SQUIRE PATTON BOGGS

Alvaro J. Mestre



Counsel

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Languages spoken
English | Spanish

About Alvaro

Alvaro Mestre is a US lead of our Energy & Natural Resources Group and counsel resident in the Washington DC office, as well as chair of the firm's Mexico Country Desk.

He specializes in cross-border transactions and projects, with expertise in the energy and transportation industries and a regional focus on Latin America.

Global Project Development

Alvaro represents a mix of investors, developers, owner/sponsors, equipment manufacturers, contractors, service providers and other interested parties in the corporate structuring and overall development, construction, management, ownership, operation and maintenance, as well as financing of global infrastructure projects.

In the energy and natural resources industries, he has led global transactions applying renewable power technologies (wind, solar and geothermal), as well as conventional fuel power plants, hydrogen fuel cell projects, lithium and other critical mineral extraction projects, battery energy storage systems and fuel transportation and storage projects.

In the transportation industry, Alvaro represents rolling stock and electrical vehicle manufacturers and has advised on Public-Private Partnership (P3) light-rail urban transportation projects and toll road projects.

Corporate and Mergers and Acquisitions

An integral part of Alvaro's practice involves the acquisition and divestiture of projects and assets in various industries and sectors. He also regularly provides his clients with comprehensive transaction advice, including in connection with the formation and structure of strategic partnerships and joint ventures.

Latin America

For more than three decades, Alvaro has represented public and private entities in developing some of the most noteworthy and largest infrastructure projects in Mexico and throughout Latin America. He began working in the growing Mexican energy sector during the mid-90s and has become one of the leading advisers in the field. As chair of the firm's Mexico Country Desk, Alvaro has advised on some of Mexico's most significant infrastructure projects. This project work has informed his broad understanding of how business is conducted in Mexico and has formed the basis of his long-standing relationships with top-level business, industry and legal professionals in the country.

Experience

- Advising a member of the shareholder group for the Manzanillo liquified natural gas (LNG)-to-power complex, which includes two combined-cycle power plants – each with a net installed capacity of approximately 420MW – and an LNG reception, storage and regasification facility capable of supplying gas-fired power plants with up to 800MW of capacity, located near the Port of Manzanillo in the Dominican Republic. Reflecting its impact and complexity, the transaction was recognized as Power Deal of the Year, Latin America at the IJGlobal Awards.
- Representing a leading Mexican energy infrastructure company in connection with the engineering, procurement, construction (EPC) and service and maintenance (SMA) of two adjacent wind power projects sited in Baja California, Mexico at the US-Mexico border, with an international electrical grid crossing for the export and sale of power into the state of California.

- Representing a US developer of a utility-scale geothermal power, critical minerals extraction and production project sited in the US, including with respect to all offtake arrangements for critical minerals.
- Representing a US energy storage company manufacturing a new class of multi-day energy storage systems, including drafting and negotiating a battery energy supply agreement (BESA), an engineering, procurement and construction agreement (EPC), as well as a long-term service agreement (LTSA) for a battery energy storage system, generation fiber optic line and substation to be developed in the US, and assisting with the client's response to a request for proposal by The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) for the generation of Index Storage Credits (ISCs).
- Representing a consortium of US companies collectively pursuing the development of various rail and logistics projects in Africa designed to build sustainable economic corridors that link various sub-Saharan African nations and provide safe and reliable supply chains to bring agricultural and mineral resources from interior sources to Atlantic ports.
- Representing a Spanish train manufacturer in competing for, negotiating and contracting for the supply, delivery and long-term operation and maintenance of light rail vehicles to several major US metropolitan transportation authorities, including in connection with the Maryland Purple Line Light Rail P3 Project.
- Representing a Polish-based manufacturer of city and intercity buses in Europe and North America focused on the development of low-emission and zero-emission vehicles, including electric and hydrogen buses as well as trolley buses.
- Representing the Mexican state-owned export credit agency in obtaining a US$600 million credit facility from a syndicate of international banks, which was guaranteed by the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) and destined for the support of an emergency liquidity program launched in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to provide working capital to companies across key exporting sectors of the Mexican economy.
- Representing a leading business group in the liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and liquefied natural gas (LNG) markets of the Dominican Republic in the negotiation and formation of a strategic alliance with a global energy company, resulting in a combined network of commonly branded service stations and the expansion of the respective businesses in various sectors, including natural gas, solar, and other renewable energies.
- Representing an international infrastructure group with the structuring, drafting and negotiation of energy services agreements (ESAs) in connection with the implementation, operation and maintenance of various energy conservation measures (ECMs) to be installed on residential housing projects sited on US military bases.
- Representing a leading Mexican private energy infrastructure company in the development of various solar power projects and liquid fuel storage terminal projects in Mexico.
- Representing various affiliates of Pemex in the corporate structure and management, development, construction, operation, ownership and financing of the Los Ramones Project, a natural gas transportation pipeline extending over 1,000 km from Texas to various delivery points in the central western region of Mexico.
- Representing various subsidiaries of a major Chinese construction company in connection with their participation in an Argentine 538 km toll road PPP project in Argentina.

Credentials

Education

- Georgetown University, J.D., 1995
- University of Florida, B.A., with honors, *Phi Beta Kappa*, 1992

Admissions

- District of Columbia, 1997
- Maryland

Recognitions

- Recognized on *Legal 500*'s US/Mexico Private Practice, a distinction that identifies key US individual practitioners "who have developed a strong reputation for their high profile work and engagement in the Mexican market"
- Recognized for Projects and Energy in *Legal 500's* Latin America guide for international firms in Latin America
- Recognized as a Highly Regarded Lawyer, *IFLR1000* (Energy and Infrastructure, Project Development and Project Finance in the US)
- Named a Top Latino Lawyer by *Latino Leaders* magazine
- Development counsel on the Los Ramones Sur Project – *Project Finance International's* 2015 Americas Oil & Gas Deal of the Year
- Development counsel on the Los Ramones Sur Project – *IJGlobal's* Latin America Midstream Oil and Gas Deal of the Year, 2014

Expertise

Services

- Corporate

Industries

- Automotive & Transportation
- Construction & Engineering
- Energy & Natural Resources
- Infrastructure

About our firm

One of the world's strongest integrated law firms, providing insight at the point where law, business and government meet. We deliver commercially focused business solutions by combining our legal, lobbying and political capabilities and invaluable connections on the ground to a diverse mix of clients, from long-established leading corporations to emerging businesses, startup visionaries and sovereign nations. More than 1,500 lawyers in over 40 offices across four continents provide unrivaled access to expertise.