

KING & SPALDING

Energy Newsletter



April 2020

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EXCHANGE BLOG



**GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, PROJECT DEVELOPMENT &
FINANCE, TRANSACTIONS**

U.S./Canada

Developing Contingency Plans: The NYDFS Mandate on Licensed Virtual Currency Businesses

Jen DePalma

The events surrounding COVID-19 have increased the use of fintech products. As more customers seek to handle banking, trading and payment transactions through digital means, regulators are expected to take stronger measures to monitor the use, protection and security of the data collected and assets transferred or held digitally. [More »](#)

CONSTRUCTION, GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, REGULATORY

U.S./Canada

Navigating Governmental Stay At Home Orders in Connection with



Construction of Energy Projects

Scott Greer and Kaleb Walker

In the rapidly evolving landscape of COVID-19 response, many states, counties, and cities throughout the United States have issued executive orders halting all non-essential business activity. A key step for owners of energy projects is to evaluate the scope and impact of such orders, including whether construction of their projects may continue as an essential business activity (and if so, under what conditions). This article outlines some key considerations and strategies for owners to successfully navigate such orders and to minimize impacts to their project. [More »](#)

REGULATORY, GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Oil & Gas - Global

Oil and Gas Incident Command and COVID-19

Marcella Burke and Karl Heisler

After a decade and a half of a poor track record of investment and new discoveries, Algeria recently enacted a new hydrocarbons law, expected to offer the oil and gas sector in Algeria new impetus. In this article, we outline key features of this new oil & gas law in the resource-rich country of Algeria. [More »](#)

REGULATORY, TRANSACTIONS

LNG/Oil & Gas

U.S. Produced Crude Oil Targeted for First Purchase for the Strategic Petroleum Reserves

Monica Hwang, Rick Vacura and Chelsea Vernon

Amid current low oil prices, there may be one bright spot for U.S. producers. On Friday, March 13, President Trump announced he has directed the U.S. Department of Energy to begin purchasing oil for the Strategic Petroleum Reserves. [More »](#)

REGULATORY, TRANSACTIONS, GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

LNG, Oil & Gas – U.S./Canada



UPCOMING EVENTS

Webinar: Be Prepared: COVID-19 Security Incidents are Coming

When: April 9, 2020, 12:00 pm ET

[More Information »](#)

IN THE NEWS

Reggie Smith, Cedric Soule and Lorna Maupilé advise Woodside Petroleum in its arbitration settlement with FAR over a stake in a \$4.2B oil project in Senegalese waters. [More »](#)

Jeanie Cogill discusses the employment takeaways from the CARES Act [More »](#)

Scott Greer quoted in a profile on the questions facing the Texas construction industry during the coronavirus [More »](#)

"Guest Comment: COVID-19 and City Regulators – The Limits of Forbearance" by Rob Dedman [More »](#)

Steve Orava, Daniel Schneiderman and Clinton Long counsel gasoline engine manufacturer Briggs & Stratton before the International Trade Commission [More »](#)

Dick Walker discusses the SEC giving public companies extra time to file annual reports and other major disclosures due to the coronavirus pandemic [More »](#)

Government Offers Storage at the Strategic Petroleum Reserves for U.S. Produced Crude Oil

Monica Hwang, Rick Vacura and Chelsea Vernon

Previously, on Friday, March 13, President Trump announced he had directed the U.S. Department of Energy to begin purchasing oil for the Strategic Petroleum Reserves. The DOE immediately took action on March 19 by issuing a request for proposal for thirty million barrels of crude oil. However, this plan was scrapped after the DOE failed to secure funding as part of the CARES Act stimulus bill signed in March. [More »](#)

INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION, LITIGATION

Global

Best Practices for Conducting Arbitration Hearings Remotely

Brianna Kostecka and Jessica Sabbath

Although videoconferences were on their way to being the wave of the future, the COVID-19 pandemic has sped up their widespread use globally including in the legal industry. And they are not just being use for conferences but also for substantive proceedings including arbitration hearings and courts are even looking into using them for trials in light of the uncertainty in length of stay-at-home orders in many states. This article will provide best practices and important considerations for lawyers and clients for conducting proceedings via video, especially merits proceedings, from two people who just concluded an international arbitration hearing via videoconference after the live hearing in New York City was cut short due to the ongoing global health crisis. [More »](#)

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Grant Nakayama comments on the EPA's sweeping relaxation of environmental rules in response to the coronavirus pandemic [More »](#)

Sarah Borders explains why companies are waiting to file for bankruptcy during the coronavirus pandemic [More »](#)

Todd Holleman discusses the impact the coronavirus is having on M&A activity [More »](#)

Cal Smith discusses why clients are paying more attention to reputational risks—as well as environmental, social and governance issues—when they're considering a big deal [More »](#)

Jessica Sabbath spoke at Construction Law Section of the State Bar of Georgia Event [More »](#)

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