Environmental Social Governance (ESG): Major Mover Towards Sustainable Energy Future

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5th Annual North American Environment, Energy, & Natural Resources Conference

Break

10:20 am

AGENDA

Welcome to the World of ESG 8:30 am Discussions with Dean Leonard Baynes: ESG and 10:30 am the Future of the Energy Business. Victor Flatt, UH EENR Center Faculty Co-Director Corporate General Counsel/ Senior Executive - ESG rises, current trends and practices Panel: Margaret Hill, Blank Rome - Current emerging ESG practice Kay McCall, Executive Director, Energy Renewable Alliance Niko Lorentzatos, EVP & General Counsel, Oasis Petroleum ESG Facts and Figures and the Renewable Bump 8:50 am William E. Turcotte, SVP, Gen. Counsel & Corp. Sec. Noble Ramanan Krishnamoorti, Director, UH Energy Holding Corporation plc - Accelerating ESG in business Kason Kerr, VP and General Counsel, Ultra Petroleum Stacy Louizos, ESG legal practice Keynote - Energy Justice in the Biden 11:30 am - ESG informing investors Administration Joan Bondareff, Blank Rome Shalanda Baker, Deputy Director of Energy Justice, - Impact of the Energy major pivot to offshore wind U.S. Department of Energy ESG, Financial Disclosure, and ESG Rating Agencies 9:25 am Connecting the Social to Environment and Climate 12:00 pm Yelena Barychev, Blank Rome Sophia Lee, Blank Rome Michael Vandenbergh, Vanderbilt University - DEI in Energy (a general discussion of the energy industry) - State of Environmental Risk Disclosure Susan Bickley, Blank Rome The status in Canada and Mexico 9:55 am - Law Firms accelerate diversity and inclusion policies (specific to Welcome from Dean Ian Holloway, Faculty of Law what law firms are doing) University of Calgary Gina Warren, UHLC EENR Center Co-Director, and Shreya Patel, Fenner Stewart, University of Calgary Faculty of Law UHLC JD Student '21 - ESG and the differing approaches in Canadian and US - City Climate Action Plans and Restorative Environmental Jus-Corporate Governance tice (specific to what cities/local governments are doing) Elizabeth Trujillo, Chair. UH Global Law and Policy for the Wrap up and END 12:40 pm Americas, and UH EENR affiliate - Mexico, ESG, and International Trade

5th Annual North American Environment, Energy, & Natural Resources Conference

SPEAKERS

Panel: Welcome to the World of ESG

Victor Flatt, Faculty Director of EENR UH Law



Professor Victor B. Flatt is the Dwight Olds Chair in Law and the Faculty Director of the Environment, Energy, and Natural Resources (EENR) Center. He also holds an appointment as a Distinguished Scholar of Carbon Markets at the University of Houston's Global Energy Management Institute. He was previously the inaugural Taft Distinguished Professor of Environmental Law at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill School of Law, and the first O'Quinn Chair in Environmental Law at UHLC from 2002-2009.



Margaret Anne Hill, Partner and Leader, Energy Industry Team, Blank

Margaret Hill has been practicing environmental law for more than 35 years and is a Partner in Blank Rome's Energy and Environmental Practice Group. In 2018, Peg was named to Law360's List of Influential Women in Energy Law, which profiled 10 women who have "made waves as energy regulators, litigators, and dealmakers", and in Legal Media Group's "Expert Guides 2020" in "Women in Business Law".



Panel: ESG Facts and Figures and the Renewable Bump

Ramanan Krishnamoorti, Chief Energy Officer, University of Houston

Dr. Ramanan Krishnamoorti is the chief energy officer at the University of Houston. Prior to his current position, Krishnamoorti served as interim vice president for research and technology transfer for UH and the UHSystem. During his tenure at the university, he has served as chair of the UH Cullen College of Engineering's chemical and biomolecular engineering department, associate dean of research for engineering, professor of chemical and biomolecular engineering with affiliated appointments as professor of petroleum engineering and professor of chemistry. Dr. Krishnamoorti obtained his bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology Madras and doctoral degree in chemical engineering from Princeton University in 1994.



