

# Energy

## A Rapidly Evolving Sector

The energy field is rapidly changing. Our energy attorneys understand the legal, business and public policy complexities of both regulated and unregulated activities in the electric power, natural gas and petroleum products markets. In a formerly monopolistic market, competitive strategies are being implemented throughout Canada and the United States, creating business opportunities for established as well as new players. We are uniquely positioned to service the needs of clients in all aspects of energy and utility matters, including the issues and opportunities presented by the restructuring of the energy sector.

We have assembled a team of attorneys with a wealth of experience in a wide range of matters pertaining to energy, in both Canada and the United States.

Our attorneys possess an in-depth understanding of the applicable legislation and jurisprudence and have extensive experience in the commercial side of the energy area, having negotiated amalgamations, mergers, alliances and partnerships on behalf of various entities in the field.

## A Diverse and International Clientele

We provide legal advice to developers, lenders, equity investors and other market participants in the energy field. Our clientele includes small and large generation companies, large power users and U.S. traders and marketers. We advise clients in their negotiations with public utilities and governments. We assist clients in obtaining the required permits and authorizations in the context of small hydroelectric power generation, co-generation and wind power projects. We also assist clients in their proceedings and complaints before administrative tribunals concerning rates, conditions and tolls.

## Understanding the Complexities

Our extensive experience in this sector enables us to provide practical, timely and effective legal advice in this rapidly evolving practice area. Because we advise clients on a daily basis on a wide variety of energy issues throughout Canada and internationally, we understand the demands and needs of players in this sector.



## Dedicated to Excellence

- Understanding the complexities of the restructuring of the energy sector
- Knowledge of governmental and utility perspectives
- A diverse and international clientele, including utilities, small and large generation companies, large power users, traders and marketers
- Ability to manoeuvre through the maze of municipal, provincial and federal regulations and policies
- Practical, timely and effective advice
- Proactive, hands-on approach to providing services

## Our Expertise extends to:

- Advising clients on regulatory compliance
- Buying and selling energy
- Structuring and financing energy projects
- Mergers and acquisitions
- Site acquisitions
- Joint ventures
- Tax and corporate issues
- Environmental matters
- Water management issues, including water diversion and displacement of communities
- Aboriginal rights and claims
- Representation before energy boards and other administrative bodies
- Negotiating with governments and utilities

Our attorneys not only possess strong legal skills, but also broad business experience, combined with a thorough understanding of the energy sector.

- We possess the capability to manoeuvre through the maze of municipal, provincial and federal legislation dealing with financing, taxation, land use, real estate, environmental and other legal issues.
- We advise clients on the development of energy projects, including hydroelectric, co-generation and alternate energy projects.
- We represent clients in regulatory approval hearings concerning the transmission and distribution of electric power and natural gas, energy export applications and other regulated matters.
- We manage asset acquisitions and dispositions involving both domestic and international transactions.
- We assist with land agreements, facilities agreements, ownership and operating agreements and similar agreements.

## A Full Complement of Legal Services and a Hands-On Approach

Our attorneys possess unique expertise in energy issues, and when needed, have access to the full complement of the firm's resources. Of particular relevance to the energy field is the firm's established practice specialties in corporate finance and securities, mergers and acquisitions, environmental law, taxation, real estate, litigation, technology and labour law.

We pride ourselves on our proactive, hands-on approach. We focus on value-added and continuity of service, providing clients with practical, timely and effective legal advice. Our expertise in energy issues enables us to anticipate problems and implement creative solutions. Clients rely on us for confidential up-dates on issues ranging from the regulatory climate to specific policies and laws.

### For more information contact:

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**Staying One Step Ahead:** Other Sector Teams address the highly specialized needs of the corporate finance and securities, venture capital, life sciences, licensing and technology, franchising and real estate sectors.



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