00	16.67 or 18.75[j]
Oklahoma	3	$5.00	$1.00	18.75
Texas	3	$10.00[k]	$10.00	25
Utah[l]	5	$2.00	$2.00[m]	16.67[n]
Wyoming	5	$1.00	$1.00	12.5 or 16.67[o]

Sources: GAO analysis of federal and state laws and regulations, and state officials. | GAO-19-718T

Source: GAO

...And Boosting The Federal Royalty Rate Could Bring In Millions Annually.

An Independent Watchdog Estimates Raising Royalty Rates Could Bring In Tens Of millions More Revenue Annually To Utah

GAO Found That Modest Royalty Increases Could Boost Revenues By $38 Million Annually. "The oil and gas studies that GAO reviewed estimated that raising the federal royalty rate could increase net federal revenue between $5 million and $38 million per year. One of the studies stated that net federal revenue would increase under three scenarios that modeled raising the royalty rate from the current 12.5 percent to 16.67 percent, 18.75 percent, or 22.5 percent, while the other study noted that the effect on federal revenue would initially be small but would increase over time." [Government Accountability Office, 06/20/17]

- **The GAO Found That Increasing Royalty Rates Would Boost Revenue With A Minimal Impact To Production**. "In June 2017, we reported that raising federal royalty rates for onshore oil, gas, and coal resources could decrease oil and gas production on federal lands by either a small amount or not at all but could increase overall federal revenue, according to studies we reviewed and stakeholders we interviewed." [Government Accountability Office, 09/24/19]

If The Federal Rate Were More In Line With What States Charge, Utah Might Have Seen $52 Million More In Revenue In 2019

2019 Cost Of Low Royalty Rate In Western States*			
	2019 Royalty Revenue (actual)**	2019 Royalty Revenue (at proposed 20% rate)	2019 cost to state of low royalty rate
New Mexico	$1,340,557,753.87	$2,144,892,406.19	$804,334,652.32

Wyoming	$668,180,446.01	$1,069,088,713.61	$400,908,267.60
North Dakota	$318,929,799.71	$510,287,679.53	$191,357,879.82
Colorado	$124,657,581.71	$199,452,130.73	$74,794,549.02
Utah	$87,768,202.08	$140,429,123.32	$52,660,921.24
California	$75,459,265.98	$120,734,825.56	$45,275,559.58
Montana	$21,246,305.55	$33,994,088.88	$12,747,783.33
	$2,636,799,354.91		**$1,582,079,612.91***

Source: Interior Office Of Natural Resource Revenue

**These total cost is calculated from actual share of onshore oil and gas production revenues received by states under the low 12.5% rate and extrapolating them to the amount that states' share would have been had the royalty rate been 20%, all other factors equal. This cost is a conservative estimate because it only reflects the royalty rate change in the reconciliation package; it does not include new royalties for vented methane or increased revenues from updated rents and bonus bid increases.*

**The actual royalty revenue figures are from the Interior Office of Natural Resource Revenue. They reflect each state's *50% share of the standard 12.5% royalty rate*.

Top Leasers In Utah Use Their Millions Saved Through The "Generous" Federal Leasing Program To Lock Away More Land For Drilling And Shower Executives And Owners With Millions.

Caerus Oil & Gas Has Spent Over $1.3B Acquiring Assets From Big Oil Companies While Avoiding Millions In Royalty Payments Thanks To The Outdated Federal Leasing Program.

Caerus Oil & Gas Is A Private Fossil Fuel Producer, Growing Through Multi-Million Dollar Acquisitions Of Oil Giants' Assets In Colorado And Utah.

Caerus Oil & Gas Is A Privately Held Gas Producer Operating In Utah And Colorado. "He is the Co-founder, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Caerus, a privately held natural gas producer operating in Western Colorado since 2009 and in Eastern Utah since mid-2020." [Caerus Oil & Gas, Management, accessed 12/08/21]

Caerus Oil & Gas Has Acquired Over $1.3B In Assets Since Its Founding. "At Caerus, Mr. Keyte has been the principal in acquisitions of more than $1.3 billion in assets" [Caerus Oil & Gas, Management, accessed 12/08/21]

- **Caerus Oil And Gas Has Spent Hundreds Of Millions Of Dollars Buying Oil And Gas Assets From Encana Corp, PDC Energy, Marathon Oil, And Noble Energy.** "Denver's Caerus Oil and Gas LLC is about to swallow the proverbial whale with its $735 million purchase of Encana Corp.'s natural gas assets in the Piceance Basin on

