Global Project Finance Practice
Global Project Finance

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP is a recognized world leader in the development and financing of energy and infrastructure projects, with a particular focus on the renewable energy industry. Our dedicated projects team of more than 45 lawyers has broad global experience and is supported by the full-service capabilities of Akin Gump’s 850 lawyers in 20 offices worldwide and draws heavily upon the firm’s leading practices in the areas of energy, private equity funds, mergers and acquisitions, tax and other practices. We regularly represent the foremost project sponsors and developers, commercial and investment banks and other financial institutions, private equity funds, investors, manufacturers, technology companies, contractors, tribal governments, sovereign nations and other participants in the sector.

Akin Gump is a world leader in the development and financing of traditional energy, renewable energy, and infrastructure projects because our lawyers are industry leaders. Our global project finance team—most recently recognized as one of Law360’s 2011 “Practice Groups of the Year”—includes the former president and current board member of the American Wind Energy Association, the former CEO of one of the world’s largest wind energy developers and turbine manufacturers, the former global head of project finance at a major investment bank and an industry-leading renewable energy tax advisor. The San Francisco and Los Angeles Daily Journal have also recognized two of the partners in the practice as among the top 100 lawyers in California and four of our partners are among the top 25 clean-tech lawyers in California.

Our projects team has counseled clients on some of the world’s largest and most complex projects involving traditional energy, renewable energy and infrastructure projects. Our experience in the energy sector includes traditional energy projects, including natural gas, coal, nuclear and other fuels, and renewable energy projects, such as wind, solar, geothermal, hydroelectric, landfill gas, biomass and biofuel. We have also handled a wide variety of infrastructure projects, including industrial facilities, sports stadiums, roadways, ports and similar projects.
Our lawyers counsel our clients with regard to every aspect of the development and financing of a major project, including:

- development, bridge, construction and term debt financing
- equity financing
- joint ventures and other development agreements
- tax
- policy and lobbying
- real estate
- federal and state environmental, land use and permitting considerations
- equipment supply and construction services
- power sales
- transmission and interconnection
- operation and maintenance
- federal and state energy regulation
- dispute resolution.

Leadership and Recognition

Akin Gump is consistently honored with recognition by Chambers Global, Chambers USA and Chambers Latin America in the categories of Projects, and Renewables and Alternative Energy for our work in the United States and Latin America. In the last two years alone, lawyers in Akin Gump’s project finance and renewable energy practice have been recognized 40 times in industry-related publications, including:

- Chambers Global
- Chambers USA
- Chambers Latin America
- The Daily Journal
- Financial Times
- Guide to the World’s Leading Energy Lawyers
- Guide to the World’s Leading Project Finance Lawyers
- InterContinental Finance Magazine
- Legal 500
- The Los Angeles and San Francisco Daily Journal
- Project Finance Magazine
- Southern California’s Super Lawyers
- Law360.

Deals of the Year

Within the past few years, the team has been involved in some of the world’s largest and highest-profile renewable energy transactions, including several transactions that were honored with “Deal of the Year” awards:

- representation of SunPower Corporation in the development and sale of the 580 MW Antelope Valley photovoltaic solar project (AVSP), now known as Solar Star, to affiliates of MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company. This transaction was recognized as “2013 North American Solar Deal of the Year” by Project Finance Magazine

- representation of Caithness Energy and GE Energy Finance in the development and over $2 billion financing of the 845 MW Shepherd’s Flat wind project in Oregon. Debt financing is supported by a U.S. Department of Energy loan guaranty issue under the Financial Institution Partnership Program established by the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Shepherd’s Flat was completed in 2012 and is the largest single wind project in the United States. In 2011, this transaction was recognized by Project Finance & Risk as “Best Renewables Deal” and by Environmental Finance as its “Renewable Energy Deal of the Year”

