

**Benjamin (Ben) W. Sebree, Esq., Attorney & Counselor at Law, The Sebree Law Firm PLLC**

Ben Sebree is an attorney and well-known governmental relations practitioner (translated, that means lobbyist). Among other clients, Ben currently serves as General Counsel for the Texas Geothermal Energy Alliance, the trade association representing the geothermal energy industry in Texas. Additionally, having served as Vice-President and General Counsel for the Texas Oil and Gas Association, having been appointed by Governor Perry to the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission, having been elected to the Governing Council of the Oil, Gas and Energy Law Section of the State Bar of Texas, and possessing a long and effective career in Austin, Sebree's governmental and legal expertise are well recognized.

Ben occupies a highly respected tenure in the Austin legal and lobby communities with a reputation for integrity, intelligence, tenacity, and fairness which have accorded him with an unusual longevity of positive relationships with elected officials.

Ben possesses an institutional knowledge of Texas legislative, regulatory, and public policy matters, especially regarding energy, oil & gas, water, tax, and environmental matters. Finally, Ben is a well-published legal author on the subjects of natural resources, geothermal energy, water, oil and gas, and Texas Legislation.

Ben manages a legal and governmental relations practice before the Texas Legislature and several state agencies in Austin. He and his firm are active in legislative and regulatory matters concerning energy, geothermal, oil and gas, the energy-water nexus, competing landowner rights, eminent domain, the environment, local government, taxes, and economic development. Among Mr. Sebree's clients are several Fortune 100 companies, including clients in the upstream, mid-stream, and downstream sectors of the oil and gas industry, geothermal energy clients, produced water recycling clients, several leading trade associations, large land and mineral owners, various elected officials, and other clients including his service as General Counsel for The Texas Geothermal Energy Alliance.

**Robert W. Gee, *President*, Gee Strategies Group LLP**

Robert W. Gee is President of Gee Strategies Group, LLC, a Washington, D.C. consulting firm providing policy analysis, advocacy, and litigation support for investors, trade associations, utilities, renewable energy companies, independent power companies, and public institutions. A 40-year veteran of the energy industry, he has served as an attorney, senior state and federal public official, and technology executive, combining the fields of law, public affairs, technology, and finance required to address the challenges of global

and US domestic energy markets. A recipient of various honors and awards, he has testified before the United States Congress, and provided commentary for *Reuters*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *the Los Angeles Times*, *National Journal*, BBC television, and CNBC television. His editorials have appeared in the *Los Angeles Times*, *the Dallas Morning News*, and *the Houston Chronicle*.

He served as Vice President for Development and Partner Relations for the Electricity Innovation Institute (E2I), an affiliate of the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), where he advocated development of the smart grid to digitize the electric utility power delivery system.

From 1997 to 2000 he served as Assistant Secretary for Policy and International Affairs and as Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy of the U.S. Department of Energy in Washington, D.C. He chaired the Energy Department's Central Asia/Caspian energy strategy, and was responsible for the timely completion of the Department's 1998 Comprehensive National Energy Strategy. He also oversaw the operation of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, and the national research program to develop and demonstrate advanced clean coal, natural gas, and petroleum technologies.

From 1991 until 1997 he served on the Public Utility Commission of Texas and as its Chairman from 1991 through 1995. During his service, he chaired the Committee on Electricity for the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners.

He has served as an Attorney Advisor at the Interstate Commerce Commission and as a Supervisory Trial Attorney at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. He was also Of Counsel to the law firm of Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld.

Mr. Gee currently serves on the boards of various institutions, including the United States Energy Association (Treasurer), North American Energy Standards Board Advisory Council, and Asian Americans in Energy, the Environment, and Commerce (AE2C)(President).

His past affiliations included serving as a Trustee for St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas, and as a member of the Dallas Regional Panel of the President's Commission on White House Fellowships.

He is a recipient of various honors and awards, including the distinction of having a hearing room named for him by his colleagues at the Public Utility Commission of Texas.

He holds a Bachelor's Degree with Honors and a Law Degree from the University of Texas at Austin.