Stacey Louizos, Co-Leader of Blank Rome ESG

Stacy serves as Co-Chair of Blank Rome's Investment Management group. She is also Co-Lead of the Firm's Environmental, Social and Governance ("ESG") team For more than 20 years, Stacy has represented registered investment companies and their independent directors and investment advisers-- counseling them on a broad range of matters relating to the operation of investment companies of all kinds, including the organization and offering of open-end and closed-end investment companies and ETFs; mergers of individual mutual funds and of fund complexes; and board governance, compliance, and other regulatory matters under the federal securities laws



Joan Bondareff, Counsel at Blank Home LLP

Joan M. Bondareff, Of Counsel at Blank Rome LLP, focuses her practice on marine transportation, environmental, and legislative issues. She currently serves as Chair of the Virginia Offshore Wind Development Authority (VOWDA), an appointment by Virginia Governors Terry McAuliffe and Ralph Northam, where she promotes offshore wind and renewable energy for the Commonwealth of Virginia. For VOWDA, Ms. Bondareff recently testified before the State Corporation Commission in support of Dominion Energy's CVOW



Panel: ESG, Financial Disclosure, and ESG Rating Agencies

Yelena Barychev, Co-Leader of Blank Rome ESG

Yelena Barychev is a Co-Lead of the Firm's Environmental, Social and Governance ("ESG") team. She works with directors and management to provide guidance on ESG strategies, reporting, and disclosure. Yelena represents clients in a broad range of industries, including life sciences, information technology, manufacturing, and financial services companies. She writes and speaks frequently on ESG matters, most recently: April 2021 Philadelphia Business Journal published article, Viewpoint: Why Corporate Boards Need to Embrace ESG Oversight



Michael Vandenbergh Distinguished Chair of Law Vanderbilt Law School

Professor Vandenbergh is the David Daniels Allen Distinguished Chair of Law at Vanderbilt University Law School, Director of the Climate Change Research Network, and Co-Director of the Energy, Environment and Land Use Program. An award-winning teacher, Professor Vandenbergh has published numerous articles and book chapters on private environmental governance and household energy use in peer-reviewed publications such as the Proceedings of the National Academies of Science, Nature Climate Change, and Energy Policy, and in legal publications such as the Columbia, NYU, and Cornell law reviews. He has been a visiting professor at Harvard, the University of Chicago, and the Wharton School. His research has been discussed in major media outlets such as National Public Radio's All Things Considered, National Geographic, USA Today, and the Washington Post.



Welcome

Ian Holloway, Dean of Law University of Calgary

The Hon Ian Holloway PC QC has been Dean of Law at the University of Calgary since 2011. Prior to this, he served as dean at another Canadian school and as associate dean at the Australian National University. Over the years, he has also held appointments at Cambridge and the National University of Singapore. He is a graduate of Dalhousie University, the University of California at Berkeley and the Australian National University. He is a member of the Bars of Alberta, Nova Scotia and Ontario. Uniquely in the Commonwealth today, he holds the rank of Queen's Counsel in two different jurisdictions. He is a member of the American Law Institute, and a Fellow of the College of Law Practice Management.



Panel: The Status in Canada and Mexico

Fenner Stewart, Associate Professor University of Calgary

Dr. Fenner Stewart is an associate professor at the University of Calgary. He is an awardwinning teacher and scholar. Dr. Stewart is a 2021 Research Fellow in Energy and Environment at the School of Public Policy. Dr. Stewart has a Ph.D. in law from Osgoode Hall Law School (Toronto), where he was an adjunct professor for four years. He was also a Visiting Fellow at Columbia Law School (New York City), studying law and governance. Dr. Stewart's research focus is on legal and political philosophy, the confluence of public and private law, and natural resource governance.