- representation of BrightSource Energy in the development and financing of the 392 MW Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating System in San Bernardino County, California (including $1.6 billion in construction and permanent debt financing guaranteed by the U.S. Department of Energy under the Innovative Technology Loan Guaranty Program). This financing was the largest solar financing completed under this loan guaranty program. In 2012, this transaction was awarded CSP project of the year by Solar Power Generation USA

- representation of SunPower Corporation and NRG Energy in connection with the financing of the California Valley Solar Ranch, a 250 MW solar (PV) project located in San Luis Obispo, California. Financing of this project included a $1.237 billion construction and permanent loan guaranteed by the U.S. Department of Energy. This financing was one of the largest and one of the last projects to receive a loan guaranty under the loan guaranty programs established by the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

- representation of Ram Power in the development and financing of the 72 MW San Jacinto-Tizate geothermal project in Nicaragua. This transaction was recognized in 2010 as “Latin American Geothermal Deal of the Year” by Project Finance Magazine, and is the largest project financing closed in Nicaragua and the largest geothermal project financing closed in Central America to date.
Experience

The Akin Gump projects team has the requisite experience to handle a diverse array of both domestic and international energy projects. Here is a sampling of transactions, across a variety of energy sectors, which our lawyers have been involved in:

WIND

- representation of sponsors in the development and financing of the 845 MW Shepherd’s Flat Wind Farm in central Oregon, including its over $2 billion financing (including $1.3 billion in construction and permanent debt guaranteed in part by U.S. Department of Energy under the Financial Institution Partnership Program)

