

ENERGY & NATURAL RESOURCES

OVERVIEW

In a volatile economic, political and technological environment, the energy and natural resources sector continues to offer exciting opportunities as well as considerable challenges. New technologies are transforming the sector, while energy security, climate change and the regulatory landscape present new and evolving issues.

Our clients demand practical, yet innovative legal solutions grounded in a thorough legal and commercial understanding of the sector in the jurisdictions where they operate. Our legal team has experience of energy projects in more than 40 countries across the globe.

We work with clients of all sizes on everything from oil and gas projects to renewable and nuclear energy, trading energy securities and derivatives, water and sewage, mining and energy storage. We have an active practice assisting clients with emerging energy technologies, helping them identify opportunities from public policy changes related to climate change and the promotion of low carbon sources of energy.

CLIENTS SEEK OUR HELP WITH

- approvals
- concessions
- dispute resolution
- environmental risk management
- financing and commercial
- joint ventures
- labour issues
- M&A
- project development and construction and project financing

- purchase and sale of natural resources
- power purchase agreements
- regulatory compliance

Energy plays a hugely important role in national and international economies, which in turn means a changeable regulatory environment. BCLP helps clients navigate the myriad of existing and new government regulations, issues and opportunities in this area.

Our legal team includes lawyers with experience across all relevant disciplines, whose knowledge and perspective helps to find the best possible solutions for client problems. We work as a team to help you solve your toughest legal issues.

MEET THE TEAM



Mark Richards

Partner and Regional Practice Group
Leader - Energy, Environment and
Infrastructure, London

mark.richards@bclplaw.com

[+44 \(0\) 20 3400 4603](tel:+442034004603)



Adam Dann

Partner, London

adam.dann@bclplaw.com

[+44 \(0\) 20 3400 4033](tel:+442034004033)



Steven B. Richardson

Senior Counsel, Denver

steve.richardson@bclplaw.com

+1 303 866 0349



Bryan E. Keyt

Partner and Global Practice Group
Leader - Energy, Environment and
Infrastructure, Chicago

bryan.keyt@bclplaw.com

+1 312 602 5036

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Mining & Metals
- Nuclear
- Oil, Gas and LNG
- Power
- Renewables
- Water & Utilities

AN ENERGY CLIENT STORY

A valued energy-sector client rang at 6:30pm on a Friday evening and asked if he could pop over to our office – straight away. A distressed company was on the market but our client's rivals were circling. Our client was not going to miss out and wanted to purchase the target, quickly. Specialists from BCLP's Finance, Corporate and Insolvency practices cleared their weekends and negotiated an exclusivity agreement with the administrators by 2am that same night, winning an auction and granting our client until midnight on Monday to sign the deal.

Following further intense hours of review and negotiation over the course of the weekend, the Sale & Purchase agreement was agreed and executed on time - less than 80 hours after the idea was first raised.

When the deal was completed some weeks later, it included complex group and financing restructuring, multiple joint ventures and involved legal teams from the UK and Cyprus.

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In 2023, the US oil and gas industry witnessed significant legal developments that highlight the importance of careful drafting. This recap, together with my prior analysis, captures some of the pivotal case law that defined the year in the sector.

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Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards – here to stay or at risk of becoming redundant?

In September, ahead of the Conservative party conference, Rishi Sunak announced a step back from the Government's net zero policy and targets. This was followed up last week by the Government's formal response to the Climate Change Committee's 2023 Annual Progress Report to Parliament (October Response). Whilst we await detail on what might follow from a legislative perspective (several consultations are promised to land before the end of this year), the messaging suggests that the next steps in the domestic Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES) regime are now off the table, meaning domestic premises with an EPC of E or above may continue to be let on the open market, without any regulatory requirement for further investment from landlords (or resulting higher rents for tenants). If domestic MEES have been put on ice, where does that leave their sibling commercial (aka non-domestic)...