



Projects, Energy and Infrastructure

DLA Piper's Projects, Energy and Infrastructure team has a track record of successfully delivering first-rate legal services in all segments of the infrastructure and energy industries. We advise on energy law, infrastructure finance, transport matters and more.

Our lawyers understand the commercial, strategic, technical, geographical and political factors that shape and impact these industries, as well as the business issues and risks inherent when working in these sectors. Our market leading presence also allows us first-hand access to contacts, sponsors and key decision makers worldwide.

CAPABILITES

The group represents sponsors, contractors, multilateral institutions, corporations, developers, equity investors, financial institutions, governments, utilities and regulatory bodies in the procurement, development, financing, acquisition, construction and operation of a wide range of complex infrastructure and energy projects on nearly every continent.

These projects include:

- Power generation from natural gas, coal, petroleum and, renewables
- Pipelines
- Drilling platforms
- Transmission networks
- Mining facilities
- Defence and security projects
- Waste projects and resource recovery facilities
- Telecommunications networks
- Vessels
- Ports
- Airports
- Highways, toll roads and bridges
- Transportation systems including airports, heavy rail, light rail and bus

KEY CONTACTS

Robert J. Gruendel

Partner

New York

T: +1 212 335 4736

robert.gruendel@dlapiper.com

- Environment, Health and Safety
- International Corporate Reorganizations
- Finance

- Energy and Natural Resources
- Infrastructure, Construction and Transport

- Water supply and waste water systems
- Accommodation and healthcare facilities
- Sports, tourism and entertainment facilities

INSIGHTS

Publications

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.

Five issues to watch for at COP26 in Glasgow

12 October 2021

Hopes had already been high for COP26 even before the pandemic paused it. The pent-up potential has only heightened those expectations.

New antidumping and countervailing duty petition: Oil country tubular goods from Argentina, Mexico, the Republic of Korea, and Russia – consequences for industry and downstream consumers

8 October 2021

US AD and CVD investigations can result in the imposition of substantial duties in addition to already applicable duties and tariffs.

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.

Brazil: Bioenergy in the ESG context

22 July 2021

A look at Brazil's evolving approach to the sustainable use of environmental resources.

Episode 5: What should we expect from COP26?

6 July 2021

THE CLIMATE TRANSITION PODCAST

In this episode, we're joined by Ambassador P. Michael McKinley as we look ahead to COP26 and the best that businesses can hope for. Will this mark a step change in the energy transition? Are we putting too much faith in politicians to lead on that transition? How much can businesses lead and, if so, how much will COP26 help them?

DLA Piper · What should we expect from COP26?

The DLA Piper Project Simulator – one year on

2 July 2021

Over the past year, we have delivered The DLA Piper Project Simulator to many of our construction, engineering and infrastructure clients, over a virtual platform, and client feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.

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.

The role of external construction counsel

14 May 2021

A common reaction to hearing that someone is a “construction lawyer” is the assumption that this must be a very narrow and focused role. In this article written for the *Construction Law Letter*, Howard Krupat shows that often the opposite is true, and that the responsibilities of a construction lawyer are as varied as the range of projects within the construction industry and even the lifecycle of a particular project.

The Russia sanctions and their impacts on commodities companies: Action steps for companies engaged in transactions with Russian gas and energy companies

11 May 2021

Implications of key provisions in President Biden's Executive Order.

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 new Climate Risk Unit: Another tool in the Biden Administration's "whole of government" campaign against climate change

23 March 2021

With this move, the US joins governments across the globe in recognizing the vital role derivatives markets will play in developing new solutions to address climate and sustainability challenges.

Public-private partnerships for infrastructure investment: a global perspective

18 March 2021

In a new global report, produced in partnership with Global Infrastructure Investor Association (GIIA), DLA Piper assesses the case for PPPs, backed by multijurisdictional analysis from our projects and infrastructure lawyers around the world as well as insight from leading infrastructure investors who are fellow members of the GIIA.

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.

Imminence does not mean haste

4 March 2020

EU SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

Sustainability and ESG stewardship are at the forefront of investment managers' and investment funds' agendas under the combined pressure of investors and as a result of several important pieces of regulation becoming live. SFDR is one of them. It will become applicable in phases, the first deadline being as early as 10 March 2021.

The Biden Administration's impact on oil and gas

18 February 2021

These actions will add an additional layer of regulations for oil and gas operations.

Extension of USD LIBOR – ICE Benchmark Administration Consultation

12 January 2021

On 30 November 2020, the ICE Benchmark Administration (IBA) which compiles and oversees LIBOR, announced that it will hold a consultation on its intention to extend most US Dollar LIBOR (USD LIBOR) tenors until 30 June 2023.