- representation of Terra-Gen Power in the development and financing of the first 1.32 gigawatts of its up to 3 gigawatt Alta Wind Energy Center in California. When completed, this will be the largest multiphase wind project in the United States. Our work has included a broad range of project development services including, the acquisition of project development assets, negotiation of turbine supply and construction agreements, real estate development, the structuring of shared facilities, arrangements and similar development activities, and the following financing and sale transactions:
  - a $115 million equipment financing (July 2009), a $400 million construction financing (March 2010) and a sale-leaseback financing (December 2010) for the 150 megawatt Alta Wind I project
  - a $1.2 billion financing for the Alta Wind II through V projects (totaling 568 megawatts) which included a Rule 144A bond offering, a bank cash grant bridge facility and a forward commitment for a sale-leaseback financing, making this the first large portfolio of wind projects utilizing a leveraged lease finance structure in the United States (July 2010)
  - $318 million of construction, cash grant bridge, letter of credit and mini-perm facilities for the 150 megawatt Alta Wind VI project (May 2011)
– $313 million of construction, cash grant bridge, letter of credit and mini-perm facilities for the 150 megawatt Alta Wind VIII project (May 2011)
– sale of the 150 megawatt Alta Wind VIII project to Brookfield (January 2012)
– $347 million of construction, cash grant bridge, letter of credit and mini-perm facilities for the 168 megawatt Alta Wind VII project (April 2012)
– $292 million of construction, cash grant bridge, letter of credit and mini-perm facilities for the 132 megawatt Alta Wind IX project (April 2012) and;
– sale of the 150 megawatt Alta Wind VI project (now Mustang Hills) to Everpower Wind Holdings (May 2012)
• representation of a wind turbine manufacture developer in the joint venture development of over $1 billion in wind farm developments throughout the west and mid-west
• representation of Everpower Wind Holdings on the re-financing of the 150 MW Mustang Hills wind project in Tehachapi, CA. The key components were: a private placement of $245 million 5.15% notes due in 2035 (rated BBB- by Fitch), a $29.5 million letter of credit facility, and an $82 million cash grant bridge loan
• representation of a utility in connection with an asset purchase agreement to acquire the development rights to phase two of the 267 MW Lower Snake River wind farm in Washington State
• representation of Goldwind USA, Inc. in the turbine sale and equity financing for the 33 MW Negrete wind project in Chile
• representation of State Street Bank & Trust in connection with the $260 million in tax equity financing for the Buffalo Dunes, a 250 MW wind project in Kansas backed by subsidiaries of Enel Green Power and GE Capital
• representation of a developer in the acquisition of a portfolio of wind farm projects in Illinois with a potential capacity of 787 MW
• representation of Western Wind Energy Company in the construction and permanent financing totaling over $275,000,000 for the Windstar wind energy project near Tehachapi, California
• representation of Element Power in the construction and permanent debt financing and tax equity financing from MetLife for the development and construction of the Macho I wind farm near Hatch, New Mexico
• representation of AES Corporation in the construction and permanent debt financing of the Mountain View IV wind farm in California
• representation of sponsor in connection with construction, equity bridge and term loan financings of over $300 million for the 120 MW Windstar wind project in Tehachapi, California, and an 11 MW combined wind and solar project in Kingman, Arizona
• representation of sponsor in connection with a $212 million construction and term financing for the Armenia Mountain project, a 100.5 MW wind farm located in Bradford and Tioga counties, Pennsylvania
• representation of a sponsor in the approximately $1.4 billion sale of a portfolio of renewable energy projects, including its wind portfolio, to a private equity investor
• representation of bank consortium in restructuring of Mojave 16/17/18 wind projects with a total value of $250 million in California
• representation of major European wind turbine manufacturer in connection with numerous WTG sales in North America and Europe (both single-and multi-project sales) and in connection with development and operation of overseas production facilities
• representation of bank consortium in the acquisition, development and financing of the $360 million White Creek Wind power generating facility in Washington state, the first municipal-financed and tax-equity-financed, prepaid power purchase agreement power facility to close in the United States
• representation of a global financial services firm in connection with a 200 MW wind farm development, financing and asset acquisition in California and negotiation of 20-year, prepay power purchase agreement with SMUD
• representation of developer in connection with the development and financing of a 260 MW wind facility in the Pacific Northwest with cross-border off take arrangements and prepay power purchase agreements with SCPPA, California’s largest municipal utility consortium
• representation of developer with second phase (60 MW) and third phase (100 MW) of wind flats power projects and project financing and negotiations with equipment vendors and SCPPA as power offtaker
• representation of bank consortium as arranger and tax-equity investors in a 150 MW West Coast based wind farm project and negotiation of a 20-year, prepay power purchase agreement with Turlock Irrigation District
• representation of developer in connection with the 137 MW “Windy Point” project in Washington state
• representation of a large European wind energy company in connection with the acquisition of a portfolio of wind development projects in Nebraska, Oregon, New Mexico and Texas
• representation of developer in connection with a variety of ongoing transactions, including sale of offtake interests, shared facilities arrangements, O&M operations and ongoing arrangements with municipal utility power purchasers and equity investors
representation of developer and a financial institution in connection with the sale of Lehman’s equity interest in the 107 MW “White Creek Wind” power generating plant in Washington state

representation of financial institution in connection with the development financing and syndication of a 200 MW wind farm in the western United States

representation of a sponsor in connection with the $190 million project financing for a 112 MW wind project in Iowa

representation of a sponsor in connection with the $81 million project financing for an 80 MW wind project in Iowa

representation of a sponsor in connection with the development and sale of a 100 MW wind project in Iowa

representation of a sponsor in connection with the $76 million project financing for a 107 MW wind project in Minnesota

representation of a sponsor in connection with the $158 million project financing for a 77 MW wind project in California

representation of a sponsor in connection with a series of term loan facilities aggregating approximately $45 million for a series of wind projects in California

representation of a sponsor in connection with the development and sale of a 160 MW wind project in Colorado

representation of a sponsor in connection with the development and sale of a 300 MW wind project in California

representation of a sponsor in connection with the development and sale of a 100 MW wind project in Maryland

representation of a strategic investor and developer in the acquisition of wind power project assets in Michigan totaling more than 150 MW

representation of an investor in the purchase of a 10 MW wind project in Idaho.

