

Advancing Best Practices for Energy Companies

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Reed Smith is an Advocate Member of the CCRO.

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Paul is a partner in the firm's Energy & Natural Resources Group, where he focuses his practice on the fast-changing and evolving energy and commodity markets—principally related to the business of the physical and financial trading of energy commodities. He has been involved in the regulatory and commercial structuring and restructuring of the energy industry, including the ongoing seismic regulatory changes to the physical,

futures and derivatives markets. Paul advises a variety of client types in the industry – major oil companies, hedge funds, independent trading and marketing companies, and banking clients – on structuring and documenting bespoke commodity transactions, developing client-preferred forms of industry contracts – EEI, ISDA, NAESB, LEAP --, negotiating commodity storage and marketing arrangements, advising on M&A transactions involving trading assets, portfolios and companies, setting up client compliance programs, and liquidating forward and financial positions. He has been principal counsel to several clients as they entered the US trading markets for energy commodities. Paul's focus principally is on power, natural gas, crude, petroleum products, NGLs, and coal.

Over the past several years, Paul has played a key role in significant litigation and commercial matters related to commodity contracts, forward contracts and derivatives for major energy companies and retail electric providers (REPs). He has represented numerous clients in some of the largest energy and commodity company bankruptcies, including the bankruptcies of Lehman, The SemGroup, Enron, Mirant and NEGT Energy Trading (formally PG&E Energy Trading). He has advised energy companies on numerous transactional issues and has worked on the sale of energy-related companies, assets and portfolios – including for trading companies and REPs. Paul also advises clients on the implementation of Dodd-Frank, on developing trading compliance programs, and on inquiries and investigations by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC).

Education

University of Virginia School of Law, 1996, J.D., Order of the Coif; James C. Slaughter Honor Award; Executive Editor, *Virginia Law Review* University of Chicago, 1990, A.B., with honors

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