



Robert J. Gruendel

Partner

GLOBAL CO-CHAIR, ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES SECTOR
CHAIR, US SHIPPING AND MARITIME
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Bob Gruendel serves as Global Co-Chair of DLA Piper's Energy practice and oversees a wide-ranging sector that includes over 100 partners worldwide and covers oil and gas, power, renewables and nuclear. Bob also leads the US-based maritime and shipping practice.

In addition, he is immediate past Co-Chair of the Firm's Latin American practice, and is licensed as a foreign legal consultant in Brazil by OAB-SP, the bar association of São Paulo.

Bob concentrates his own practice in energy project development, principally in oil and gas, and in related maritime sectors. He has spent considerable time on such projects in Latin America, the Middle East and Asia.

Among his other key areas of practice are transportation infrastructure development and related project finance; government concession agreements in energy, transportation, waste and other sectors; project work in such areas as water, power, petroleum and gas; infrastructure privatization; marine insurance; commodities trading; and pollution.

Bob is a past member of the board of directors of the US Maritime Law Association and past chairman of the board of New York Maritime, Inc. He has written extensively on LNG, port development and energy-related transportation and has gained a reputation with respect to the production, transportation and storage of LNG. He has frequently spoken before professional groups on LNG, oil and gas, port development and shipping matters and Latin America legal developments.

- Corporate
- Finance
- Infrastructure Finance
- Regulatory and Government Affairs
- Projects, Energy and Infrastructure
- White Collar and Corporate Crime
- Insurance and Reinsurance Disputes

- Energy and Natural Resources
- Insurance

Admissions

- Brazil (Licensed Foreign Consultant)

- New York

Recognitions

- *The Legal 500 United States*
 - 2021 - Recommended, Energy Transactions: Oil and Gas
 - 2021 - Recommended, Project Finance – Advice to Sponsor
 - 2016-20 - Recommended, Energy Transactions: Oil and Gas
 - 2015 - Recommended, Energy Litigation
 - 2012 - Recommended, Energy: Renewable/Alternative
- *The Legal 500 Latin America*
 - 2018-21 - Recommended, Latin America: International Firms Projects and Energy
 - 2016-17 - Recommended, Latin America: International Firms Corporate M&A
 - 2013-18 - Recommended, Latin America: International Firms Projects and Energy

In 2016 and 2017, *Latin Lawyer 250* recognized Bob in the areas of energy and project finance.

Bob has been cited in *Euromoney's Expert Guides: Shipping & Maritime Lawyers*; *Expert Guides: Project Finance Lawyers*; and *Expert Guides: Energy and Environment*. Martindale-Hubbell ranks him AV, its highest available ranking.

He is named in *Best Lawyers in America* in the Shipping category and among the top Energy lawyers in New York by *Super Lawyers*.

Education

- J.D., Fordham University School of Law
- B.A., Dartmouth College

Memberships

- AIPN (Association of International Petroleum Negotiators)
- American Bar Association, Committee on International Law
- Association of the Bar of the City of New York, Committee on Admiralty (Chairman, 2000 – 2003)
- Maritime Law Association of the United States: Past Member, Board of Directors (2003 – 2006); Committee on Maritime Legislation
- New York Maritime, Inc., Board of Directors (Chairman, 2003 – 2006)
- Licensed as a foreign consultant in Brazil by OAB-SP, the bar association of São Paulo, Brazil in Latin America

INSIGHTS

Bob has written extensively on LNG, port development, and energy-related transportation and has gained a reputation with respect to the production, transportation, and storage of LNG. He has frequently spoken before professional groups on LNG, oil & gas, port development and shipping matters.

Publications

Assessing ESG factors in the energy sector

27 October 2020
ESG Handbooks and Guides

A reference tool for energy companies as they discuss and refine their ESG programs.

Mexico's new National Anticorruption System: 7 key points

20 JUL 2015

Constitutional reform regarding the creation of the National Anticorruption System

A new test for Mexico's structural changes: antitrust reform – key points in one chart

16 JUN 2014

This entirely new framework should be carefully analyzed by investors in structuring their Mexico-related M&A transactions and managing their existing operations

Historic reform in Mexico clears the way for foreign investment in energy sector: 5 key aspects

19 DEC 2013

A clear roadmap for the regulation of hydrocarbons

Colombia: gateway to South America's Patent Prosecution Highway

10 Dec 2012

Understanding the need for more robust patent laws, the Colombian government is aggressively reshaping its IP system.

- Co-author, "\$1.2B Order Entered Against Petróleos de Venezuela: Q&As for PDVSA and Citgo Commodity Commercial and Trading Counterparties," *Pratt's Journal of Bankruptcy Law*, January 2019

Events

- Moderator, "The LatAm Energy Boom," Latin Lawyer M&A Conference, Mexico City, March 2018
- Chairman, DLA Piper Global Energy Summit
- Moderator, "North American Energy Security – Updates from Canada, Mexico and the US," Institute of the Americas XXIII La Jolla Energy Conference, May 2014
- Co-chair and Speaker, "Business, Canada, US Politics and the Future of Energy," Canadian Corporate Counsel Association National Conference, April 2014
- Speaker and Panel Moderator, "How Do We Finance Energy Projects for the Future?," Aspen Ideas Festival, June 27, 2013
- Speaker, DLA Piper European Energy Forum – Developing Europe's Energy Infrastructure, April 2012
- Chair, 7th Annual Latin America Ship and Offshore Finance Forum, Rio de Janeiro, September 2010
- Moderator, "Considerations for Energy Financing in Peru," Peruvian Energy and Infrastructure Finance Conference, organized by Project Finance magazine, Lima, Peru, September 2010
- Speaker, Panama Maritime Exposition, the International Congress of Maritime Arbitrators, and the International Bunker Industry Symposium

NEWS

DLA Piper represents Eneva S.A. in its acquisition of Porto de Sergipe Power Plant

8 June 2022

Campos Mello Advogados, in cooperation with DLA Piper, represented Brazilian power company Eneva S.A. in its acquisition of Porto de Sergipe Power Plant – one of the largest gas-fired thermoelectric plants in operation in Latin America – from New Fortress Energy Inc. (NASDAQ: NFE) and its joint venture partner Ebrasil Energia Ltda.

MEDIA APPEARANCES

- Interviewee, *OnPoint*, Environment & Energy Publishing (E&ETV), September 7, 2011
- Interviewee, *Platts Energy Week*, News Now WUSA 9, August 15, 2010