



Hilary Soileau

Associate

Houston
+1.713.815.7362

hilary.soileau@klgates.com

OVERVIEW

Hilary Soileau is an associate and a member of the Maritime and Offshore Energy practice group. Hilary's practice focuses on the development of energy projects globally, guiding clients through the legal, operational, and commercial issues that arise from origination through operation. She has represented clients in energy services, logistics, and project development contract negotiations across the United States, Australia, Asia, and Africa.

Hilary came to the transactional practice with a breadth of litigation and dispute resolution experience, which provides her a distinct perspective in drafting contracts and advising on contract execution and implementation.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Hilary came to the firm from a project management and engineering company in Perth, Western Australia, where she managed and negotiated contracts from tender through execution for energy development across Australia and Africa. Prior to that, Hilary worked as a client contracts analyst for a global energy technology company, drafting and negotiating contracts for services to oil and gas, mining, hydrogen, ammonia, geothermal, and carbon capture and sequestration projects across Australasia.

Before transitioning to the commercial side of the energy industry, Hilary spent three years at a full-service oil and gas law firm in Houston, Texas, where she handled matters related to domestic onshore and offshore upstream, midstream, and downstream operations.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recognized by *The Legal 500 United States* as a Recommended Lawyer for Energy regulation: oil and gas, 2024

EDUCATION

- J.D., University of Oklahoma College of Law, 2017
- B.A., Louisiana State University, 2014

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of New York
- Bar of Texas

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP POWERED BY HUB

- 11 March 2026, EU Industrial Maritime Strategy and EU Ports Strategy: Opportunities and Regulatory Exposure for Maritime and Infrastructure Investors

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Co-Author, “LNG Project Challenges: Construction and Operational Disputes,” *Institute for Energy Law 76th Annual Energy Law Conference*, February 2025
- Co-Author, “[Sustainable Aviation Fuel Needs a Moment, Even As It Is Having a Moment](#),” *Institute for Energy Law – The Energy Dispatch*, July 2024

NEWS & EVENTS

- 5 March 2026, K&L Gates Advises Peoria Resources in Acquisition of Oil and Gas Hedge Portfolio
- 4 November 2025, Houston International Maritime Conference 2025-LNG Bunkering Panel, Hosted by Port Houston
- 1 April 2025, K&L Gates Represents JAPEX in Equity Investment in E&P Peoria
- 8 October 2024, IADC Contracts and Risk Management, Hosted by International Association of Drilling Contractors

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Maritime
- Construction and Infrastructure Project Funding
- Energy Finance
- Liquefied Natural Gas
- Maritime Transactions and Finance
- Offshore Construction
- Offshore Wind Energy
- Oil and Gas

- Renewables

INDUSTRIES

- Energy
- Transportation and Logistics

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

Alternative Fuels

- Represented a global shipping company in drafting and development of form green methanol purchase agreements and negotiation of green methanol purchase agreements with producers across Asia and Europe, including logistics arrangements for bunkering
- Drafted document suite of forms for spot purchases and sales of marine fuels, including green methanol and biofuels
- Advised a shipping company on long-term heavy waste tire pyrolysis oil SPA with deliveries in Europe and Asia
- Advised on legal liability, customs, taxes, corporate structuring, and maritime regulation related to establishing an LNG bunkering business off the coast of the United States
- Advising a project developer on the project development and offtake related to a liquid hydrogen project in Arizona

Marine Operations and Transactions

- Managed drafting, negotiation, and execution of charterparty and affreightment contracts on behalf of an independent upstream oil and gas company in exploration of an untested sub-Saharan Africa conventional gas-condensate prospect and advised on the impact of COVID-era logistics issues, including all related port fees and customs issues
- Reviewed and revised marine cargo forms for LNG export facility, including the operations logbook, bill of lading, certificates of quantity and origin, and cargo manifest
- Represented a purchaser of fleets of tugs and barge in the purchase and transfer of registration with the US Coast Guard National Vessel Documentation Center and the Surface Transportation Board
- Drafted and supported negotiation of tug services agreement and associated documents on behalf of LNG producer and terminal operator in support of a request for proposal of tug services at LNG facility in Mexico
- Drafted and supported negotiation of tug services agreement and associated documents, including project coordination agreement for tug financing, on behalf of LNG producer and terminal operator in support of a request for proposal of tug services at LNG facility in the Gulf of Mexico

- Represented a biotech company in developing form charter party agreement
- Reviewed and revised consents to assign bunkering services agreements and related guarantees
- Drafted and negotiated a charter party and contract of affreightment on behalf of an aluminum company as part of development of recycling and rolling facility
- Drafted and negotiated charter party and contract of affreightment for transportation of heavy freight on behalf of wind energy developer
- Represented a seller of mega yacht in the sale and transfer of registration with the Cayman Islands
- Represented salt producer in negotiation of inland barging charter agreement
- Advised a US shipping and navigation company on regulatory, commercial, and operational considerations of converting vessels to LNG bunkering from the construction through operational stages and including tariffs and customs issues
- Advise related to applicable legal regime for foreign-flagged mobile offshore drilling unit in the Gulf of Mexico
- Represented a bank in financing LNG tug construction
- Drafted legal opinion on enforceability of contractual obligations of marine terminal operator in tug services agreement pursuant to federal maritime law on behalf of LNG producer and terminal operator in support of financing
- Represented US-flag shipping, fleet management, and marine personnel company in refinancing, including financing of new vessels, and drafted legal opinion related to interpretation of federal maritime law

Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)

- Advised FSRU owner in the drafting and negotiation of the terminal rules, terminal use agreements, and gas supply agreements for a liquefied natural gas terminal in Dominican Republic
- Negotiated terms of mid-term LNG offtake agreement on behalf of a Baltic energy portfolio
- Represented buyer in review and negotiation of a master LNG sale and purchase agreement with a state-owned entity
- Supported an infrastructure finance company in due diligence review of LNG pipeline access, tariffs, and connectivity
- Part of due diligence team for asset purchase agreement for investment in LNG facility in the Gulf of Mexico and related offtake allocation assessing operational agreements for offtake, terminal use, and gas supply
- Consulted on contractual and regulatory issues related to extended force majeure at LNG terminal on the Gulf of Mexico
- Represented a purchaser of LNG in amending long-term sale and purchase agreement

- Represented offtaker in drafting and advising on long-term LNG sale and purchase agreement with an affiliate in Canada

Other Energy Project Development

- Drafted natural gas transportation agreement, NAESB for gas purchase, and water services agreement on behalf of aluminum manufacturing plant seeking to have interconnection built for its facility
- Represented pipeline operator in drafting pipeline operation and maintenance contract for the conversion of a crude oil pipeline to a CO2 pipeline and subsequent operation and maintenance
- Advised on incorporation of offshore drilling company and organization of commercial relationships and contracts with operators and charter vessels
- Updated an exploration and production company's templates for goods and services agreements
- Managed tender, drafting, negotiation, and execution of air transportation and services contracts on behalf of an independent oil and gas company in exploration in Australia's Northern Territory, including drafting requests for proposal
- Managed drafting, negotiation, and execution of air and land transportation, engineering, and services contracts on behalf of an independent oil and gas company in exploration of an untested sub-Saharan Africa conventional gas-condensate prospect and advised on the impact of COVID-era logistics issues, including advising on contract strategy to account for various stages of financing
- Drafted and negotiated purchase and sale agreement for oil and gas assets across the United States and advise on impact of previous owner's bankruptcy filings
- Performed a risk-analysis of contract obligations to advise on insurance procurement on behalf of an independent oil and gas company in exploration of an untested sub-Saharan Africa conventional gas-condensate prospect
- Advised on multijurisdictional issues, including customs, visas, and taxes, on behalf of an independent oil and gas company in exploration of an untested sub-Saharan Africa conventional gas-condensate prospect
- Represented a global energy technology company in drafting of procurement contracts to pass through risk and obligation to subcontractors in back-to-back agreements across oil and gas, mining, and new energy industries
- Counseled technical teams on contract performance during handover from technical sales
- Advised senior stakeholders at energy technology company on legal and business development strategies surrounding price increases and client mergers and acquisitions
- Represented a global energy technology company in negotiation and drafting of more than 100 master services agreements, integrated services and consulting agreements, rig contracts, contract assignments and novations, and confidentiality agreements with clients from oil and gas, mining, and new energy industries, including drafting and submission of proposals in response to RFPs and collaborating with technical sales and health, safety, and environment teams to customize corporate standards for particular scopes

- Drafted joint operating agreements for oil and gas operators in the United States and advised key stakeholders on operational compliance and application of course of performance doctrine to impact contract interpretation with regard to joint operating agreements
- Drafted gas transportation and processing agreements
- Drafted lessons-learned reports on contract performance that resulted in dispute resolution proceedings regarding accounting issues in operating agreement and transition services agreements
- Represented a seller of compressed natural gas in drafting and negotiating a fuel supply agreement with a foundational customer pre-financing
- Consulted on federal regulatory matters, including decommissioning, surface use, abandonment, and significant sediment areas
- Advised on transfer ownership of federal offshore oil and gas leases and related operator transition and approval
- Advised on reporting and responses investigations to BSEE, US Coast Guard, and OSHA regarding incidents at various offshore oil and gas operations
- Negotiated and drafted development agreement and related shoreside lease with government entity on behalf of offshore wind company
- Supported a renewable energy company in its response to a request for proposal from an electric company, including consulting on deal structure and drafting and negotiating letters of intent and term sheets for renewable natural gas supply agreements, non-disclosure agreements, exclusivity agreements, joint development agreements
- Reviewed commercial contracts impacted by loan winddown for offshore wind project and advised lender on avenues to exit agreements and potential liabilities related to same
- Negotiated and documented energy commodity purchase agreements, including power, oil and gas, and renewable energy certificates, contracted under customized agreements and/or using industry forms such as ISDA and NAESB for multiple energy marketing entities
- Negotiated trade financing of crude oil on behalf of broker and petroleum management company
- Developed and drafted suite of form energy commodity purchase agreements, including power, oil and gas, and renewable energy certificates, contracted under customized industry forms such as ISDA and NAESB
- Prepared solar energy project's response to OGE request for proposal for ISDA form for power capacity trading in the Southwest Power Pool
- Negotiated ISDA for power capacity sell
- Draft NAESB form for interruptible power purchase
- Part of due diligence team for acquisition of oil and gas exploration and production operator and management company assessing transfer of oil and gas property interests