



Power and Transmission

Over the last three years, our Power and Transmission Practice has grown substantially and we are now involved in many of the major projects currently being undertaken worldwide. Our dedicated lawyers focus on transactions both in their domestic markets and internationally, with particular reference to emerging markets.

Our lawyers advise on the purchase and sale of existing power assets, as well as on the siting, development, permitting and financing of power projects, both thermal and renewable. We act for local governments, sponsors and lenders across a range of matters, from the development, construction and financing of power projects to issues related to transmission and distribution networks. We address the complex issues facing any large-scale power generation project as well as the project finance, corporate and regulatory background necessary to move any project from conception to execution. We are currently active on a number of projects internationally and can bring the benefit of that experience to our clients. We enjoy a market leading reputation for delivering complex power projects and related multi-source financings in emerging markets.

We help local governments, sponsors and lenders across a range of issues related to transmission and distribution networks. We address the complex issues facing any large-scale power generation project as well as the regulatory, project finance and corporate issues necessary to move any project from conception to execution.

EXPERIENCE

- Crédit Agricole Corporate and Investment Bank as the exiting administrative agent, technical agent and fronting letter of credit bank in the successful refinancing of the US\$725 million first/second lien securitized credit facility for Astoria Energy LLC, the owner of the approximately 500 MW gas-fired combined cycle Astoria I power plant in Queens, New York.
- A sponsor consortium comprising a large global industrial company, a US-based private equity firm and an international service provider in negotiating and completing a joint development agreement for the proposed development and project financing of a combined cycle power plant in West Africa.
- The National Development Corporation of Tanzania of its \$3 billion joint venture with Sichuan Hongda to develop a coal to power (300MW) project and iron ore mine and smelter project in Mtwara, Tanzania. This represents the largest single investment into East Africa. DLA Piper was recognised by the *Financial Times* as "The most Innovative Law Firm in Finance Law" in 2012 for this transaction.
- Exelon Corporation, the nation's leading competitive energy provider, on the sale of the Fore River Energy Center, a natural gas-fired,

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- Energy and Natural Resources

combined-cycle power plant located in North Weymouth, Massachusetts, to Calpine Corp, America's largest generator of electricity from natural gas and geothermal resources.

- The sponsors and project company in relation to the development of Phase 1 of a 600 MW mine-mouth Coal Fired Maamba Collieries Power Station in Zambia. The financing involves a Sinosure-covered financing from major Chinese Banks and potentially other international banks and will be the first Sinosure-covered project finance in Africa, representing a major breakthrough in the way in which these projects can be financed in the future. There is also an additional DFI tranche of financing to be provided by AfDB and DBSA.
- Volta River Authority as offtaker and 10% stakeholder in achieving financial close for the US\$329.6 million development and project financing of the Takoradi 2 combined cycle expansion project in Ghana. Financing was led by the IFC. The Takoradi 2 power plant is Ghana's first IPP to utilize a project financing structure and is the largest IPP closed to date in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Amperion Power Distribution Company Limited, an international consortium, in relation to its successful acquisition and associated financing in relation to the acquisition and associated financing of the 414MW Geregu gas-fired power plant in the context of the PHCN privatisation in Nigeria. Our work included negotiating and finalising all aspects of the acquisition, the power project and finance documentation as well as Nigerian power market regulations and post-completion and handover matters.

INSIGHTS

Publications

Six commodities predictions for 2022

2 December 2021

The worldwide turmoil of 2020 is, in many ways, still with us, but the good news is that alongside the struggles, the commodities realm is seeing an immense number of opportunities. Here, we take a fast look at the six areas we think the commodities sector should be watching in the year to come.

Consumer Em-Power-ment: Treasury proposes draft rules for the Consumer Data Right in the Australian energy sector

3 September 2021

The Australian Government Treasury has released for industry consultation, draft amendments to the Consumer Data Right rules and regulations made under the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (Cth), seeking to expand the Consumer Data Right regime into the energy sector.

Winter Storm Uri: New Texas legislation aims to improve power grid, restructure the grid's overseeing agency

15 June 2021

The legislation responds to calls for sweeping change to the power infrastructure in Texas.

A long hot summer: Five steps for energy commodities traders in a time of heightened scrutiny

14 June 2021

Rising temperatures may exacerbate current market volatility, which in turn may lead to heightened regulatory scrutiny.

Whatever your sector, ransomware attacks are changing how to think about platform security risk: Action steps

14 June 2021

In an increasingly digitized economy, creating awareness of platform security risks is critical.

US government announces sweeping sanctions against Russia

16 April 2021

The newly imposed sanctions represent a significant escalation and addition to the sanctions architecture put in place by the Obama and Trump Administrations.

CFTC's annual enforcement report touts record-breaking year

16 December 2020

CFTC releases the annual report from its Enforcement Division, and expects to continue prioritizing four key areas.

Three ESG steps to keep your project bankable in 2021

17 September 2020

Version four of the Equator principles will take effect on 1 October 2020, and it introduces three new requirements to the international environmental and social baseline for project finance.

Update on the Executive Order prohibiting import and installation of bulk power system equipment sourced from a foreign adversary: DOE FAQs

8 June 2020

For those developing energy infrastructure projects in the US, addressing the uncertainties about the scope and expected implementation of the EO.

Are high voltage DC networks the future of electricity distribution?

29 April 2020

In the late 19th century direct current (DC) electricity supply networks were promoted by Thomas Edison as a purportedly safer alternative to alternating current (AC) which was championed by George Westinghouse for use in high voltage street arc lighting and which caused many fatalities.

NEWS

DLA Piper advises Hawaiki on divestment of its submarine cable

30 July 2021

Global law firm DLA Piper have advised Hawaiki on its divestment of 100% of its interest in the Hawaiki Submarine Cable. The divestment was made to BW Digital Pte. Ltd with the current Hawaiki team continuing to manage the business.

