Dispute Resolution in the International Energy Business

A conference hosted by the AIEN and the LCIA

Thursday 15 and Friday 16 October 2026
The Langham, London

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08.30 **Registration and Refreshments**

09.00 **Opening Remarks**

Tim Martin, *Conference Chair*
Kevin Nash, *Director General, LCIA*
Lauren Wilder, *President, AIEN*

09.15 **Keynote Address**
The Impact of Energy Disputes on the Arbitration World

Speaker: **Gary Born,** *Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr, London, England*

09.45 **First Session: State to State Disputes**

Sovereign states often have disputes between themselves around energy matters. The delimitation of boundaries is a major area of such disputes. A large majority of them deal with competing governments wanting to access oil & gas reserves and mineral deposits. In addition, states must deal with differences regarding the transportation of energy across international boundaries, such as transnational pipelines and electrical grids, or the joint development of energy resources using instruments such as joint development zones and unitization agreements. This panel will discuss disputes amongst sovereign states that have arisen around the world concerning the energy sector.

Chair: **Rodman Bundy,** *Squire Patton Boggs, Singapore*
Graham Coop, *Pinsent Masons, London, England*
Andrew Derman, *Holland & Knight, Dallas, USA*
Robert Volterra, *Volterra Fietta, London, England*

11.00 **Refreshment Break**

11.30 **Second Session: Investor State Disputes**

The panel will present a review of state investment disputes arising from treaties & contracts. The session will consider recent state investment disputes in the energy sector and emerging trends in their resolution. But first

the speakers will begin with a discussion on the historical cases that addressed expropriation, legitimate expectations, fair & equal treatment, etc. and the development of such cases at ICSID. They will then address the issue of parallel proceedings that arise when parties pursue both treaty and contract claims, which can increase costs and the risk of inconsistent judgments. The panel will finally discuss the trends in investment arbitrations that have dealt with cost recovery, tax disputes, prudent operator standards and the stabilization of financial terms in energy investment contracts.

Chair: **Josefin Natalie Engstrom***, Equinor, Oslo, Norway*
Doak Bishop, *Independent Arbitrator, Dallas, USA*
Meg Kinnear, *LKDR, Washington DC, USA*
Constantine Partasides, *Three Crowns, London, England*

12.45 **Lunch**

14.15 **Third Session: O&G Commercial Disputes – Upstream to Downstream**

Oil & gas companies deal with a multitude of disputes arising from their upstream, midstream and downstream commercial transactions and contracts. Speakers will discuss a variety of upstream disputes, including those involving confidentiality agreements, AMIs, JOAs, service contracts and acquisition of oil & gas properties. The midstream and downstream sectors of the energy business have unique problems and disputes. They cover pipelines, rights of way, gathering & processing facilities, refineries, petrochemical plants, price redeterminations and destination restrictions. The speakers will present a review of those disputes in multiple jurisdictions, including the Americas, European, African and Asian markets.

Chair: **Michelle MacPhee,** *BP, London, England*
John Gilbert, *Bracewell, London, England*
Peter Roberts, *Cross Keys Energy, London, England*
Ann Ryan Robertson, *Independent Arbitrator, Houston, USA*

15.30 **Refreshment Break**

16.00 **Fourth Session: Decommissioning Disputes**

Over the past several decades disputes over oil and gas decommissioning and abandonment have arisen from governments insisting upon such obligations being imposed under their Production Sharing Contracts, creditors demanding priority over joint interest holders in bankruptcy proceedings, problems between operators and subcontractors, liability transfers, international treaties and regulatory enforcement. This has occurred in multiple jurisdictions around the world. These disputes are now starting to emerge in the renewable energy sector with similar consequences. This panel will discuss the range of these disputes, how to navigate this complex labyrinth and how to avoid them.

Chair: **Oscar Johnson,** *CNOOC, Uxbridge, England*
Bill Cline, *Cline Energy Advisors, Houston, USA*
Elisabeth Eljuri, *Independent Arbitrator, Miami, USA*
Tim Martin, *Northumberland Chambers, Calgary, Canada*

17.15 **Drinks Reception**

19.30 **Close of Day One**

Friday 16 October 2026

09.00 **First Session: Damages in Energy Disputes**

The primary remedy provided in international energy arbitration awards is damages, whether in state investment or commercial disputes. This segment will review the kinds of valuation methods and compensation standards applied in such disputes and how damages are assessed in large, complex energy transactions.

Chair: **Kevin Nash,** *LCIA, London, England*
Laura Hardin, *BRG, Houston, USA*
Mark Kantor, *Independent Arbitrator, Washington DC, USA*
Noah Rubins KC, *Freshfields, Paris, France*

10.15 **Refreshment Break**

10.45 **Second Session: Natural Resource Disputes that Impact the Energy Sector**

There are a range of disputes within the natural resources sector that directly impact the energy world, particularly due to their central role in clean energy technologies, electric vehicles and high-tech industries. Disputes arise in rare earth and hard rock projects as a result of supply chain vulnerabilities and geopolitical tensions. The complex, long-term nature of mining contracts, such as off-take and royalty agreements, often leads to disputes over pricing, supply quantity and quality as market dynamics shift. Disputes in these sectors are a central risk to the reliability, affordability and speed of the global shift toward renewable energy and advanced technology deployment. This panel will discuss the full range of these disputes arising in these emerging sectors.

Chair: **Kathleen Paisley,** *Independent Arbitrator, Miami, USA/Brussels, Belgium*
Henry Burnett, *King & Spalding, Miami, USA*
Maria Chedid*, Arnold & Porter, San Francisco, USA*
Diora Ziyaeva, *Dentons, New York, USA*

12.00 **Lunch**

13.30 **Third Session: Alternative Energy Disputes**

As alternative and renewable energy sources expand their share of energy projects, so do their disputes. This panel will discuss emerging disputes from the solar, wind, nuclear and power generation industries. These include state investment, joint ventures, financing, IP technology, licensing, regulatory and construction disputes.

Chair: **Kai-Uwe Karl,** *GE Vernova, London, England*
Oisin Brady, *Independent Expert, Dublin, Ireland*
Emma Johnson, *Ashurst, London, England*
James Loftis, *Vinson & Elkins, Houston, USA*

14.45 **Refreshment Break**

15.15 **Fourth Session: Energy Infrastructure Disputes**

Energy companies are involved in some of the largest construction projects in the world. This session provides an in-depth analysis of the infrastructure and construction disputes that arise in the international energy business.

Chair: **Peter Rees KC,** *39 Essex Chambers, London, England*
James Castello, *Independent Arbitrator, Paris, France*
Ajey Chandra, *Baker & O'Brien, Houston, USA*
Erin Miller Rankin, *Freshfields, Dubai, UAE*

16.30 **Closing Remarks**

Elisabeth Eljuri, *Conference Chairs*
Kevin Nash, *Director General, LCIA*
Kathleen Paisley, *Conference Chair*

16.45 **Close of Event**