



*.....keeping watch on
the industry*

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**DUNN COUNTY
MINE IN THE
TOWN OF RED
CEDAR,
LOCATED NEAR
MENOMONIE,
WISCONSIN
Owned by Covia**

[Frac sand supplier](#)

[Covia files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy](#)

Frac sand supplier Covia has filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. In Wisconsin, Covia has facilities in Columbia, Dunn, Monroe, Pierce and Waupaca counties, including the only frac sand mine in Dunn. Covia has entered into a cost-reduction agreement with its secured creditors, and intends to reduce costs by \$1 billion. Covia owns 32

mines, and is a result of the merger of Unimin and Fairmont Santrol. This news follows the recent news that frac sand supplier Hi-Crush is also filing for bankruptcy under Chapter 11..... Read more at the site below:

<https://www.wis.community/environment/news/frac-sand-supplier-covia-files-chapter-11-bankruptcy>

In other news, one of the hydraulic fracturing industry's largest corporations is also filing for bankruptcy under Chapter 11.

Chesapeake Energy, once a high-flying fracking company, heads for a fall.

Chesapeake Energy, the Oklahoma company that saw natural gas as the future, is collapsing under mounds of debt.

Read in The Washington Post:

<https://apple.news/Arr7ysqTmQRq8-kLV-LKU2Q>

On June 28, 2020 Chesapeake Energy filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy amid a significant debt load and a drop in oil and gas demand and prices due

to the coronavirus pandemic.

Chesapeake has about \$7 billion debt.

Total assets: US\$16.193 billion (2019)

Products: Petroleum; Natural gas

Key people: R. Brad Martin, Chairman

Founder: Aubrey McClendon; Tom L. Ward

Another article on this recent development can be found at Reuters:

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-chesapeake-erngy-bankruptcy/shale-pioneer-chesapeake-energy-files-for-bankruptcy-idUSKBN23Z0SS>

It appears the trend in the industry(either frac sand or hydraulic fracturing) is aimed at the creation of bankruptcy status. In Wisconsin, is the intent to opt out of paying for reclamation fees or is it truly for the purposes of reducing the debt load the companies have created over time?

Counties, Towns, Municipalities and the state of Wisconsin have been warned about consequences to the landowner and to the county land conservation departments should the corporations not be able to fulfill their obligations for complete

reclamation.

Landowners and taxpayers could be obligated to pay for expensive reclamation requirements that are part of the State of Wisconsin Natural Resource Department requirements (Read Wisconsin NR135!) What kind of a landscape will we see if and when these companies close their doors in Northwest Wisconsin? Should the Natural Resources Board and the State Legislature tighten regulations to protect counties, landowners and most of all the taxpayers who may be obligated to pick up the tab that wasn't expected?

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Welcome to the Frac Sand Sentinel, a newsletter highlighting resource links, news media accounts, blog posts, correspondence, observations and opinions gathered regarding local actions on, and impacts of, the developing frac sand mining and processing industries.

The content of this newsletter is for informational purposes only. The editor of the Frac Sand Sentinel does not accept any responsibility or liability for the use or misuse of the content of this newsletter or reliance by any persons on the newsletters contents.

CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE: CCC-WIS.COM and for additional information, [click here](#) for panoramic aerial views of frac sand mines, processing plants, and trans-load facilities. FracTracker.org is also an excellent source of information.