**Keith Wall, *Director of Rates & Regulatory*, CenterPoint Energy**

With over three decades of experience in energy regulation and policy, Keith Wall serves as Director of Regulatory Policy & External Relations for Gas Operations at CenterPoint Energy, one of the nation's largest combined electricity and natural gas delivery companies. Since joining CenterPoint in 1989, Keith has held a series of leadership roles across both electric and gas divisions, shaping regulatory strategy and legislative engagement in Texas and beyond.

Keith has led noteworthy initiatives that strengthened regulatory frameworks, enhanced revenue stability, and advanced public energy policy. Notably, he has been involved in industry efforts to pass landmark Texas legislation preserving consumer access to natural gas and enabling utilities to securitize costs from Winter Storm Uri—efforts that required building consensus across companies and engaging directly with lawmakers.

Throughout his career, Keith has developed innovative rate mechanisms, led successful rate cases, and integrated regulatory strategy with enterprise risk and strategic planning. He is known for fostering collaborative relationships with regulators, policymakers, and industry peers, and for advocating CenterPoint's positions with clarity and credibility.

A graduate of Texas A&M University's Mays Business School with a BBA in Finance, Keith has recently been appointed to the One Call Board of Texas. He is also an active member of the Texas Energy Reliability Council and the Texas Hydrogen Council. He has also served as past chairman of several key industry committees, including the American Gas Association's FERC Committee and the Southern Gas Association's Rates and Regulatory Committee.

**Bob Broxson, *Managing Director*, Secretariat Advisors, LLC**

Bob Broxson has more than 40 years of industry and consulting experience and focuses on the energy industry, primarily on natural gas procurement, sales, transportation, and trading. He provides expert testimony and other dispute advisory services to law firms and their clients. Mr. Broxson has advised clients in energy and non-energy related commodities, trading and risk management practices and assisted companies and lenders in bankruptcy, restructuring, and turnaround matters.

Mr. Broxson has testified in commercial disputes in U.S. State and Federal courts and Provincial Courts in Canada. In addition, he has prepared testimony for and testified in domestic and international arbitration matters. His testimony primarily deals with contractual disputes and industry customs and practices, including Force Majeure, early

termination, joint venture dissolution, price re-openers, appropriate documentation of agreements, infrastructure and rate disputes, trade secrets, and other commercial issues. Mr. Broxson has been retained as an expert or a privileged consultant in disputes concerning business valuation, fraudulent brokerage practices, mismarking of trading books, and market price manipulation.

Earlier in his career, he held senior executive positions with several prominent energy companies, including Koch Industries, Engage Energy, Natural Gas Clearinghouse, and PSI, Inc.

Mr. Broxson also serves as an adjunct professor in the Global Energy Management Master of Business Administration program at the University of Houston, C.T. Bauer College of Business, where he teaches Midstream Energy Finance to MBA students. He received the 2022 Finance Distinguished Teaching Award for his work at the University of Houston, Bauer College of Business.

He is a frequent guest speaker and panelist at conferences on issues facing the energy industry.

#### **Rick Smead, *Managing Directory, Advisory Services, RBN Energy***

Rick Smead is Managing Director, Advisory Services, for RBN Energy LLC. He specializes primarily in the natural gas sector, offering expert policy analysis and advice, litigation support, and strategic advice with respect to gas pipelines, potential supplies, and market initiatives. His background includes over nine years as a Director with Navigant Consulting, Inc., and over three decades in the natural gas industry. That experience included over 20 years as the chief regulatory officer for major interstate pipeline systems, with multiple experiences advising non-U.S. governments in the creation of a regulatory structure. His consulting practice has spanned the LNG industry, both for project developers and for a large national oil company, and the U.S. shale gas boom and its interaction with LNG, the pipeline industry, power generation, and other gas markets. At Navigant, he managed and co-authored the first major quantification of the U.S. shale potential in 2008, the pivotal North American Natural Gas Supply Assessment. Most recently, he has been deeply involved in the opportunities for the use of the nation's natural gas abundance, including power generation, LNG exports, and gas-to-liquids technology. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Maryland and a law degree from George Washington University.