Colorado's Western Slope. […] Caerus has built up its position in the basin over the years, buying acreage and wells as other, larger companies cast off the properties to focus their attention elsewhere. In 2013, Caerus paid $200 million to Denver's PDC Energy Inc. for what the latter called "non-core" assets — industry-speak for oil and gas wells that don't line up with the company's focus areas. In 2014, Caerus bought Noble Energy Inc.'s holdings in the basin, according to the Grand Junction Sentinel. And in 2016, Caerus was believed to be the buyer of assets Marathon Oil sold in the basin, the Sentinel reported." [*Denver Business Journal*, 06/09/17]

- **Caerus Acquired Occidental Petroleum Uintah County Assets In 2020.** [Caerus Oil & Gas, About, accessed 12/08/21]

Caerus Controls 182 Leases Of Federal Land In Utah, Where It Pocketed An Extra $5M Thanks To The Outdated Federal Leasing Program.

Of The Top Leasers Of Federal Land, Caerus Oil & Gas Is The Largest Leaser Of Federal Land In Utah, Controlling 182 Leases Totaling 98,138 Acres. [Data From The Bureau Of Land Management]

Caerus Oil & Gas Paid $15M In Oil And Gas Royalties In 2020, But Would Have Paid As Much As $5M More If It Was Subject To Utah's Higher Royalty Rates For State Land. Caerus Oil & Gas paid the Department of the Interior $15 million in oil and gas royalties in 2020. It paid $10.7 million in 2019. Had Caerus Oil & Gas paid the same higher royalty rates for state land in Utah (16.67%), it would have additionally paid $5 million in 2020 and $3.6 million in 2019. [U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Natural Resources Revenue]

Caerus Oil & Gas Oil and Gas Royalties - 2020	
Federal Rate	*Utah Rate*
$15,320,417	$20,431,308
Cost To Taxpayers	**$5,110,891**

Caerus Oil & Gas Oil and Gas Royalties - 2019	
Federal Rate	*Utah Rate*
$10,703,303	$14,273,925
Cost To Taxpayers	**$3,570,622**

Caerus Oil & Gas Has Incurred Nearly $45,000 Worth Of Environmental Violations Since Just 2013.

Caerus Oil & Gas Has Incurred $44,590 In Environmental Violations Since 2013. [Good Jobs First, Violation Tracker, accessed 12/08/21]

Ovintiv, The "Poster Child" For All That's Wrong In The Oil And Gas Industry, Makes Billions Off Its Oil And Gas Operations While Dodging Royalties And Rigging Lease Bids.

Ovintiv Has Been Called The "Poster Child" For Everything Wrong With The Oil And Gas Industry, Operating With Minimal Accountability While Showing Its CEO With Over $11M In Compensation.

Ovintiv Is A Denver-Based Oil And Gas Company. "Ovintiv, Inc. produces and develops multi-basin portfolio of oil, natural gas liquids and natural gas producing plays. The firm operates through the following segments: Canadian Operations, USA Operations and Market Optimization. […] The company was founded in 1881 and is headquartered in Denver, CO." [*Forbes*, 05/12/20]

- **Encana Corporation Became Ovintiv In January 2020.** "On January 24, 2020, Encana Corporation ("Encana") completed a corporate reorganization (the "Reorganization"), which included among other things, (i) a consolidation of Encana shares on the basis of one post-consolidation share for each five pre-consolidation shares (the "Share Consolidation"). Ovintiv acquired all of the issued and outstanding common shares of Encana in exchange for shares of Ovintiv on a one-for-one basis and becoming the parent company of Encana and its subsidiaries and (ii) Ovintiv subsequently migrating from Canada and becoming a Delaware corporation (the "U.S. Domestication"). Ovintiv and its subsidiaries continue to carry on the business previously conducted by Encana and its subsidiaries prior to the completion of the Reorganization." [SEC EDGAR, Ovintiv Inc Form 10-K, 02/18/21]

Ovintiv Was Called The "Poster Child" For All That Is Wrong With The North American Oil And Gas Industry Due to Excessive Compensation And Lack Of Accountability. "The New York-based investor considers Ovintiv, formerly known as Encana Corp., to be the poster child for all that ails the North American exploration and production sector, according to Mark Viviano, its head of public equities. The sector as a whole is rife with excessive compensation and a lack of accountability, he said in an interview." [*Financial Post*, 11/18/20]

Ovintiv Had $6.1B In Revenue In 2020. [SEC EDGAR, Ovintiv Inc Form 10-K, 02/18/21]

- **Ovintiv Had $6.7B In Revenue In 2019.** [SEC EDGAR, Ovintiv Inc Form 10-K, 02/18/21]

Ovintiv CEO Doug Suttles Made $11M In Total Compensation In 2020. [SEC EDGAR, Ovintiv Inc DEF 14A, 03/12/21]

- **Ovintiv CEO Doug Suttles Made $12.6M In Total Compensation In 2019.** [SEC EDGAR, Ovintiv Inc DEF 14A, 03/12/21]

As A Top Leaser Of Federal Lands In Utah, Ovintiv Pocketed Up To $4.8M In 2020 Alone Thanks To The Outdated Federal Leasing Program.