Elizabeth Trujillo, Professor of Law and Director of the IGLPA

Elizabeth Trujillo is the Mary Ann & Lawrence E. Faust Professor of Law and the Founding Director of the Initiative on Global Law and Policy for the Americas. She writes and teaches in international trade and investment law, USMCA, sustainable development and energy, contracts, and international law. Prior to joining UH Law Faculty, Professor Trujillo was Full Professor at Texas A&M University School of Law and Suffolk University Law School in Boston. Professor Trujillo is a member of the American Law Institute, has served on the Executive Council of the American Society of International Law, and has recently been elected to UH

5th Annual North American Environment, Energy, & Natural Resources Conference

SPEAKERS CONTINUED

Panel: ESG and the Future of the Energy Business



Leonard M. Baynes, Dean, University of Houston Law Center

Leonard M. Baynes, now in his seventh year as dean, is the ninth dean and the first Black dean of the University of Houston Law Center. Baynes is a communications, business, and diversity law scholar. He is the co-author of the recent casebook, published by Wolters Kluwer, titled Communications Law in the Public Interest and has authored more than 25 law review articles. Baynes received the Diversity Trailblazer Award from the New York State Bar Association in 2010, was named a Diversity Champion by the National Diversity Council in 2019, and was named to the Lawyers of Color Power List by the Lawyers of Color Foundation in 2020. Baynes received a B.S. from New York University and a J.D. and an M.B.A. from Columbia University.



Kay McCall, Executive Director, Renewable Energy Alliance – Houston, Former Executive Officer, President and General Counsel, Noble Environmental Power

Ms. McCall is the Executive Director of the Renewable Energy Alliance of Houston, a new organization connecting members of the renewable energy industry in Houston, Previously, Ms. McCall served as the President, CEO and board member of Noble Environmental Power. Ms. McCall obtained her Bachelor of Arts and Juris Doctorate degrees from the University of Houston. During law school, she was a recipient of the Judge Criss Cole Award.



Niko Lorentzatos, EVP, General Counsel, and Secretary Oasis Petroleum Inc.

Niko Lorentzatos is the Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of Oasis Petroleum Inc., a leading onshore oil and gas exploration and production company focused on the Williston and Delaware Basins. Mr. Lorentzatos holds the same role with Oasis Midstream Partners LP, one of the largest midstream providers in North Dakota, and serves on the Board of Directors of OMP's general partner. Mr. Lorentzatos' responsibilities also include oversight of human resources, IT, government affairs, and ESG functions.



William Turcotte, Senior VP, General Counsel, and Secretary of Noble Corp.

William E. Turcotte is Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of Noble Corporation, a leading offshore drilling contractor for the oil and gas industry. Since joining the company in 2009, Mr. Turcotte has had responsibility for advising the board of directors and executive and senior management on all legal matters, in addition to overseeing the organization's compliance, assurance, risk management and claims groups. Mr. Turcotte received a B.A. in Finance from Texas A&M University and his J.D. from the University of Houston School of Law



Kason Kerr, Senior VP, General Counsel, and Secretary of UP Energy

Kason D. Kerr joined UP Energy in 2019 and serves as Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary. Previously, Mr. Kerr served as Deputy General Counsel, Corporate of Halcón Resources Corporation, a publicly traded exploration and production company, working primarily on the company's capital markets transactions, acquisitions and divestitures and upstream and midstream activities. Prior to that, he was an associate attorney at Latham & Watkins LLP and Bracewell LLP in the capital markets and corporate practice groups. Mr. Kerr holds a B.B.A. degree in finance, with honors, from the University of Texas at Austin and a J.D. from the University of Houston Law Center where he graduated magna cum laude and served as the Executive Editor of the Houston Law Review.