Outside of the office, Rick is an avid sports enthusiast, particularly enjoying skiing and

biking. He also finds relaxation in historic reading and political analysis, diving deep into the intricacies of the past and present. A true music lover, Rick's favorite band is The Rolling Stones, whose timeless music resonates with his eclectic taste.

**David Applebaum, *Partner*, Baker Botts LLP**

David Applebaum's practice focuses on energy industry enforcement, compliance, internal investigations, audits, litigation, regulatory, and policy matters. He regularly advises on proposed energy market transactions to mitigate enforcement risk from FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission), CFTC (Commodity Futures Trading Commission), NERC (North American Electric Reliability Corporation), state public utility commissions (PUCs), antitrust enforcers, and RTO (Regional Transmission Organization) market monitors. David has successfully represented clients on a broad range of enforcement investigations and surveillance inquiries alleging market manipulation.

David is the former head of FERC's Division of Investigations, where he managed all aspects of the Division, including decisions on opening, conducting, and resolving investigations, settlements, enforcement actions, trials, and electric reliability inquiries. He also led the Division in coordination efforts with the CFTC on market manipulation investigations. During his government service, David was a member of the Office of Enforcement senior management team and was a key advisor to Commissioners' Offices and senior staff on enforcement matters.

Before joining FERC, David was in private practice, focusing on antitrust, class action, and financial services litigation for corporate clients.

**James Olson, *Partner*, Jones Day**

Recognized by Chambers USA and The Legal 500 US for his outstanding experience in the energy regulatory sector, James Olson represents clients before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in administrative litigation involving interstate oil and gas pipeline rates and tariffs. He counsels clients regarding regulatory requirements at FERC for developing new or expanded oil and gas pipelines. James also negotiates oil and gas commercial agreements, such as gathering, transportation, processing, and fractionation agreements, as well as agreements for the purchase and sale of hydrocarbons. Furthermore, James counsels clients regarding regulatory compliance and oil and gas commercial agreements in the context of mergers and acquisitions in the oil and gas industry.

James is a member of the Energy Bar Association. He has been a guest speaker and lecturer on oil and gas-related topics, including regulatory and commercial issues in shale plays.

**Andrew Gould, *Partner*, Hicks Johnson**

Andrew Gould leads Hicks Johnson's appellate practice. He represents plaintiffs and defendants in a wide variety of complex civil matters in trial and appellate courts nationwide.

Recognized by Chambers USA for his "sterling appellate practice," Andrew brings deep appellate experience at every stage of high-stakes litigation — from error preservation through appeal. He has served as lead counsel in more than 270 appeals across federal and state courts, including matters before the U.S. and Texas Supreme Courts. A seasoned oral advocate, Andrew has presented more than 40 appellate arguments — multiple before the Texas Supreme Court and more than 25 before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

Equally adept at the trial level, Andrew partners with litigation teams in state, federal, and multidistrict proceedings. He is regularly called upon to assist with complex motions practice before, during, and after trial; error preservation at trial; jury-charge issues; and pre-suit legal strategy.

Outside the courtroom, Andrew pairs thought leadership with service to the community. He is the publisher of 1910 & Beyond, a Substack that explores the evolving landscape of appellate litigation in Houston and across the state and country. He is an editor of a leading Texas legal treatise, *Bearings' Texas Civil Litigation*, and is a frequent CLE speaker. He serves the legal community as Immediate Past President of the Federal Bar Association's Southern District of Texas Chapter, Secretary of the Garland R. Walker American Inn of Court, and member of the Texas Bar Foundation's Houston Nominating Committee. A supporter of Houston's fine arts, Andrew is on the Board of Trustees for the Houston Symphony.

Before joining Hicks Johnson, Andrew founded and led the appellate practice at a nationally recognized plaintiffs' firm. Prior to that, he was an award-winning federal appellate prosecutor in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Texas and practiced complex commercial litigation in Washington, D.C. He began his legal career as a law clerk to Judge Raymond M. Kethledge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and Judge Lee H. Rosenthal of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas.

