



Association of International
Energy Negotiators

AIEN Seminar at NAPE

Tuesday, February 17, 2026

Speakers:

Felipe Alice, Partner, Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP

Matthew Blomerth, Commercial Manager - LNG Marketing, ExxonMobil

Gabrielle Finger, Principal, Sage Energy Solutions LLC

Vera de Gyarfas, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary, NextDecade Corporation

Monica Hwang, Partner, White & Case LLP

Patrick Johnson, Partner, White & Case LLP

Julie Mayo, Senior Vice President and Chief Legal Officer, Sempra Infrastructure

Elizabeth L. McGinley, Partner, Bracewell LLP

Darren Murphy, Partner – Corporate, Finance and Investments, King & Spalding LLP

Lauren Read, Senior Vice President - dCarbon Ventures, BKV Corporation

Gustavo Torres, Vice President - General Counsel and Corporate Secretary, Fervo Energy

Harry W. Sullivan, Jr., Assistant General Counsel, Kosmos Energy & Executive Professor,
Texas A&M School of Law

David H. Sweeney, Partner, Clifford Chance LLP

Olivia Woodruff, Vice President - Decarbonization, Kimmeridge

Agenda:

8:30 am - 9:00 am Registration

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. **Session 1: New Energy Pivot and Expansion - Next Generation of
NE Projects**

Changing priorities in the United States has resulted in many companies pivoting or consider pivoting to diversify their low carbon aspirations, including a renewed vigor in CCS and hydrogen, and a growing interest in geothermal and other CDR generation opportunities. Join **Gabrielle Finger, Patrick Johnson, Elizabeth McGinley, Lauren Read, Gustavo Torres**, and **Olivia Woodruff**, for an update on new energy efforts and projects.

1.5 CLE hours

10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. Coffee Break

Thanks to our host:





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10:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. **Session 2: The Age of LNG: Will Demand keep up or are we headed for a Supply Bubble?**

LNG is in its golden age. The International Gas Union (IGU) reports that LNG projects in development in mid-2025 would triple the world's export capacity and increase import capacity by two-thirds, and there are still many more export and import projects being proposed. In an industry familiar with boom-and-bust cycles, where is LNG headed. Join **Matthew Blomerth, Vera de Gyarfas, Monica Hwang,** and **Julie Mayo,** for an update on where LNG is now and where it is expected to go in the future.

1.5 CLE hours

12:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. Lunch (on your own)

1:45 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. **Session 3: Re-examining Preferential Purchase Rights and Its Relatives in JOAs**

Transfer restrictions are commonplace in the petroleum and energy industries. Preferential purchase rights, including rights of first refusal (ROFR), rights of first offer (ROFO) and change of control provisions (CoC) are optional provisions in the AIEN JOA. These provisions have sometimes become the subject of litigation or arbitration. Join **David Sweeney** and **Darren Murphy** for this discussion that will reexamine these provisions and the pros and cons of their use.

1.5 CLE hours

3:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Coffee Break

3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. **Session 4: Culture's Impact on International Negotiations**

When negotiators or lawyers in the energy industry from different cultures negotiate, they often feel uncertain about how to act and confused by one another's statements and behavior. Cultural differences are often a challenging issue in international negotiations and contract drafting. **Felipe Alice** and **Harry Sullivan** will discuss ways to succeed in cross-cultural negotiations.

1.5 CLE hours

Thanks to our host:

