

Overview

Unconventional oil and gas exploration and production brings with it a range of unconventional challenges. Successful businesses in the field combine the latest in hydrocarbon extraction technology with the highest standards of environmental protection and health and safety. Insight into the local regulatory environment is a must.

To succeed you need a partner who understands the specifics of unconventional oil and gas exploration and production and can use this knowledge to assess the legal risks and opportunities. You need a partner who confidently leads you through the maze of local laws and works with you to find practical solutions to complex problems. You need a partner who understands that compliance is crucial for the expansion of your business.

At Dentons, you get comprehensive expertise from lawyers who have dealt with unconventional oil and gas, including shale gas, in leading jurisdictions across the globe. We assist you with local startup and the establishment of business relations with other players in the market. Our lawyers will help you localize contractual structures used in other jurisdictions. We will guide you through highly specialized areas, such as: environmental law, regulatory requirements, construction law, mining equipment regulations and employment law.

Our world-leading team of lawyers is ready to provide you with multijurisdictional support across all sectors relating to unconventional oil and gas, including: shale oil and gas, oil sands and gas-to-liquids. Look to Dentons to help position you for success.

Representative Experience

- **Operator of a major offshore oil and gas project:** Advising on one of the largest production sharing agreements in Azerbaijan during the years following independence, advising on amendments thereto, as well as drafting the text of a law giving legal force to the amendments.
- **Sasol Petroleum International:** Advising on the CA\$1.05 billion acquisition of a 50 percent working interest in Talisman Energy Inc.'s (Talisman) Farrell Creek shale gas assets in the Montney Basin area of northeastern British Columbia, a subsequent transaction with Talisman for similar consideration of CA\$1.05 billion, which expanded Sasol's gas reserves in the area, with a view to the further development of a gas-to-liquids plant to be located in Canada and to serve the North American liquid fuels markets.