Boardroom Brexit: What the deal means for transport

31 December 2020

BOARDROOM BREXIT

There will be continued market access rights for UK and EU road haulage operators, while under the TCA, UK and EU air carriers will continue to enjoy flyover rights and operating rights on routes between the UK and EU. However, UK carriers will not be able to operate cabotage routes in the EU (and vice versa)

Oil and gas operations in Latin America

3 December 2020

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

5G Contracts: Features and challenges of the new Colombian infrastructure programs

30 November 2020

Historically, relied on as an anti-cyclic economic boost, infrastructure development has found a renewed role in reactivating the Colombian economy recently affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Colombian government's launch of the 5G concession program sets forth an opportunity to reactive the Colombian economy.

Brazil's new basic sanitation legal framework

30 November 2020

In July 2020, Brazil's New Sanitation Legal Framework was approved. It aims at the universalization of sanitation and water supply in Brazil by 2033 by attracting investment of USD128 billion. The new regulatory framework is expected to transform the nation's water and sanitation sector, creating a business environment with more competition and legal certainty, and fostering domestic and foreign private investment in the sector.

Cost plus fee contracts in the era of COVID-19

30 November 2020

COVID-19 has changed the certainty of many areas in the economic spectrum. For construction contracts it has affected its most important variables: cost and time. In this context, cost plus fee contracts can be used as a way to prevent, mitigate and backstop distressed infrastructure projects, since they permit the parties to undertake projects that involve substantial uncertainties.

PFI and PPP in the UK – is it time to talk about handback?

30 November 2020

The most recent standard form contracts and guidance in the UK for PPPs and similar forms of contract recognize the importance of prescribing detailed handback requirements and making provision for lead-in processes to be followed when a project approaches the end of its term.

Projects Global Insight Issue 4, 2020

30 November 2020

[PROJECTS GLOBAL INSIGHT](#)

In what is undoubtedly one of the most testing periods for the infrastructure and construction industry, key stakeholders continue to focus on delivering resilient, adaptable and fit-for-purpose assets and services in extremely challenging conditions.

Corporate PPAs in New Zealand

27 November 2020

PPAs have become very popular around the world and they are starting to fit in within the New Zealand market. Businesses from various sectors are entering into these agreements, which can be an essential component of their energy strategies. So, what are PPAs exactly, what is their relevance in New Zealand and what advantages do they present to electricity users?

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.

Americas Arbitration Roundup

26 October 2020

In this first edition of *Americas Arbitration Roundup*, our thought leaders across the region provide updates on recent key developments in international arbitration in the Americas.

DLA Piper Collaborative Contracting and Procurement Paper 2020

22 October 2020

The construction industry has suffered for ages from contracts and procurement processes that crudely allocate various risks resulting in misaligned incentives and consequent disputation.

It was from a desire to overcome this misalignment of interests that 'collaborative contracting' was born.

Read more in our paper.

The energy transition and renewable energy in Chile: Top points for foreign investors

8 October 2020

Chile has been actively addressing the energy transition for more than a decade, building a legal foundation that is attracting investment in renewable energy projects.

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.

Distributed generation: A rising energy market in Chile

16 September 2020

This growing market has features that make it attractive for investors in uncertain times.

New measures threaten investments in the Mexican energy sector

14 July 2020

Details on the impact of these developments.

The Energy Transition: The impact of Covid-19 and moving to a net-zero economy

26 May 2020

On 19 March 2020, Adrian Del Maestro, global research director with PwC Strategy&, presented to DLA Piper's International Energy and Natural Resources sector lawyers on the immediate impact of COVID-19 and challenges of moving to a net zero economy.

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").

Public law: How does Covid-19 impact the Flemish integrated environmental permit?

14 May 2020

The COVID-19 outbreak has not only created an increasing need for care facilities and medical supplies, but it has also had a far-reaching impact on the ongoing procedures for granting environmental permits. In order to tackle these issues, the Flemish Parliament voted on an emergency decree on 18 March 2020.

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.

A discussion of California plugging and abandonment rules

27 April 2020

US OIL AND GAS PLUGGING AND ABANDONMENT RULES

Requirements for onshore oil and gas wells in California, as well as ties among these requirements and bankruptcy.

Breaking mega projects into smaller contract packages – a fraught response to a fraught market

24 April 2020

In response to Australia's fraught construction market for major civil construction works, project owners and contractors are adopting various strategies. One of the most common is breaking mega projects into smaller contract packages, however, what exactly are the benefits and risks?