SOLAR

representation of SunPower Corporation in the development and sale of the 580 MW Antelope Valley photovoltaic solar project (AVSP) to affiliates of MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company. The project will utilize SunPower’s proprietary photovoltaic modules and tracking technology, and its electricity will be sold to Southern California Edison Company under long-term power purchase agreements. SunPower will build and operate the project for MidAmerican. Construction of the project has commenced, and commercial operation is expected in 2015. When completed, AVSP will be the largest solar energy project in the world.

representation of BrightSource Energy in the development and financing of the 392 MW Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating System in San Bernardino County, California (including $1.6 billion in construction and permanent debt financing guaranteed by the U.S. Department of Energy under the Innovative Technology Loan Guaranty Program). This financing was the largest solar financing completed under this loan guaranty program. In 2012, this transaction was awarded CSP project of the year by Solar Power Generation USA.

representation of SunPower Corporation and NRG Energy in connection with the financing of the California Valley Solar Ranch, a 250 MW solar (PV) project located in San Luis Obispo, California. Financing of this project included a $1.237 billion construction and permanent loan guaranteed by the U.S. Department of Energy. This financing was one of the largest and one of the last projects to receive a loan guaranty under the loan guaranty programs established by the 2009

representation of SunPower Corporation in the negotiation of an EPC and O&M contract for a 70 MW solar facility in the Diego Almagro area of Chile

representation of a solar power company in connection with a PPA to develop 400 MW of solar power in San Antonio, Texas. This is one of the largest solar developments currently in the US and the project was undertaken through a unique and innovative economic development agreement which promotes investment and employment creation within the City of San Antonio.
• representation of a major community college district in connection with development and over $50 million financing of multcampus solar energy facility installation program using tax-efficient financing strategies

• representation of Sustainable Power Group (sPower), a Utah-based owner and operator of utility and distributed electrical generation systems, in its acquisition of the assets of Tioga Energy Inc. The transaction gives sPower photovoltaic solar arrays in nine states

• representation of Element Power in the sale of a portfolio of approximately 1.6 GW of U.S. and Mexican Solar projects in development to First Solar. The 18 projects included the portfolio range in capacity from 13 MW to 336 MW, making this one of the largest solar-related M&A transactions in 2013

• representation of lender in SEGS II (30 MW hybrid solar power project) and representation of project developer in the development, construction, financing and operation of SEGS III-IX (series of five 30 MW and two 80 MW hybrid solar power plants in Southern California

• representation of an equity investor in connection with more than $500 million of portfolio investments in commercial and residential photovoltaic solar power projects throughout the southwestern United States and Colorado

• representation of a large U.S. energy developer in the acquisition of a 2.1 MW solar photovoltaic power project, which uses an innovative, patent-pending structure covering a parking area adjacent to Sun Devil Stadium at Arizona State University and will purchase the energy generated by the project

• representation of a developer in the portfolio financing of up to $100 million in residential solar projects in California, Hawaii, Arizona and Colorado. The developer will install and sell the projects to a fund utilizing the federal cash grant program, state tax incentives and debt financing

• representation of SunPower Corporation in the sale and financing of the Kalaeloa Solar Two 5 MW photovoltaic project located in Oahu, Hawaii. The project sells power to the Hawaiian Electric Company and, as of completion, was the largest solar project in the State of Hawaii. The purchaser utilized a construction loan in conjunction with tax equity financing to acquire the project. The project benefits from the federal solar investment tax credit and the Hawaii Renewable Energy Technologies Income Tax Credit

• representation of SunPower Corporation in the sale and EPC arrangement with K Road for the 25 MW solar project in Modesto, California. The project was sold to K Road with a long term power purchase agreement with the Modesto Irrigation District

• representation of a developer in connection with a sale leaseback financing of a portfolio of distributed generation PV projects totaling approximately 12 MW

• representation of a developer in connection with the development, construction and financing of a 30 MW photovoltaic project in Puerto Rico

• representation of a developer in connection with the development, construction and sale of various distributed generation solar PV projects in Southern California

• representation of a developer in the development of a 350 MW photovoltaic project in California

