

Paul M. Doris

Partner



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London

D +44 20 7246 7561

M +44 77 1870 0019

paul.doris@dentons.com

Overview

Paul M. Doris is a partner in Dentons' Corporate practice. He represents financial sponsors, multinational corporations and financial institutions on domestic and cross-border mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures and private equity transactions, with particular focus on energy, infrastructure, TMT, chemicals, healthcare and natural resources. He is honoured to serve as global relationship partner for several clients.

He has practised English corporate law in London, Madrid, Frankfurt and Paris and advised on transactions throughout Western, Central and Eastern Europe as well as in Latin and Central America, Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, the MENA region, and Australasia. Fluent in Spanish and with strong transactional experience in Spain, he plays a significant role in developing our Spanish and Latin American practices.

He is Co-Head of our Energy Transition Group and our Smart Cities and Connected Communities Group and the lead partner on our Global Corporate Task Force for the UK, Ireland and the Middle East.

Experience

Paul's transactional experience includes:

- **An international renewable energy group:** Advising on the development and/or disposal of several large-scale solar PV and wind projects in certain key emerging markets.
- **An international renewable energy group:** Advising on several large-scale, centralised anaerobic digestion (biogas) projects.
- **An international speciality chemicals group:** Advising on the multi-jurisdictional review and implementation of its Non-qualified Employee Stock Purchase and Matching Share Sub-plan and related documents and its Long Term Incentive Plan.
- **A telecom infrastructure group:** Advising on certain aspects of its disposal of a majority interest to a European infrastructure fund.
- **An international oil major:** Advising on its acquisition of the majority of Ørsted's business-to-business gas

and electricity customer portfolio in the UK. The portfolio includes approximately 3,800 natural gas customers and 2,200 power customers with a contracted volume of 28 TWh.

- **An international private equity fund:** Advising on its proposed investment in a European telecom infrastructure group and its proposed acquisition of a European telecommunications group.
- **An international royalty company:** Advising on a proposed cross-border acquisition in Latin America and Sub-Saharan Africa.
- **A development finance institution:** Advising on a cross-border acquisition involving Europe and Sub-Saharan Africa.
- **An international developer, owner and operator of power infrastructure assets:** Advising on the proposed acquisition of a large-scale solar PV project in Latin America.
- **An international energy and infrastructure group:** Advising on the proposed acquisition of a portfolio of large-scale, greenfield solar PV projects in Latin America.
- **An international airport authority:** Advising on a proposed public private partnership with the national airline carrier for the operation, management, development and extension of certain international and domestic airports.
- **An international investment management firm:** Advising in relation to the US\$12 billion merger between Enscopl and Rowan Companies plc to create Enscopl Rowan plc, the world's largest offshore drilling company by fleet size.
- **The Spanish concessionaire company for the AP-46 Autopista de las Pedrizas, Spain:** Advising this company on all English law aspects of the €229 million bond refinancing of its existing debt.
- **An international smart city development group:** Advising on 'smart city' infrastructure projects in London and Barcelona.
- **An international renewable energy group:** Advising on its investment in, and development of: (i) a 23 MW waste wood biomass power plant; (ii) a 25 MW energy-from-waste facility; and (iii) a 3 MW anaerobic digestion power plant, each located in Northern England.
- **A developer, operator and owner of cold chain logistics operator:** Advising on its joint venture arrangements and the acquisition of a cold storage facility in New Zealand.
- **A European renewable energy group:** Advising on an energy-from-waste project in Kenya and a solar and biomass hybrid project in Zambia.
- **A European private equity group:** Advising on its acquisition of Commercial Catering Spares Limited, a leading supplier of commercial catering equipment parts in the UK.
- **An international offshore energy developer:** Advising on its joint venture to develop and finance the US\$2.86 billion 700 MW Hai Long offshore wind project in the Taiwan Strait, 50 km from the Changhua coast in Taiwan.
- **A private-equity sponsored European renewable energy platform:** Advising on its acquisition of a 365 MWp UK solar PV portfolio with an enterprise value of £470 million from TerraForm Power.
- **An international developer of large-scale infrastructure projects:** Advising on the acquisition, development and disposal of a solar PV project in the UK and the proposed acquisition of multiple solar PV projects in the UK.
- **A European infrastructure fund:** Advising on its acquisition of French district heating business, Coriance, from KKR and a co-investor. Coriance operates a portfolio of 29 regulated district heating concessions in France, under which it supplies heat to residential, social and commercial buildings and sells cogenerated electricity to state-owned utility, EDF Group.
- **An international renewable energy group:** Advising on its sale of a 50% stake in the 258 MW Burbo Bank

Extension UK offshore wind farm project to Danish pension provider PKA and KIRKBI A/S, the parent company of the LEGO Group.