EPA and CalEPA guidance on field activities during COVID-19 focuses on agency communication, deadlines and flexibility

24 April 2020

EPA wishes individual regions to communicate directly with their regulated communities to ensure reasonable expectations for ongoing field work; meanwhile, CalEPA may fill gaps in EPA's enforcement.

Projects Global Insight Issue 3, 2020

24 April 2020

PROJECTS GLOBAL INSIGHT

Contributing to a sustainable future is more important than ever during these uncertain and testing times. Infrastructure and public services are under particular pressure, especially in terms of what can be done to make them more resilient, yet adaptable.

Responding to a fraught civil construction market

24 April 2020

The contracting market for major civil construction works on Australia's east coast has become fraught - for project owners, major contractors, and the rest of the supply chain. Projects have become more complex and expensive, yet despite rising contract values, contractors struggle with profitability. So, what strategies are being considered?

Using blended finance to support infrastructure development in emerging economies

24 April 2020

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by the United Nations sets out 17 Sustainable Development Goals; from poverty reduction, food security, healthcare and education to climate change mitigation and other development objectives. What is, and how can blended finance be used in emerging economies?

A discussion of Texas plugging and abandonment rules

17 April 2020

US OIL AND GAS PLUGGING AND ABANDONMENT RULES

An outline of the plugging and abandonment requirements of onshore oil and gas wells in Texas plus a discussion of ties between the

plugging requirements and bankruptcy.

Paradigm Change in Germany's Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) Law

14 April 2020

Germany's FDI rules so far had a reputation of not being very strong. In the past few years, only three transactions have been prohibited. This is set to change under a new bill.

Alberta government announces relief for energy industry

8 APR 2020

Alberta oil and gas producers, who are dealing with both historically low commodity prices and the COVID-19 crisis, received some relief from the Alberta government over the last several weeks as the government announced several measures designed to reduce and defer producers' costs and ease the administrative burden on producers.

High Court rules BHP entities were associates

23 March 2020

On 11 March 2020, in an unanimous and landmark decision, the High Court of Australia handed down its decision on the technical meaning of "sufficiently influenced" which is used to determine who is an "associate" under Australia's foreign income attribution rules. The decision has significant impact for large listed groups especially with a dual-listed company (**DLC**) structure and concerns the application of the Australian Controlled Foreign Company (**CFC**) rules.

Whilst the facts and future application of this case may principally be limited to the DLC type structures, the legal analysis of the definition of "associate" impacts on wider applications as this definition is used outside of the CFC provisions including the thin capitalisation rules, the debt/equity tests and the withholding tax rules.

Building tomorrow's infrastructure

17 March 2020

What does the future look like for infrastructure as a whole?

Introducing the DLA Piper Project Simulator

17 March 2020

One of the most critical challenges faced by our global society is developing high-quality, sustainable infrastructure. To help businesses meet this challenge, DLA Piper has collaborated with leading strategy consultancy BTS to create **The DLA Piper Project Simulator (DPS)**, an interactive training tool.

COP25's key outcome: adoption of the San Jose Principles on carbon market mechanisms – takeaways for business

12 February 2020

Ambitious countries are not waiting for full consensus on carbon markets.

Flexing PPPs

10 February 2020

This paper considers how governments can manage this vulnerability when contracting under a PPP contract. It also considers whether alternative contractual models might provide government with better value for money over the longer term.

Construction delays arising out of the Novel Coronavirus outbreak (AsiaPac)

7 February 2020

Since the first case of coronavirus was confirmed in Hong Kong in early February 2020, the government has imposed various measures in an attempt to contain the spread of the coronavirus. The resulting impact of the novel coronavirus is far-reaching and affects every industry and business in Hong Kong. This alert considers some of the key issues that construction contractors and developers in Hong Kong may face. If you need any specific advice, please contact May Ng or Sandy Au for further details.

The changing face of the Asia Pacific LNG market: Trending away from oil linked pricing and long-term contracts

15 December 2019

The market in the Asia Pacific region has traditionally been underpinned by contract structures based on crude oil linked prices and long-term offtake. These contract structures are changing – what pricing and contract duration trends are to be expected?

Jury acquits foreign national in apparent rebuke of DOJ's attempt to police overseas corruption

4 December 2019

The result highlights some significant issues that may, in some cases, limit the ability of the DOJ to prosecute foreign nationals for corruption overseas.