• representation of a purchaser in the acquisition and tax equity sale-leaseback financing of a utility scale photovoltaic solar plant in the eastern United States

• representation of a project company in the development of a 30 MW solar photovoltaic plant for a municipal utility in the southwestern United States

• representation of a lender in connection with the financing of a utility scale solar project in Imperial Valley, California
representation of a lender in connection with permanent financing for a 21 MW photovoltaic solar project in Southern California

representation of a lender in connection with permanent financing for a 20 MW photovoltaic solar project in New Mexico

representation of a utility in the development of a 15 MW photovoltaic solar plant in the western United States

representation of a developer in connection with a power purchase agreement for a 150 MW solar project in Imperial Valley, California

representation of developers in the creation of residential solar programs and the negotiation and consummation of portfolio tax equity commitments totaling more than $45 million

representation of a developer in connection with two 80 MW solar projects (SEGS VII-IX) in California

representation of SunPower Corporation in the supply of photovoltaic modules and related balance of system equipment, design services and technical advice for NRG Energy’s 26 MW Borrego Project in San Diego County, California

representation of SunPower Corporation in the supply of photovoltaic modules and related equipment to NRG Energy’s 92 MW Alpine Solar Project in Los Angeles County, California

representation of Rabobank International in the lease financing of a portfolio of over 30 commercial distributed generation solar projects developed and installed by Solar City in California

representation of a prominent solar panel manufacturer and project developer in connection with the lease financing of a solar project to be installed on a site owned by the city of Galt in California

representation of a prominent solar panel manufacturer and project developer in connection with the lease financing of a solar project to be installed on a site owned by Castaic Lake Water Agency in California

representation of NRG Energy, Inc. in the acquisition of Solar Power Partners (SPP), a developer of distributed solar projects. SPP has over 30 MW of distributed solar projects in operation or under construction, and a pipeline of over 1,300 MW of projects in development located in California, Hawaii, Arizona, Connecticut, New Mexico, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Canada and Puerto Rico

HYDROELECTRIC

representation of an infrastructure development company in the development and financing of the Xacbal 94 MW hydroelectric power project located in Guatemala, currently the largest privately developed and financed greenfield hydroelectric power project in Central America. This project was recognized in 2007 by Project Finance Magazine as the Latin American Renewable Energy Deal of the Year,
Latin Finance Magazine as the Energy/Power Deal of the Year and The Banker Magazine and Financial Times Group as the Deal of the Year (Guatemala)

- representation in the development and financing of a 240 MW hydroelectric power project upgrade in central Africa
- representation of engineering and construction organizations in connection with the development and financing of the 1,500 KM Inga-Shaba Transmission Line and in connection with the negotiation and performance of its operation and maintenance agreement in respect of the transmission line, which involved hydroelectric plant considerations
- negotiation of electric power facility and supply agreements with Société National de l’Électricité, as well as the financing of two hydro projects in Katanga
- representation of a construction contractor with respect to infrastructure work for the Shrinagar Hydro Electric Project
- representation involving the development of a $700 million copper and cobalt mining project in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including negotiation of the mining convention with the government, preparation and negotiation of the EPCM agreement, negotiation of the electric power facility and supply agreements with the state-owned electric power company and other project documentation and financing
- representation of the sponsor of a pumped-storage hydroelectric power project in California.

Biomass, Biofuels and Geothermal

- representation of sponsor in the negotiation of power purchase agreements with Southern California Edison for the sale of energy from geothermal projects with a capacity of up to 150 MW to be installed in the southwestern United States
- representation of a developer in connection with the financing, operation and expansion of a geothermal project near Coso Junction, California
- representation of a developer in the development and financing stages of two 80 MW geothermal power projects in California with power sales to Southern California Edison
- representation of a leading U.S. developer in the development and financing stages of a 90 MW geothermal power project in Steamboat Springs, Nevada, with power sales to Nevada Power
- representation of a joint venture in a project financing of a major geothermal project, BLM, in California
- representation of a U.S.-based development company in the development, structuring and capital raise for a geothermal fund that is developing several geothermal projects in Nevada
- representation of a developer in connection with the repowering of geothermal projects located in California and Nevada
- representation of a developer in connection with the development of a series of new geothermal projects in California and Nevada
- representation of an energy company in connection with the development and vendor financing of an ethanol plant located in central Texas
- representation of a biomass supplier in connection with various biomass projects in the United States and Latin America
- representation of an international energy company in connection with various biomass projects
- representation of a financial institution in connection with a wood-to-syngas-to-biofuel project in Wisconsin.