**Saadia Sultan, Founding Partner, Sultan Global Group**

Having earned a master's degree in International Affairs from Columbia University, a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations from American University as well as a Presidential Management Fellowship, Ms. Sultan is a seasoned government relations leader with over 19 years of experience in domestic and international government relations and public affairs.

She has spent over 11 of those years in the oil and gas sector in the government relations functions with ExxonMobil Corporation and BHP Billiton in Washington DC and Houston respectively. During this time, Ms. Sultan developed high-level networks with the U.S. government, think tanks, nonprofits, foreign governments, multilateral institutions, academia, trade associations, and business councils among other organizations.

Since founding SGG, Ms. Sultan has expanded her network beyond the oil and gas sector. In addition to her work as the founding partner of SGG, Ms. Sultan is also the Houston executive director for Asian Americans in Energy, Environment, and Commerce (AE2C).

**Monique Watson, *Partner – Energy Regulation*, Vinson & Elkins LLP**

Monique Watson is a partner in Vinson & Elkins' Energy Regulation group. She advises energy clients in achieving their business objectives while navigating applicable legal and regulatory requirements. She draws on her more than two decades of energy experience in private practice, as in-house counsel, and in senior legal roles at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). She has managed legal and policy initiatives involving natural gas, crude oil, and refined petroleum products pipelines. She also has served as first chair in complex cost-of-service litigation for natural gas and oil pipelines. She is recognized for her deep knowledge and understanding of energy law, policy, economics, and regulation, with particular focus on oil and natural gas pipeline matters.

**Michelle T. Boudreaux, *Partner*, Bracewell LLP**

Michelle Boudreaux is a recognized and seasoned energy lawyer, with over 20 years of experience providing regulatory and transactional advice to the owners and operators of petroleum liquids and natural gas pipelines. She has extensive experience advising clients on federal and state regulatory issues involving interstate and intrastate pipelines, including regulatory compliance and pipeline litigation before the Federal Energy

Regulatory Commission (FERC) and various state agencies, such as the Railroad Commission of Texas and the California Public Utilities Commission.

Michelle's transactional practice includes drafting and negotiating transportation service agreements, storage agreements, pipeline lease agreements and other midstream agreements. She also has significant experience in greenfield and brownfield energy project development.

**Avery Carmichael, *Associate Director*, S&P Global Commodity Insights**

Avery Carmichael is an Associate Director at S&P Global Commodity Insights, specializing in natural gas consulting with 10 years of experience across the gas value chain. He focuses on the North American natural gas market and global supply-demand balances, particularly analyzing US LNG export facilities. Before joining S&P Global, Avery worked in greenfield LNG development, contributing to the midstream strategy of Port Arthur LNG and managing related infrastructure, including pipelines and salt cavern storage, which resulted in a positive FID. Other roles include time at Wood Mackenzie and upstream operations engineering for bpx. Avery holds a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from Howard University.

**David Jetter, *Partner*, Baker Botts LLP**

David Jetter advises clients on the development and structuring of complex energy projects and transactions across LNG, gas-to-power, pipelines, petrochemicals, hydrogen, renewables, and mining. His work spans the U.S. and international markets, particularly Latin America.

Recognized as a Band 1 lawyer for Projects: LNG by Chambers USA, David is praised for his deep industry knowledge, pragmatic approach, and ability to drive transactions from start to finish. Clients describe him as "the best of the best in LNG," "highly efficient and dependable," and "wonderful to work with."

He previously clerked for the Hon. E. Grady Jolly of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit."

**David Lang, General Counsel & Chief Commercial Officer, Commonwealth LNG**



David directs both the Commercial and Legal teams for Commonwealth. He has extensive experience in the LNG sector as a former Partner in the law firm King & Spalding where he negotiated LNG sales and related agreements and guided clients on energy acquisitions and project financing.

**Ken Ditzel, *Senior Managing Director*, FTI Consulting**

Ken Ditzel is a Senior Managing Director in FTI Consulting's energy practice. He provides expert witness services and policy analysis for clients in the power, oil & gas, LNG, and transportation sectors. Prior to consulting, Ken was a production engineer at two natural gas cogeneration facilities at the Dow Chemical Company in Freeport, TX.