



Marcelo Páramo Fernández

Partner

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Marcelo Páramo focuses his practice on the energy sector, including oil, and gas, and electricity. He began his legal practice in Pemex's law department. He also served as general director of legal affairs of the Regulatory Energy Commission (Mexico's equivalent to FERC).

Marcelo has over 30 years' experience in private practice representing multinational companies in the oil and gas industry, power generation and electricity, as well as in the mining industry, in the areas of regulatory, transactional and corporate legal work, as well as dispute resolution.

Before joining DLA Piper, Marcelo was a partner in the Mexico City office of an international law firm, where he counselled national and foreign clients in investment areas in the Mexican energy and mining sectors.

- Corporate
- Projects, Energy and Infrastructure

English Spanish

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

- English
- Spanish

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS:

- Representing a retail sector client in an ICC arbitration arising out of a long term contract for the supply of hydroelectricity in Mexico.
- Advised European multinational in a USD \$1.5 billion ICC construction arbitration arising from a refinery/pipeline project in Mexico
- Served as chairman of an arbitration panel in a dispute between a port concession holder and a contractor
- Represented a large gas and power utility from Spain in a gas transportation rate case in federal courts
- Represented a power and electric company based in Spain in the acquisition of a wind power project in "La Ventosa" state of Oaxaca, Mexico
- Represented a renewable power producer from Spain in the development of a wind power project in Oaxaca, Mexico, including

power generation permit,

- Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) negotiations and land acquisition
- General representation of the Baja California Government on the development of a wind power generation project
- Represented a Korran developer in the negotiations of a photovoltaic power generation project with the State of Sonora, Mexico
- Co-arbitrator in an ICC arbitration dispute in relation to a power supply agreement
- Co-arbitrator in an ICC arbitration dispute in relation to an oil field services contract
- Represented a large European utility company in the acquisition of several natural gas distribution systems in the states of Jalisco, Querétaro, and Tamaulipas, Mexico
- Represented a US based oil and gas company in the legal aspects for the development of an Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) storage facility in Baja California, Mexico
- Represented multinational clients in procurement, construction and service contracts with PEMEX and CFE
- Served as outside counsel to Pemex-Petroquímica in the design of the legal framework for the development of an ethylene cracker facility through a joint venture with private participation
- Advised a Mexican concession holder of salt caverns on the development of first gas storage project in salt caverns in Mexico
- Negotiated an Emission Reduction Purchase Agreement (ERPA) representing a US based project developer
- Assisted an international trading company in the development of a natural gas liquefaction project
- Represented commodity (fuels, electricity and power) traders in general corporate, regulatory and commercial matters
- Represented several awarded winners of exploration and production oil and gas contracts with the Mexican government
- Represented a joint venture between an Spanish developer and manufacturer and a Mexican renewables developer in the financing of a power development called "Puerto Libertad"
- Provided a legal opinion for OPIC on the contract (Contrato de Cobertura) proposed by the Mexican System Operator (CENACE) for the auctions carried out under the new electricity market regulations
- Represented a large natural gas transmission company in a land dispute settlement
- Assisted a foreign electric system operator in the regulatory design of a control center for power generators in Mexico

CREDENTIALS

ADMISSIONS

- United Mexican States

Prior Experience

Before joining DLA Piper, Marcelo was a partner in the law firm Gallástegui y Lozano, S.C. GyL combined with DLA Piper in February 2015.

Earlier in Marcelo's career, for ten years he was a partner in the Mexico City office of an international law firm, where he counseled national and foreign clients in investment areas in the Mexican energy sector.

Recognitions

- Natural Resources and Energy – *Chambers Latin America*: 2010 to date
- Natural Resources and Energy – *The Legal 500*: 2017 to date
- Best thesis award, PEMEX, 1992
- Marcelo Páramo was included in the 2020 *Best Lawyers* in Latin America for Arbitration and Mediation, Energy Law Natural Resources Law, Oil & Gas Law in Mexico

Education

- LL.M., American University 1994
Washington College of Law
- Law Degree (Licenciatura en Derecho), Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México 1990

Memberships

- Mexican Bar Attorney College
- Founder, Mexican Academy of Energy Law

INSIGHTS

Publications

Mexican Congress rejects electricity constitutional reform and approves bill to regulate lithium

20 April 2022

An outline of the House of Representatives' decision regarding the Electricity Reform and Mining Reform, as well as its possible implications.