Of The Top Leasers Of Federal Land, Ovintiv Is The Second Largest Leaser Of Federal Land In Utah, Controlling 175 Leases Totaling 58,747Acres. [Data From The Bureau Of Land Management]

Ovintiv Paid $14M In Oil And Gas Royalties In 2020, But Would Have Paid As Much As $4.8M More If It Was Subject To Utah's Higher Royalty Rates For State Land. Ovintiv paid the Department of the Interior $14 million in oil and gas royalties in 2020. It paid $1.6 million in 2019. Had Ovintiv paid the same higher royalty rates for state land in Utah (16.67%), it would have additionally paid $4.7 million in 2020 and $520,192 in 2019. [U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Natural Resources Revenue]

Ovintiv Oil and Gas Royalties - 2020	
Federal Rate	*Utah Rate*
$14,345,680	$19,131,399
Cost To Taxpayers	**$4,785,719**

Ovintiv Oil and Gas Royalties - 2019	
Federal Rate	*Utah Rate*
$1,559,328	$2,079,520
Cost To Taxpayers	**$520,192**

Ovintiv Has Been Sued In Multiple Countries For Underpaying Royalties Or Violating Royalty Agreements, Paying As Much As $40M To Settle A Single Lawsuit.

In 2020, Ovintiv Paid $31.5M To Settle A Class Action Suit Over Underpaid Royalties. "An Ovintiv Inc entity agreed to a deal worth $31.5 million to settle claims with thousands of mineral owners and end a class action suit that alleged the oil and gas company failed to pay interest on late royalty payments, the class told an Oklahoma federal court." [*Law360*, 02/04/20]

In 2014, Ovintiv Was Sued In Canada For Breaching Royalty Agreements. "Fraud and conspiracy claims against Canadian oil company Encana Corp over disputes related to natural gas leases in Alberta have been stayed and referred to arbitration, while claims against the company's former subsidiary will plow ahead. The dispute centers around an April 2012 agreement that TTWI entered into with Encana which owned fee-simple mineral title as well as government and third-party leases to oil and gas interests in Alberta's Clearwater County. Under the New Royalty Conveyance Agreement, TTWI was granted a 32.5 percent royalty on natural gas produced from about 4,000 existing wells in Clearwater in exchange for a CA$100 million ($79 million) payment to Encana. […] In May 2014, the title transfer to PrairieSky took place and Encana sold its interest in the subsidiary through two public offerings which raised approximately $4.1 billion. The royalty extension agreement to the new wells was terminated and TTWI sued both Encana and PrairieSky seeking remedies of alleged breaches of the royalty agreement and damages." [*Law360*, 04/19/16]

Ovintiv Was Sued In Colorado For Underpaying Royalties, Paying $40M To Settle The Case. "Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and a Class of similarly situated royalty payees, filed the Lawsuit on April 13,2005 in the District Court for the City and County of Denver, Colorado. […] The Plaintiffs claim that EnCana has deducted or adjusted from royalty payments certain charges for costs that should not have been deducted. Specifically, the Plaintiffs claim that EnCana should not have deducted from natural gas royalties any costs incurred to make gas marketable or to deliver gas from the wellheads to the commercial marketplace. […] EnCana has agreed to pay a total of forty million dollars ($40,000,000) ("the Settlement Fund") to settle the claims for underpayment of royalties to the Class Members on natural gas produced, sold or taken in-kind by EnCana and/or distributed by EnCana with respect to production through December 31, 2008." [Miller et al v. EnCana Gas & Oil (USA) Inc., District Court, City and County of Denver, Case No. 05-CV2753, accessed 12/08/21]

Ovintiv, In 2021, Was Sued By An Oklahoma Woman Who Alleged That The Company "Uses Dodgy Accounting Methods To Underpay Royalties." "An Oklahoma woman claims Ovintiv Mid-Continent Inc uses dodgy accounting methods to underpay royalties to those with oil-and-gas leases with the company. Lead plaintiff, Mary Lansden Swafford filed the class action lawsuit in Oklahoma federal court Wednesday seeking to represent others who were shorted or not even paid by Ovintiv. She says the company uses accounting methods that mislead Class Members into thinking they are owed less or nothing at all." [*Top Class Actions*, 07/15/21]