Shalanda Baker

Deputy Director for Energy Justice at U.S. Dept of Energy

Shalanda H. Baker is the Deputy Director for Energy Justice in the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity at the U.S. Department of Energy. Prior to her appointment, she was a Professor of Law, Public Policy and Urban Affairs at Northeastern University. She has spent over a decade conducting research on the equity dimensions of the global transition away from fossil fuel energy to cleaner energy resources. In 2016, she received a Fulbright-Garcia-Robles research fellowship to study climate change, energy policy, and indigenous rights in Mexico. She is the Co-Founder and former Co-Director of the Initiative for Energy Justice (www.iejusa.org), an organization committed to providing technical law and policy support to communities on the frontlines of climate change.

5th Annual North American Environment, Energy, & Natural Resources Conference

SPEAKERS CONTINUED



Panel: Connecting the "Social" to Environment and Climate

Sophia Lee, Energy Partner and Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer Emeritus, Blank Rome ESG

Sophia Lee concentrates her litigation practice in the energy industry, handling complex commercial, environmental, products liability, and toxic tort matters. She also helps lead the firm's service offerings in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) and with Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) matters. Sophia is a frequent presenter on matters concerning DEI, professional responsibility and ethics, litigation management, and information management best practices. Sophia teaches a course on DEI in the Legal Profession as an Adjunct Professor of Law at Temple University Beasley School of Law



Susan L. Bickley, Partner and Chair Houston Office, Blank Rome ESG

Susan L. Bickley has over 35 years of civil trial and appellate experience in employment litigation and counseling for private and public employers and executives, litigation involving commercial and business disputes, trade secret litigation, and the defense of claims against professionals. She represents a diverse range of clients including publicly held corporations, smaller companies, and start-ups, sports figures, as well as public entities and their officials.



Gina Warren, George Butler Research Prof. of Law and Co-Director of EENRC

Gina S. Warren is the George Butler Research Professor of Law and co-director of the Environment, Energy & Natural Resources Center. She teaches classes in property law, energy law, renewable energy law oil & gas law, and international energy law. Her research expires the role of policy and regulation in the area of sustainable energy, with a focus on renewable energy, climate change, and distributed generation. Warren holds a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from the University of Arizona and a Juris Doctorate from Rutgers School of Law.



Shreya Patel, 2021 J.D. Candidate, University of Houston Law Center Shreya V. Patel is a 2021 J.D. Candidate at the University of Houston Law Center. After graduation, she plans to begin at Latham & Watkins later this year.

About Us

Even as the world shut down in 2020 from COVID-19, ESG (Environmental Social and Governance) investing and principles accelerated their domination of the operation of and investment in the private sector. These accelerating trends came despite initial fears that the COVID crisis would slow consideration of ESG. In fact, ESG investments outperformed the broader market, and ESG related projects can command a premium in investment and lender interest. Historic fossil fuel emitters are not exempt. In a two month span in early 2021, several large legacy oil companies indicated an intent to become carbon neutral and to accelerate diversification into renewable energies.

Join University of Houston energy, climate law, and ESG experts, energy general counsel, and Blank Rome attorneys as we examine the current state of the ESG movement broadly and within the energy section in North America, anticipate what can be expected going forward, and clarify and define the roles of attorneys in understanding and representing companies in their ESG activities.

- Latest public pledges for carbon neutrality and future implications
- Hear from the first Deputy Director for Energy Justice at DOE
- Environmental Risk in Financial Disclosure- Avoiding Liability in the ESG and Biden world
- Utilizing diversity and inclusion policies to connect the "social" to environment and climate

Sponsored by Blank Rome, LLP, the Environment, Energy, and Natural Resources (EENR) Center of the University of Houston Law Center, UH Energy, the Energy Transition Governance and Law Project (funded by the European Union and with the University of Lyon III), UHLC Global Law and Policy for the Americas, the University of Calgary Faculty of Law, the Universidad Nacional Autonoma De Mexico (UNAM), Universidad Tecnologica de Monterrey, and the Universidad Anuhuac.