

2nd annual North American Environment, Energy and Natural Resources Conference

North American Energy and Environmental Policy in Transition

Sponsored by Blank Rome, LLP, the Environment, Energy, and Natural Resources (EENR) Center of the University of Houston Law Center, and the University of Calgary Faculty of Law

May 3 and 4, 2018, Greater Houston Partnership, Partnership Tower, 701 Avenida de las Americas, Suite 900 (Houston Light Rail Green Line, Purple Line, Convention Center Stop)

With the possible renegotiation or abandonment of NAFTA; the privatization of Mexico's oil, gas, and electricity sector; the continuing buildout of energy infrastructure between the U.S., Mexico, and Canada; changes in U.S. climate policy; and the revolution in electricity generation and grid management, what issues will confront North American law firms and policy makers now and in the next few years?

The North American Environment, Energy, and Natural Resources Conference, sponsored by Blank Rome, is designed to address the energy, environmental, natural resources legal issues that span Canada, the United States and Mexico. This year the conference will address issues surrounding NAFTA renegotiation, diverging climate change policies, the acceleration of renewables on the North American grids, the privatization of Mexico's energy sector and what these changes mean for the energy business, the economy generally, and the environment in each of these countries.

AGENDA

Thursday, May 3, 2018

8:15 – 8:45 A.M.

Registration and light breakfast

8:45 -- 9:15 A.M.

Welcome Remarks

Dean Ian Holloway, University of Calgary Faculty of Law

Margaret Anne Hill, Partner and Chair, Environmental, Energy, and Mass Torts Practice Group, Blank Rome LLP

Victor B. Flatt, Dwight Olds Chair in Law, and Faculty Director, Environment, Energy, and Natural Resources (EENR) Center, University of Houston Law Center

NAFTA Renegotiation

9:15 – 10:00 A.M.

Cross-border energy and commerce in the face of differing climate policy

Bret Wells, UHLC EENR Center– Moderator and speaker

Victor Flatt, UHLC EENR Center (discussant)

“The WTO and border adjustments for climate policies”

10:00 – 10:15 A.M.

Break

10:15 – 11:45 A.M.

NAFTA Renegotiation and Energy – Where are we now and where will we be? What about environmental agreements?

Tracy Hester, UHLC EENR Center – Moderator

Richard Miles, Senior Fellow, Deputy Director, Americas Program; Director, U.S.-Mexico Futures Initiative, Center for Strategic and International Studies

“Renegotiating NAFTA: Energy Opportunities and Challenges”

Vasken Khabayan, Consul General of Canada. Texas office

“Canadian priorities in North American trade renegotiation”

Miriam Grunstein, Rice University, Baker Institute’s Mexico Center

“NAFTA, Mexico and Energy. The threshold towards greater commercial unity?”

11:45 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. Lunch

Welcome and Introduction of Keynote: Dean Leonard Baynes, University of Houston Law Center

Keynote Address:

**Janet Carrig, Senior Vice President, General Counsel, and Secretary
ConocoPhillips, Inc.**

“The Right Approach to Oil and Gas Regulation.”

Energy Infrastructure Buildout – Pipelines, Transmission Lines, Export Terminals, International Borders, and Climate Protest

1:00 – 2:30 P.M.

Panel - Crossing National Boundaries - Demand, infrastructure and regulation

Julian Cardenas, University of Houston EENR Center, Latin American Chair – moderator and speaker

“The need for integration of gas pipeline laws and rules across international boundaries”

Isidro Morales Moreno, School of Government, Tecnologico de Monterrey

“Cross-border natural gas integration between Mexico and the United States: Opportunities and risks”

James Coleman, SMU Law School

“Impact of Differing Climate Policies on Energy Buildout from Canadian Perspective”

Kristen van de Biezenbos, The University of Calgary Faculty of Law & Haskayne School of Business – Discussant

2:30 – 2:45 P.M.

BREAK

2:45 – 4:00 P.M.

