



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF LAW

UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON

UH ENERGY

BLANKROME



4th Annual North American Environment, Energy, & Natural Resources Conference

Energy and Climate: Opportunities, Challenges, and Innovations

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

April 16, 2020, Greater Houston Partnership, Partnership Tower, 701 Avenida de las Americas, Suite 900 (Houston Light Rail Green Line, Purple Line, Convention Center Stop)

As the Climate Crisis continues to grow, North American companies and governments are making new policies, looking at their risks and exploring new opportunities and business models. The 4th North American Conference on Environment, Energy, and Natural Resources will examine the changing business and legal environment surrounding climate change mitigation and adaptation. The conference will feature presentations about the new United States Mexico and Canada trade agreement (USMCA), policies to protect energy infrastructure, as well as a first look at potential technological innovations and legal responses with negative emissions technology.

AGENDA

Thursday, April 16, 2020

8:30 A.M. Registration and light breakfast

- 9:00 A.M. Welcome – EENR and Blank Rome representatives
- 9:15 A.M. Climate Constraints and Technological Innovation
- Ramanan Krishnamoorti, moderator and speaker, UH Energy
- Energy Investment in Direct Air Capture and Other technologies
- Steve Oldham, CEO, Carbon Engineering
- Jeremy Friesen, Senior R&D Engineer, NET Power
- Innovations in low carbon emissions and IP innovation
- Joshua Sarnoff, DePaul University, IP issues and negative emissions technology
(by video link)
- Sean McDermott, Blank Rome
-
- 10:45 A.M. Break
- 10:55 A.M. Future US Climate Policy, Taxes and Carbon Management
- Victor Flatt, UHLC EENR Center (moderator and speaker)
- Mexico, Canada, US overview
- Bret Wells, UHLC EENR Center
- Q45, Tax policy and carbon management
- Fred Lowther, Blank Rome
- Tax policy and renewable energy
- Tracy Hester, UHLC EENR Center
- Federal policy on negative emissions technologies
-
- 11:50 A.M. What can we expect from the new USMCA
- Elizabeth Trujillo, UHLC
-
- 12:15 P.M. Lunch with Dean’s Panel for Corporate General Counsel
- Legal Issues and the Growth of Renewables
-
- 1:15 P.M. The Business Landscape for North American Energy in 2020
- Praveen Kumar, UH Bauer GEMI
- Luis Sera, Tec de Monterey
- Mexico’s energy forecast
- Julian Cardenas, UHLC EENR Center

- 2:10 P.M. The Political, Legal, and Policy Landscape for North American Energy in 2020
- Gina Warren, UHLC EENR Center (moderator)
- James Bradbury, Georgetown Climate Center (remotely)
- New state initiatives in climate; The Transportation and Climate Initiative
- Alfonso Lopez de la Osa Escribano, UHLC US-Mexican Law Center
- Mexico's current energy scenario under AMLO, now and in 5 years
- Chantal Carriere, White & Case
- The changing Canadian political and legal landscape for climate and energy
- Clayton Forswall, Trans West Pipelines
- Litigation over midstream pipelines and coal
-
- 3:10 P.M. Break
-
- 3:20 P.M. Energy Infrastructure and Climate Risk
- Margaret Hill, Blank Rome (moderator and speaker)
- Legal Responses to Physical Risk
- Kristin Van De Biezenbos, U. Calgary Faculty of Law
- Physical infrastructure risk Canada
- Maury Hudson, Vice President of Operations and Maintenance, Magnolia LNG
(a subsidiary of Liquefied Natural Gas Limited)
- Physical risk of Gulf Coast Energy infrastructure
- Michael Gerrard, Columbia Law School
- Addressing electricity grid climate vulnerability (by video link)
-
- 4:20 P.M. Emerging Risks from Climate Related Policy and Litigation for Energy Companies
- Tracy Hester (moderator and speaker), UHLC EENR Center
- Update on climate change cases
- Victor Flatt, UHLC EENR Center

ESG. CSR, Financial risk disclosure, investment and lending

Rafael Leal-Arcas, Queen Mary University London – commenter, the European View

James May, Delaware Law School

Attorneys ethical risks and GHG

Shalanda H. Baker, Northeastern Law School

Impacts on energy justice

5:30 P.M. Closing

5:45 P.M. Networking reception