Ovintiv Paid $5M After Conspiring To Rig Bids For State Land In Michigan

Ovintiv Was Accused Of Conspiring With Chesapeake Energy To Avoid Competition When Bidding On State Leases In Michigan. "The American arm of Canada-based Encana and Chesapeake Energy Corp. were accused of dividing state lands whose gas and oil rights were up for auction to avoid competing against each other, according to charges filed by Schuette in Cheyboygan County District Court in March." [*MLive*, 05/05/14]

Ovintiv Paid $5M To Settle "Bid-Rigging" Charges In 2014. "Encana Oil and Gas USA -- one of two big oil companies accused of bid-rigging in the state's auction of oil and gas leases – has agreed to a $5 million settlement designed to erase pending criminal charges, Attorney General Bill Schuette announced on Monday, May 5." [*MLive*, 05/05/14]

Ovintiv Has Paid Over $2.9M In Environmental And Safety Violations.

Ovintiv Has Incurred $2.9M In Environmental Violations Since 2000. [Good Jobs First, Violation Tracker, accessed 12/08/21]

Ovintiv Has Incurred $42,500 In Safety Violations Since 2000. [Good Jobs First, Violation Tracker, accessed 12/08/21]

Billionaire-Owned Anschutz Exploration Has Locked Away Over 141,000 Acres Of Utah Where It Benefits From "Generous" Federal Leasing Terms That Have Saved The Company Millions.

Anschutz Exploration Is An Oil And Gas Company Owned By Los Angeles Billionaire Philip Anschutz.

Anschutz Exploration Is The Fourth Largest Private Oil And Gas Company In The U.S. "Anschutz Exploration Corporation (AEC) is a private, independent oil and gas company with current projects located in Wyoming, Colorado and Utah. Specifically focused on the Powder River and Washakie Basins of Wyoming, the Piceance and DJ Basins of Colorado and the Uinta

Basin of Utah. Anschutz is the largest private E&P in the PRB, and the fourth-largest overall, with over 385,000 net acres." [*Oil & Gas 360*, 07/25/18]

Philip Anschutz Owns Anschutz Exploration And Anschutz Entertainment Group, The Conglomerate That Owns The Los Angeles Kings And The Staples Center. "Phil Anschutz's business holdings are wide-ranging. They include oil and gas interests in Colorado, Wyoming and Utah through Anschutz Exploration Corporation. He also has ownership interest through Anschutz Entertainment Group in events like Coachella as well as various sports teams and arenas, like the Los Angeles Kings, and the stadium they play in, the Staples Center." [*Colorado Sun*, 08/27/21]

- **Anschutz Was Dubbed "The Man Who Owns L.A." In A 2012 New Yorker Profile.** [*The New Yorker*, 01/08/12]

Philip Anschutz's Estimated Net Worth Is $14.5B. [*Bloomberg*, 12/08/21]

Anschutz Is The Third Largest Leaser Of Federal Land In Utah, Locking Away 141,493 Acres Of The State.

Of The Top Leasers Of Federal Land, Anschutz Exploration Is The Third Largest Leaser Of Federal Land In Utah, Controlling 127 Leases Totaling 141,493 Acres. [Data From The Bureau Of Land Management]

Anschutz Exploration's CEO Has Praised "Generous" Federal Land Lease Terms That Have Saved The Company Millions In Royalty Payments Over The Last Two Years Alone.

Anschutz Exploration's CEO, In 2018, Touted That The Oil Company Had Benefitted From "Generous" Federal Land Lease Terms In The Profit-Rich Powder River Basin In Wyoming. "In presentations at the EnerCom Conference in Denver on Tuesday, Anschutz Exploration Corp. CEO Joe DeDominic and Samson Resources II LLC CEO Joseph Mills said the PRB's stacked pay zones, generous lease terms and low production costs give the basin an advantage over other onshore areas for unconventional drilling." [*Natural Gas Intelligence*, 08/22/18]

Anschutz Exploration Paid $2.9M Million In Oil And Gas Royalties In 2020, But Would Have Paid As Much As $957,963 More If It Was Subject To Utah's Higher Royalty Rates For State Land. Anschutz Exploration paid the Department of the Interior $2.9 million in oil and gas royalties in 2020. It paid $9.5 million in 2019. Had Anschutz Exploration paid the same higher royalty rates for state land in Utah (16.67%), it would have additionally paid $957,963 in 2020 and $3.2 million in 2019. [U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Natural Resources Revenue]

Anschutz Exploration Oil and Gas Royalties - 2020	
Federal Rate	*Utah Rate*
$2,871,593	$3,829,556
Cost To Taxpayers	**$957,963**

Anschutz Exploration Oil and Gas Royalties - 2019	
Federal Rate	*Utah Rate*
$9,589,625	$12,788,724
Cost To Taxpayers	**$3,199,099**