



Gide Loyrette Nouel
International Law Firm



2011

Renewable Energies FRANCE

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Renewable Energies

Founded in Paris in 1920, Gide Loyrette Nouel (GLN) is one of the leading international law firms. It operates from 19 offices in 15 countries and has some 650 lawyers, including 103 partners, drawn from 40 different nationalities. Gide Loyrette Nouel offers some of the most respected specialists in each of the various sectors of national and international finance and business law. In its offices in Europe, Asia, North America and Africa, the Firm provides its clients with comprehensive knowledge of local markets, regional expertise, and the resources of an international law firm.

In addition to its extensive experience in gas, electric power and energy-related businesses, Gide Loyrette Nouel is a market leader in the renewable energies sector. Early deals included assisting with the first wind power, solar energy, and cogeneration projects in France for which we advised on land use issues, planning permission, grid connections and power purchase agreements and the feed-in-tariff. Our lawyers have also advised many French and international investors on the acquisition, financing, and restructuring of project portfolios. The team has extensive experience in disputes brought before the administrative and civil courts concerning the development and construction of renewable energy projects.

Lawyers in Gide Loyrette Nouel's renewable energy practice have a unique expertise in energy, planning and environment, real estate, mergers and acquisitions, tax, project finance, and capital markets.

The Firm is instructed on complex renewable energies acquisition and project finance deals on multiple sector portfolios with projects located in several jurisdictions. This requires due diligence for major project portfolios at the various stages of development to be able to assess the risks inherent in an operation or project and thus contribute to its successful completion.

In France, Gide Loyrette Nouel is a member of the Renewable Energies Syndicate (SER), and the Franco-German Wind Energy Coordination Office.

Sectors

Our lawyers have wide experience in advising economic operators on the new challenges of sustainable development, namely in the generation of electricity from renewable sources, and greenhouse gas emission trading schemes.

The Renewable Energies team regularly advises clients in the following sectors:

- Wind power
- Solar power (photovoltaic and thermal)
- Hydroelectricity (small power stations, tendering procedure for concessions)
- Biomass, biogas, timber industry, cogeneration
- Greenhouse gas emissions quotas



Our Clients

The team provides a full range of services for all stakeholders in the renewable energies field. In this dynamic market, it advises established operators and newcomers, French and international clients, large industrial groups, SMEs, and consultancy and planning offices.

Our lawyers advise operators at every stage of the value chain of renewable energy projects:

- Developers,
- Wind turbine constructors, manufacturers and distributors of solar power equipment,
- Electricity generators and suppliers,
- Investors / investment funds, banks,
- Industry associations, public bodies, government agencies.

Our Areas of Expertise

The Renewable Energies team advises on issues involving the following areas of law:

- **Energy regulatory** (administrative authorisations, grid connections, feed-in-tariff, power purchase agreements),
- **Planning and environment** (planning rules, building permits and environmental requirements),
- **Real estate** (land use, lease agreements),
- **Construction** (development contracts, turnkey agreements, operating & maintenance agreements),
- **Mergers-acquisitions / company law** (project portfolio sale / acquisition and restructuring, setting up joint ventures, IPO),
- **Tax** (structuring transactions, favourable tax regimes, tax audits for projects),
- **Dispute resolution** in relation to building permits, construction contracts and civil liability,
- **Project finance** (loan agreements, structured finance, bank guarantees).

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