Traditional Energy

- representation of a private owner in connection with development, joint-venture negotiations and subsequent project financing of the $756 million LNG facility in Canada that was named “North American Mid-Stream Oil and Gas Deal of the Year 2006” by Project Finance Magazine
- representation of a U.S. energy company in connection with its $2.5 billion Lake Charles petcoke-to-methanol gasification project
representation of project developer in connection with development, construction and financing of the 2x362 MW coal-fired MeizhouWan Power Project, which was subsequently named “Asia Pacific Power Deal of the Year” by Project Finance International

• representation of an energy company in connection with the development and vendor financing of a 500 MW power plant project with Calpine in Texas

• representation of a leading minerals company in connection with the development of a 120 MW gas-fired power facility in the western United States

• representation of a commercial and residential electric and natural gas provider in connection with the development of a 135 MW byproduct fuel-fired, anchored merchant plant for National Steel in Michigan

• representation of a U.S. developer in the development and financing stages of an independent power project to build a 200 MW gas-fired facility in New York state involving power sales to New York State Electric and Gas

• representation of a U.S. developer in the development and financing stages of four 90 MW coal-fired power plants in Northern Virginia involving power sales to Virginia Electric and Power Company

• representation of major energy developer in connection with acquisition and joint venture for the development of $2 billion mine mouth, coal-fired electric generation facility

• representation of both a U.S.-based energy company and a Japanese energy conglomerate in connection with $670 million project financing of chlor-alkali facility in Freeport, Texas

• representation of an energy company in its $1.2 billion sale/leaseback of a major nuclear generation station

• representation of a state-controlled nuclear energy regulator in its proposed purchase out of insolvency of a group of companies active in the generation of nuclear power and the manufacture of equipment used in the nuclear energy industry

• representation of an electric utility company in its development of a major high-voltage transmission line and application, granted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), for incentive rate treatment for the recovery of the company’s investment

• represented a leading nuclear turbine manufacturer in the negotiation of an engineering, procurement and construction contract for a new nuclear power station in North Carolina

• represented a leading nuclear turbine manufacturer in the negotiation of an engineering, procurement and construction contract for a new nuclear unit at a Virginia power station

• represented the lead lenders to a 500 MW gas-fired peaking power plant to be located near Los Angeles

• represented the developer of a gas-fired power plant in Nevada in the negotiation of a turbine supply agreement and balance of plant contract for the project

• represented the developer of a gas-fired generating plant in California in the negotiation of an engineering, procurement and construction contract for the project

• represented the developer of a gas-fired power plant in Illinois in the negotiation of a turbine supply agreement and balance of plant contract for the project

• represented the lead lenders to a 400 MW Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle to be located in Penwell, Texas

• representation of a large U.S. independent oil and gas company in connection with development of a U.S. Gulf Coast fractionator and ethylene cracker project

• representation of the developer of a proposed multi-billion dollar coal-to-gas-to-methanol facility, including in connection with EPC contracts, FEED contracts, technology licensing, and other related arrangements

• representation of Edison Mission Energy in the acquisition of the Loy Yang B power project in Australia from the State Electricity Commission of Victoria (SECV) at a cost of $1.5 billion

• representation of three different energy companies on matters relating to development or restarting of four different LNG receiving terminals in North America, including the EPC contracts for both the onshore works and the jetty works for the Canaport LNG project in New Brunswick, Canada, Canada’s first regas terminal

