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International law firm Haynes and Boone, LLP has appointed Conrad Purcell to its Energy, Power & Natural Resources practice in London.

Purcell is an experienced lawyer that has advised on significant infrastructure projects in Europe, the Middle East and Africa, having worked across a range of sectors, including onshore and offshore wind farms, battery storage facilities, satellite and fibre networks, data centres, toll roads and bridges.

Purcell previously served as an in-house lawyer at RES Group, a senior associate at Norton Rose Fulbright, and a partner at Eversheds Sutherland and most recently at Bird & Bird.

“Conrad has handled virtually all aspects of infrastructure projects, from the planning stages to completion, in many markets across the world,” said Jeff Nichols, a partner and co-chair of Haynes and Boone’s Energy Practice Group. “His experience allows him to deftly guide clients so that they reach their strategic objectives in an efficient and commercially viable manner.”

In his new role, Purcell will join a team of energy infrastructure experts that has doubled since being established in 2016 and moved to a larger office space in 2019 to accommodate the company’s planned growth.

“Given its deep roots in the energy and renewables industry and experience with the development and financing of projects in many markets, Haynes Boone offers the perfect platform for my practice,” Purcell stated. “I am also excited about the growth of the firm’s London office. I look forward to serving as an English-law resource for Haynes Boone’s clients and helping the firm expand its reach in key markets worldwide.”

Conrad Purcell recently participated in a Clean Energy Pipeline feature from Bird & Bird dedicated to the city of London and its progress towards Net Zero. The article highlights two potential concerns that may inhibit London from achieving Net Zero: accelerating some environmental sustainability initiatives too quickly; and maintaining momentum post-pandemic.

Further complicating the issue is the deeply fragmented nature of the city’s 32 boroughs and the City of London. Despite these challenges, Purcell himself noted the UK’s more stringent corporate disclosure requirements following Brexit as an opportunity to push global corporates towards greater corporate disclosure of climate risk.

“Following Brexit, the Chancellor Rishi Sunak said that, notwithstanding that we now are no longer obliged to follow EU law, the UK will require corporate disclosures to align with the Task Force on Climate Related Financial Disclosures by 2025 at latest,” said Purcell. “That’s a good example where leaving the EU hasn’t resulted in the UK becoming a laggard.”