Panel - The politics of Climate Change, Natural Gas Expansion, and Moving Energy

Moderator – Margaret Anne Hill, Blank Rome

Praveen Kumar, Global Energy Management Institute, UH Bauer

“Pipeline buildout and LNG Exports– Demand Drivers, Impact on Energy Prices”

Alexandra Klass, University of Minnesota

“Transmission lines, International Boundaries, State Veto Power, and The Grid of the Future”

Kristen van de Biezenbos, The University of Calgary Faculty of Law & Haskayne School of Business

“Comparative Energy Structure and Delivery: Canada and the United States”

Victor B. Flatt, UHLC Law Center

“The Impact of Trump Administration Climate Policies and Public Perception of natural gas and fracking – from the local to the international; to the courts”

4:00 – 5:30 P.M.

Dean’s Panel: North American Energy, Trade, Environment, and Climate In transition

Dean Leonard Baynes, University of Houston Law Center

Moderator: Dean Leonard Baynes

Alex Juden, Secretary and General Counsel, Schlumberger

Kay McCall, President, CEO and General Counsel, Noble Environmental Power

Gerald Morton, General Counsel, Vice-President of Business Development,

Carrizo Oil and Gas

Tony Trevino, General Counsel, Lewis Energy Group

William Turcotte, Noble Corporation PLC

5:30 – 6:30 P.M. RECEPTION

Friday, May 4, 2018

8:45 – 9:15 A.M. Breakfast and networking

The Electricity Revolution – renewables and the grid of the future

9:15 – 10:45 A.M.

Panel – Lowest Cost Power Dispatch – The New Realities

Frederick M. Lowther, Partner, Blank Rome LLP, moderator and speaker

“Navigating the Changing Regulatory Landscape: Project Development”

Brian Tulloh, Executive Director, Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO)

“The Texas Transition and the Regional Independent System Operators”

Dr. Burcin Unel, NYU School of Law, Institute for Policy Integrity, Energy Policy Director

“Electricity valuation in the new grid: Can we learn from New York?”

10:45 -- 11:00 A.M. Break

11:00 A.M. – Noon

Panel - All over the Map – Vertically Integrated Systems and Market Reform

Blake Hudson, UHLC EENR Center – Moderator

Jonas Monast, Assistant Professor and C. Boyden Gray Scholar in Energy, Director CE3,
University of North Carolina Law School

“Competition in Public Utilities”

Joseph McMonigle, Principal, Blank Rome Government Relations LLC

“Update from Washington”

Brian Tulloh, Executive Director MISO, discussant

Noon – 1:15 P.M. **LUNCH**

Keynote Remarks: Richard Miles, Center for Strategic & International Studies, Senior Fellow, Deputy
Director, Americas Program; Director, U.S.-Mexico Futures Initiative

“**The Mexican Presidential Election and Energy**”

The Privatization of Mexican Energy

1:15 – 2:30 P.M.

Panel - The Mexican Electricity Sector, grid linkages, and US Electricity Exports

Gina Warren, UHLC EENR Center, Moderator

Felix Mormann, Texas A&M Law School

“Equity Challenges in the Transition to a Low-Carbon Electricity Sector: A Comparative
Perspective”

Manan Parikh, Analyst, Latin America, GTM Research (McKenzie)

“Solar and Renewable Opportunities in Mexico”

2:30 – 2:45 P.M. BREAK

2:45 – 4:15 P.M.

Pemex privatization, regulation, and governance

Julian Cardenas, UHLC EENR Center, moderator

Rebecca Golden Timsar, University of Houston Global Energy Development Center

“Good Governance in the Face of New Energy Assets”

George Baker, Energia Intelligence (Mexican Energy Reform Publication)

“The need for a second Mexican National Oil Company”

Isidro Morales Moreno, School of Government, Tecnologico de Monterrey (Discussant)

4:15 P.M. **Concluding Remarks**

Susan Bickley, Partner, Blank Rome

**Victor B. Flatt, Director, Environment, Energy, and Natural Resources (EENR) Center Director,
University of Houston Law Center**