Mexican Supreme Court dismisses Unconstitutionality Action against Electricity Industry Law reform

8 April 2022

Key developments and implications

Mexican president waives authorizations, permits and license requirements for government public works

23 November 2021

The decree declares that infrastructure projects are a matter of public interest and national security, as well as a strategic priority for national development.

New developments in the Mexican energy sector generate uncertainty

17 November 2021

A discussion of relevant measures, criticisms and comments.

President of Mexico files constitutional reform bill on electricity

7 October 2021

The result may include serious consequences for private investors in the energy sector in Mexico.

Reforms in the energy legal framework in Mexico and challenge mechanisms

4 June 2021

The Energy Counter-Reform includes variations which aim to restore the monopoly power of CFE and Pemex.

Mexico's Hydrocarbons Law Reform Bill: A controversial new measure in the Mexican energy sector

8 April 2021

The reform seeks to give Pemex the same monopoly control it had over the national market before the 2013 energy reform.

Reform to the Electric Industry Law: a new risk for energy projects in Mexico

10 March 2021

Foreign investors involved in energy projects in Mexico may wish to consider their rights and potential remedies under applicable investment treaties.

Oil and gas operations in Latin America

3 December 2020

Addressing key operational and commercial challenges that are unique to Latin America.

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.

Mexican renewable energy projects affected by new measures

19 May 2020

Foreign investors in wind and solar electricity generation facilities in Mexico may wish to consider their rights and potential remedies under applicable investment instruments.

Proyectos de energías renovables en México afectados por nuevas medidas

19 May 2020

El 29 de abril de 2020 el Centro Nacional de Control de Energía (el "CENACE") emitió el "Acuerdo para garantizar la eficiencia, Calidad, Confiabilidad, Continuidad y seguridad del Sistema Eléctrico Nacional, con motivo del reconocimiento de la epidemia de la enfermedad causada por el virus SARS-CoV2 (COVID-19)" (el "Acuerdo CENACE").

- DLA Piper Client Alert, "Mexican renewable energy projects affected by new measures, May 19, 2020
- "Current Energy Regulation, Selected Topics; Gas Regulation in Mexico," Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM), November 2009
- Co-author, "The Pemex Law and Related Measures – What Energy Reform Means for Mexico," Latin American Law & Business Report, August 2009

Events

- Panelist, ICC Mexico, "Arbitraje en Materia de Petróleo y Gas," Mexico City, 2017
- Panelist, Latin Lawyer, "Oil and Gas Conference," Mexico City, 2017
- Panelist, OGF Global (Euromoney): "Mexico Offshore Oil and Gas Finance," Mexico City, 2015
- "Mexican Oil & Gas Opportunities," The Petroleum Club, Houston, May 2014
- Panelist, "Reforma Energética," ICC Mexico, Mexico, D.F., May 2014
- Panelist, ICC Mexico, "Curso de Actualización en Proyectos de Infraestructura," Mexico, D.F. June 2013
- Panelist, "Mecanismos de Solución de Controversias," Foro de Debate: El Derecho de la Energía en México, México D.F., 2012
- "Hot Topics in Mexico's Energy Future," US-Mexico Bar Association, Houston, November 2011

NEWS

DLA Piper lawyers and practices ranked in *Chambers Latin America 2022*

30 August 2021

DLA Piper today announced that the firm received 38 individual lawyer rankings and 15 firm rankings in the *Chambers Latin America 2022* guide.

MEDIA MENTIONS

- "Mexico Power Law Redo Short-Circuits Clean Energy Work," *Law360*, March 15, 2021
- "Mexico Begins Production," *Corporate Counsel*, Spring 2015