• representation of the largest banks in the United States and other equity owners in the purchase of most of the nuclear plants in the United States that were sold to financial investors and leased back through leveraged leases and partnership structures.
INFRASTRUCTURE

• representation of project developer in reviewing options for private-sector role in funding, development and construction of the I-5/State Route 56 interchange in San Diego, including project delivery options
• representation of a taxing district in the development and financing of a streetcar system in Fort Lauderdale
• representation of a transportation authority on issues associated with project permitting for a toll road representation of one of America’s premier seaports on funding and project delivery of the Gerald Desmond Bridge in Long Beach, California
• representation of a public transportation authority on development and financing of Renaissance Square Federal Transit Administration joint-development intermodal project, including drafting and negotiation of relevant documents and also service as regulatory counsel to client
• representation of concession holder in connection with upstream and downstream aspects of Metro Manila water privatization
• representation of developer in connection with the $250 million first privatized Indian water project located in Tirupur
• representation of lender in Panvel Bypass toll road financing in India

PIPELINE

• representation of the project company in connection with the development of a US $1.4 billion Trans-Andes crude oil pipeline and marine terminal in Latin America, including extensive work on maritime-related matters
• handled matters relating to the first cross-border natural gas pipeline from Indonesia to Singapore, including work on the natural gas sales arrangements, EPC work for the cross-border pipeline and a large production platform and a related “wrap” agreement
• handled matters related to the development and project financing of a US $1.2 billion Indonesian gas-gathering, processing and transmission project, which involved a unique natural-gas-for-crude-oil exchange and export feature, including EPC work for the large gas-processing plant and a “step-in rights” agreement related to construction of the gas pipeline
• handled matters related to the US $5 billion development of Philippine natural gas reserves and related pipeline facilities and power plants, including negotiation of numerous gas sales agreements and government support documents, analysis of project finance issues, work on EPC matters and other related matters
• served as joint counsel to Bank of America, Chase, Citibank and JP Morgan in connection with the development of a financing plan for the Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System and the financing of its first phase, the Northern Border Pipeline Project

• representation of the bank group in the financing of the Wyoming Interstate portion of the Trailblazer Pipeline System
• representation of the Iroquois Pipeline Company in the financing of the pipeline
• advised U.S. Generating Company in the acquisition of J. Makowski Company, a leading developer of U.S. power projects and pipelines

International Reach

Consistent with its status as one of the leading international energy-focused law firms, Akin Gump has repeatedly led the way around the globe on many of the most innovative and high-profile projects and project financings. We play an important role in hundreds of global transactions, ventures, energy development projects and negotiations to meet the world’s sustainable energy needs, including:

• representation of a major Mexican power company in the development and financing of the 495 MW Tuxpan V project with costs of approximately $300 million. The financing of the project involved a complicated array of credit facilities and commercial banks providing both senior and subordinated facilities. The Tuxpan V financing holds the record for the fastest project financing of any Mexican IPP (three and one-half months) and the quickest project financing closed by Japan Bank for International Cooperation anywhere in the world
• representation of a major Mexican power company in the development and financing of the 495 MW Altamira II project with costs of approximately $300 million. The financing of the project involved a complicated array of credit facilities

• representation of an India-based multinational conglomerate in connection with acquisition of solar modules and trackers and construction/development of solar PV power projects in India in connection with the National Solar Mission and state solar programs

• representation of project developer in connection with the contemplated 100 MW solar PV Noor project in Abu Dhabi

• representation of developer in connection with the development, construction and project financing of a utility-scale solar PV plant to be located in the Middle East

• representation of a wind energy corporation in the development of a 100 MW wind farm in Honduras

• representation of project developer in connection with development of numerous distributed biomass/biofuels generation systems in India

• representation of infrastructure fund in connection with contemplated acquisition of U.K. wind energy company and projects under development

• representation of a leading European power generation company in the proposed disposal of one of the largest offshore wind projects in the United Kingdom

• representation of wind energy corporations in the development of a wind farms in Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Mexico

