London Energy Practice

The London office of Andrews Kurth offers a market-leading team of English law qualified transactional lawyers who work exclusively in the energy sector. Our transactional team’s experience has been gained both from private practice and in-house, with each member of the team having spent time in international oil and gas companies. We advise energy companies, governments, national oil companies, contractors and financial institutions on all aspects of international oil and gas and LNG transactions, including:

- Exploration and production concessions
- Joint ventures, joint operating and unitisation arrangements
- Project structuring and risk analysis
- Asset and interest sale, purchase and exchange arrangements
- Infrastructure procurement, construction, operation and maintenance arrangements
- Transportation, shipping, storage, capacity management, tolling, service provision and processing arrangements
- Sale and purchase arrangements for crude oil, natural gas, LNG and petroleum products
- Supply chain and service arrangements

The London transactional team is supplemented by a first rate team of international dispute resolution lawyers who have considerable experience of UK-based litigation, all major arbitral institutions and other forms of alternative dispute resolution.

Together, Andrews Kurth London forms a specialist energy team with all of the necessary skills to support you.

Andrews Kurth is a US law firm that has maintained a pre-eminent reputation in the global energy industry for more than a century. In addition to our energy capabilities, we manage complex legal matters, transactions and dispute resolution in other major industries including commercial and investment banking, technology, real estate, manufacturing, retail, healthcare and insurance.

We build the best team for each client by using a multidisciplinary approach that combines legal knowledge, industry experience, local know-how and individual strengths. The result—you get legal guidance that is consistently of high quality, commercially effective and efficient.

With over 400 lawyers based in the US, Dubai and Beijing we are also able to draw upon the firm’s full global resources, capabilities and strengths to serve the full spectrum of your needs.
London Team

**Peter Roberts**, Managing Partner, London
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Peter advises oil, gas and LNG companies worldwide on upstream and midstream transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, upstream developments, LNG projects and operational procurement and contracting. A former chairman of the IBA's oil and gas law committee, he was previously the General Counsel for Centrica Energy and has worked for other leading international law firms in London, Hong Kong and Singapore. He is the author of three leading energy sector textbooks and is the general editor of the AIPN's *Journal of World Energy Law and Business*.

**Melanie Willems**, Partner, Head of International Arbitration
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Melanie is a dispute resolution partner who focuses her practice on international arbitration and is experienced in all forms of alternative dispute resolution (including expert determination, mediation, and adjudication). She has extensive experience in ad hoc proceedings and the major international rules, such as ICC, LCIA, UNCITRAL, ICSID and standard form contract rules. She also represents clients in court in the UK and sits as an arbitrator. Melanie is a practicing Solicitor Advocate, Higher Rights Civil.

**John Conlin**, Partner
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John focuses on cross-border upstream oil and gas mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures and projects. He has a broad range of upstream experience advising international oil and gas companies and national oil companies on major energy transactions. John has recently advised on oil and gas matters in the UK, Iraqi Kurdistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Algeria, Egypt, Angola, Equatorial Guinea, Somalia and Gabon. He has qualifications in engineering (B.Sc. and M.Sc.) and law (LL.B.) and spent five years as Assistant General Counsel with the independent exploration and production company, Perenco. Prior to joining Andrews Kurth, John was a partner with another international law firm.

**Jubilee Easo**, Partner
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Jubilee is an international oil and gas lawyer, with experience both in-house and in private practice. She has advised state oil and gas entities, international oil and gas companies, contractors, project companies and financial institutions on a wide range of upstream and downstream acquisitions and developments, LNG development projects and LNG shipping projects. Prior to joining Andrews Kurth, Jubilee was a senior in-house counsel at a FTSE 250 exploration company based in the UK. She also spent six years as a senior associate at a leading international law firm in London.

**Markus Esly**, Partner
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Markus is a dispute resolution partner who focuses his practice on international arbitration. He has experience in arbitrating matters under the major international rules, including ICC and LCIA. Outside of arbitration proceedings, Markus represents clients in adjudications, mediations and proceedings before all levels of the English courts. He also advises clients in bilateral investment treaty disputes and ICSID arbitrations. Markus’ practice primarily focuses on energy, projects, construction and infrastructure disputes. Markus acts as advocate both in arbitration matters and before the English courts.

**Joanna Kay**, Senior Associate
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Joanna specialises in oil and gas and LNG transactional and advisory work, including mergers and acquisitions, upstream joint ventures, gas and LNG sales agreements, project development arrangements and other commercial transactions. Joanna worked for three years as in-house counsel at Tullow Oil plc in London advising on upstream asset matters and frontier exploration opportunities in a wide range of jurisdictions. Prior to that she was based at a leading international law firm.
Rod Chooramun, Senior Associate
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Rod has significant international and UK oil and gas experience acting on acquisitions and disposals, joint ventures, major projects and general project development transactions. Prior to joining Andrews Kurth, he was a senior associate at an international law firm, where he spent three years in its London office and three years in its Tokyo office (including 18 months on secondment at a Japanese trading house). Rod also worked at a FTSE 25 exploration and production company where he focused on upstream asset and corporate oil and gas matters. He also previously worked as an exploration geologist at an international mining company.

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Robert, a qualified barrister (called 2004), is a litigation associate who concentrates his practice on international arbitration, and acts as advocate in arbitrations and court proceedings. He primarily represents clients in the oil and gas, energy, engineering and construction industries, and has extensive experience with the major institutional rules and contract forms. Robert completed his pupillage at a leading London set and was formerly Judicial Assistant to Lord Clarke and a lecturer on the University of London's external programme. He received his first class honours degree in law from University College, London in 2002.

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Ryan, a qualified barrister (called 2011), is a litigation associate who concentrates his practice on international arbitration in the engineering, energy and construction sectors.

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Rebecca joined Andrews Kurth from a leading international law firm in London, where she worked in its energy team for three years. She has represented a broad range of clients, including international oil and gas companies, financial institutions and project companies, on a variety of domestic and international upstream oil and gas transactions. Her practice focuses on mergers and acquisitions, project development arrangements, LNG and gas sales agreements and other related commercial contracts.

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David has worked on a wide range of upstream and E&P acquisitions and divestments in a variety of jurisdictions including the UK (both onshore and offshore), Norwegian Continental Shelf, Faroe Islands, Kurdistan, Azerbaijan, Tanzania, Pakistan and Equatorial Guinea. He has experience in negotiating and drafting corporate sale and purchase agreements, farm-out agreements and a product sharing contract.