Tax incentives in Puerto Rico: a quick introduction

13 JUN 2017

Puerto Rico offers a spectrum of economic incentives aiming to promote many key industries. This handbook offers a quick look at ten of the most significant of these incentives.

Electrify Africa Act is now law

2 MARCH 2016

The law demonstrates broad bipartisan support for a comprehensive US policy aiming to facilitate private financing and PPP structures as tools to develop power projects in sub-Saharan Africa, which should provide opportunities for investors, sponsors and lenders to advance their projects.

Slavery in the supply chain: new corporate reporting obligations for companies

9 DEC 2015

HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS SERIES

The UK's Modern Slavery Act 2015 is in force, imposing on companies new reporting requirements and new enforcement powers, including the creation of an Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner.

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

The EU looks at fracking: regulations taking shape

21 NOV 2013

A new test for the *Pacto por México*: energy reform – key points for energy companies

12 SEP 2013

Opening the petrochemical industry to private investment

US commits \$7B to ambitious Power Africa initiative

2 JUL 2013

A new initiative aiming to double access to power in sub-Saharan Africa

New York Assembly passes two-year fracking moratorium, while Illinois moves forward

11 MAR 2013

Events

Previous

Embracing Digital Evolution

15 September 2021

Webinar

IPEM 2021

8-9 September 2021
IPEM 2021
Paris

Infrastructure projects in Brazil: Opportunities and challenges for investors

14 April 2021 | 10:00 - 11:30 ET
Webinar

International Private Equity Market 2020

28-30 January 2020
IPEM 2021
Paris

NEWS

DLA Piper lawyers, practices and sectors ranked in latest edition of *The Legal 500 Latin America*

25 October 2021
DLA Piper today announced that the firm received 46 individual lawyer rankings and 68 firm rankings in The Legal 500 Latin America 2022 guide.

Campos Mello Advogados bolsters team with new partners in oil and gas, maritime, environmental, litigation and arbitration

18 October 2021
DLA Piper announced today that five new partners have joined Campos Mello Advogados (CMA), in cooperation with DLA Piper. The expansion strengthens its capabilities in oil and gas, maritime, litigation and arbitration, with a particular focus on environmental and sustainability initiatives. This significant lateral group expansion represents the latest step in CMA's alignment with DLA Piper and its relationship firms throughout the region and in Canada.

DLA Piper recognized in *Latin Lawyer 250* directory

13 October 2021
DLA Piper is pleased to announce that it has been recognized by *Latin Lawyer* in the 2021 edition of the publication's annual *Latin Lawyer 250* directory, which identifies the leading business law firms in Latin America.

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.

Lucas Arboleda joins DLA Piper Martinez Beltran as director of Energy and Natural Resources practice

29 April 2021

DLA Piper announced today that Lucas Arboleda has joined DLA Piper Martinez Beltran in Colombia as director of the Energy and Natural Resources practice.

DLA Piper advises Iberdrola on AUD893 million takeover

25 August 2020

Global law firm DLA Piper has advised Spanish utility giant Iberdrola on its AUD893 million takeover of Infigen Energy (ASX:IFN).

Paola Aldana joins DLA Piper Martinez Beltran as head of Infrastructure practice

18 June 2020

DLA Piper announced today that Paola Aldana has joined DLA Piper Martinez Beltran in Colombia as a partner and head of the Infrastructure practice.

DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2020

30 April 2020

DLA Piper is proud to announce that 67 lawyers have been promoted to its partnership. The promotions are effective as of April 1, 2020 in the United States and May 1, 2020 for EMEA and Asia Pacific. The promotions have been made across many of the firm's practice areas in 35 different offices throughout 13 countries.

Across the firm's practices globally, Corporate saw the largest intake of new partners with 19 promotions, followed by Litigation and Regulatory with 15. Intellectual Property and Technology and Finance and Projects had ten and eight promotions respectively, while there were six in Real Estate. Tax and Employment both had four, and there was one in Restructuring.

DLA Piper lawyers named Acritas Stars

10 March 2020

Acritas has named over 200 DLA Piper lawyers as 2020 Acritas Stars. Now in its fourth year, Acritas Stars highlights the stand-out lawyers in private practice as nominated by clients around the world. More than 3,000 senior in-house counsel feed into the nomination process to give a comprehensive view of highly recommended lawyers across the globe.

Sebastian Lora joins DLA Piper's Project Finance and Banking & Finance practices in Colombia

13 January 2020

DLA Piper announced today that Sebastian Lora has joined DLA Piper Martinez Beltran in Colombia as a partner in the Project Finance and Banking & Finance practices.