• representation of a German solar company in connection with its U.S. market entry and solar development projects

• representation of a Chinese wind company in connection with its U.S. market entry and various investments and acquisitions of U.S. wind projects

• representation of one of the 50 percent joint-venture partners in the feasibility study for and development of a proposed PV solar project in Bulgaria

• representation of project developer in connection with development, construction and financing of the 440 MW coal-fired Quezon Power Project, as well as associated 31 km transmission line built across 385 contiguous rights of way acquired without right of eminent domain. To date, this the largest private power project in the Philippines and the first IPP without the benefit of government guarantees

• representation of Bechtel and GE in connection with the restructuring of the Dabhol Power Project, a 2184 MW naphtha/gas-fired project divided into three power plants and associated LNG regas facility in Maharashtra, India. Work included negotiations with Indian banks, offshore banks and state and national governments in India, as well as conduct and supervision of numerous project-based arbitrations, shareholder arbitrations, political risk insurance arbitrations, bilateral investment treaty arbitrations and over 50 litigations in five different countries. A key feature of the workout involved the structuring and execution of a transfer by Enron of 90 percent of its $700 million economic interest in the project and associated bilateral investment treaty claims in exchange for $18 million (financed on a nonrecourse basis by OPIC)

• representation of project developer in connection with development, construction and financing of first large-scale Mexican IPP, a 700 MW gas-fired project in Samalayuca

• representation in the $90 million financing of the Government Plaza in Nuevo Leon, Mexico (a project developed under a public/private partnership structure)

• representation of a joint venture (between a government-related entity in the Middle East and a global power and gas company) on its investment in a carbon abatement project in Central Asia

• representation of a U.K.-based energy conglomerate in connection with the development and financing of a 900 MW power plant in Russia

• representation of a global power developer in connection with the development and financing of a 450 MW combined heat and power plant in Romania

• representation of a leading private equity investor in connection with the development and acquisition of the leading fertilizer production company in Nigeria

• representation of a private equity fund in connection with its investments in the Songo Songo power project in Tanzania
representation of a private equity fund in connection with its investment in oil- and gas-producing properties in Africa and Pan-African energy
representation of a global power developer in connection with its bid to develop, construct and finance a 1,000 MW power plant in Thailand
representation of an energy company in the bid to develop and finance the 400 MW Al-Kamil power project
representation of a global power developer in the financing stage of a 100 MW gas-fired power project in Cartagena, Colombia, involving power sales to an American consortium and a Colombian utility
representation of a privately held independent power producer in connection with the development of an oil-fired, barge-mounted 150 MW power project in the Dominican Republic
representation of a large Asian company in connection with its efforts to obtain U.S.-based LNG liquefaction capacity
representation of a large East Asian company in connection with a project to source natural gas from several suppliers, process it into LNG at a U.S. liquefaction facility and market the LNG to East Asian buyers
representation of the lead sponsor of the first Canadian LNG liquefaction facility on development, LNG sales, EPC arrangements, and financing matters, as well as the lead sponsor of an Australian LNG liquefaction facility to be supplied by coal-bed methane on EPC-related matters
representation of a sponsor of a large Saudi petrochemical facility jointly owned with SABIC and another party in the expansion and extension of their joint-venture arrangements and further representation in connection with joint expansion of power facilities with adjoining facilities and co-location of another new project on the same site
representation of international petrochemical companies or lenders on matters relating to development and financing of numerous world-scale petrochemical facilities in Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United States, including extensive EPC and technology licensing work
representation of the developer of what was at the time the world’s largest grassroots refinery and petrochemical complex, built in India, as well as the project company for another large Indian refinery, including extensive, complex EPCM, EPC and technology licensing work
representation of the developer of a Kenyan geothermal project in connection with its development and efforts to source debt and equity financing
representation of the developer and operator of geothermal renewable resources and related power-generation facilities in Indonesia and the Philippines, as well as the arranger of financing in respect of a U.S. geothermal facility
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