- **A syndicate of 10 lenders led by a leading Spanish bank:** Advising on the €528 million financial restructuring of Olivento, Spain's largest onshore wind portfolio with a total capacity of 422 MW.
- **A leading pension fund manager:** Advising on its acquisition of a significant interest in the 288 MW offshore wind farm, Baltic 2, located in the German Baltic Sea.
- **An international renewable energy group:** Advising on its disposal of a 49% stake in the 150 MW Ormonde offshore wind farm in England to Swedish pension group, AMF, for £237 million
- **The world's largest independent energy trader :** Advising on the establishment of Varo Energy, a 50:50 joint venture with global alternative asset manager, The Carlyle Group, to create a midstream energy group across northwest Europe, and the sale of Vitol's German tank storage and wholesale distribution businesses to Varo Energy.
- **A leading South American financial institution:** Advising on its:
 - CHF 1.5 billion acquisition of the entire share capital of BSI, the Swiss-based private banking unit owned by Assicurazioni Generali S.p.A;
 - acquisition of Ariel Reinsurance, the Bermuda-based property and casualty reinsurance company, from Global Atlantic;
 - successful €1 billion bid, as part of an international consortium, for the 50-year concession to manage, operate and maintain Aigües Ter Llobregat, the Catalanian water utility (the largest privatization effected in the region of Catalonia to date); and
 - successful €430 million bid, together with Abertis Infraestructuras, to acquire the concessionaire company, Túnel de Barcelona I Cadi Concessionària de la Generalitat de Catalunya
- **An international private equity group:** Advising on its investment in Ceuta Healthcare, a leading global outsourced marketing group; and
- **An international consortium:** Advising on its investment in an onshore wind development project in South Africa.

Recognition

- Recommended individual: Power, *Legal 500 UK 2019*
- Recommended individual: M&A Lower Mid-Market, *Legal 500 UK 2019*

Honors and Awards

- M&A Adviser 40 under 40 Awards (Legal) – shortlisted, June 2014
- Harvard Leadership Programme, Orlando, USA, June 2014

In the Media

- "Japan's influence in European offshore wind starts to bear fruit back home," S&P Global Market Intelligence, July 24, 2020
- "Co-operation a big focus for privacy enforcement," Law Times, November 24, 2014

Insights

- Co-author, "International airlines should act now to mitigate the double blow of COVID-19-induced losses and anticipated challenging emissions reductions," Lexology, April 2020
- Co-author, "Parental Liability in the E.U.: “Undertakings” and Potential Scope of Risk for PE Sponsors (Parts I – III)," June 2019
- Co-author, "Parental Liability for GDPR Infringements – Lessons from EU Competition Law," July 2018
- Co-author, "Investing in UK Critical Energy Infrastructure – A Compliance Pathway"
- "China Daily – Infrastructure investors may seek more control"
- Co-author, "Investing in Airports: The Three Stages of Success"
- Co-author, "Private Equity and Venture Capital Report 2014 – International Financial Law Review"

Activities and Affiliations

- Visiting professor at IE Business School and IE Law School, Madrid (International M&A and Private Equity)
- Club Financiero Español
- Spanish Irish Business Network (co-founder and former president)

Community Involvement and Pro Bono

- Corporate/M&A adviser to Standard Microgrid
- World Council of Optometry
- Cheshire Autism Group
- Migrant Resource Centre
- Participant in Spear/Resurgo initiative

Presentations

- Co-presenter, “UK onshore wind briefing” co-hosted by JLL Energy & Infrastructure and Baringa Partners, London 2016

Memberships

- Law Society of England and Wales

Prior and Present Employment

- Partner, Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe (UK) (2018 – 2019)
- Partner, Watson Farley & Williams (2014 – 2018)
- Counsel, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom (UK) (2011 – 2014)
- Senior Associate, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer (1999 – 2011)

Areas of focus

Practices

- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Venture Capital
- Venture Technology and Emerging Growth Companies

Industry sectors

- Private Equity
- Energy
- Renewable Energy
- Waste to Energy
- Cleantech
- Oil and Gas
- Mining
- Infrastructure and PPP
- Transport Infrastructure: Airports, Bridges, Ports, Rail, Roads
- Aviation and Aerospace
- Wastewater Treatment, Water Management, Desalination

Issues and opportunities

- Global Smart Cities & Connected Communities Initiative and Think Tank

Education

- The College of Law, 1998, Legal Practice Course
- Queen University, 1997, BA, Common and Civil Law and Hispanic Studies
- Universidad de Salamanca, 1996, Erasmus Programme, Civil Law, Constitutional Law and European Law

Admissions and qualifications

- Solicitor, Senior Courts of England and Wales

Languages

- French
- Spanish