

Jon Rabben

Partner

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Jon Rabben assists Norwegian and international clients within the energy sector, and his main areas of expertise are acquisitions, financing, negotiations, dispute resolution and regulatory requirements within this business segment. Jon's practice includes assistance to petroleum producers on the Norwegian continental shelf, producers of hydro electric power and businesses engaged in new renewable power. He is admitted to the Supreme Court. Jon is ranked as one of Norway's most prominent renewable energy and petroleum lawyers by Chambers and Partners and Legal 500. He is also ranked among Norway's most prominent energy lawyers in Finansavisen's annual peer review among Norwegian commercial lawyers.

Moving up to the top tier, Jon Rabben continues to impress the market with his deep knowledge in the energy field, with one client saying "He is among the best". Other sources praise his high degree of commercial awareness, "His level of client attention is very high and he has a good way of sensing what you need".

Chambers Europe, 2019

Industry expertise

Oil and Gas

Renewable Energy

Areas of practice

M&A and Corporate Law

Litigation and Dispute Resolution

Oil and Gas

Renewable Energy

Selected projects

Development and financing of wind power portfolio

Jon Rabben acts for Trønderenergi and NTE Energi on the establishment, development, financing and part-sale of the 1,000 MW Fosen Vind project, Europe's largest onshore wind farm project, currently under construction in mid-Norway. Wiersholm's assistance includes the maturing of the projects up until investment decision, transaction support in relation to Credit Suisse's investment in the portfolio, and continued assistance to TrønderEnergi in the construction phase and relating to preparation for operation.

Investment in district heating business

Jon Rabben assisted Whitehelm Capital with its acquisition of a 49 % ownership stake in Kvitebjørn Varme, a business operating an energy-from-waste plant and the local district heating grid in Tromsø municipality, Norway. Wiersholm's assistance included negotiation of a shareholder agreement and refinancing of existing bank debts.

Sale of E&P business

Jon Rabben assisted VNG AG with the sale of its subsidiary VNG Norge AS to Neptune Energy. VNG Norge was engaged in petroleum activities on the Norwegian continental shelf, with considerable activities related to the exploration, development and production of petroleum. This sale was one of the largest transactions on the Norwegian continental shelf in 2018.

Development, financing and sale of wind power portfolio

Jon Rabben assisted regional utilities TrønderEnergi and NTE Energi with the reorganization, development, financing and part sale of a 450 MW wind power portfolio, of which 120 MW was existing capacity and 330 MW was ready-to-build development projects. Wiersholm's assistance included development of the projects to final investment decision, establishment of new corporate structure, legal due diligence on concessions, property rights and contracts, bank finance, share sales to new equity investors. Stadtwerke München entered as new 70 % owner of the portfolio in what was the largest wind transaction in Norway in 2018.

Energy transactions

Mr. Rabben has acted for key stakeholders in many of the largest and most prominent energy transactions in Norway during recent years, including Fortum's sale of its Norwegian grid assets, Jämtkraft's co-investment in and later divestment of hydropower assets controlled by Troms Kraft, and Elkem's sale of its large hydro assets to public utilities.

Work experience

Partner, Wiersholm, 2017

Partner, Wikborg, Rein & Co , 2008

Managing Associate/Senior Associate/Associate, Wikborg, Rein & Co , 2000

Assistant professor, Faculty of law, UiT, 1999

Lecturer and external examiner, UiT, UiB and BI, 1997

Education

Cand. Jur., University of Tromsø, 1999

Membership

Member, The Norwegian Bar Association's law committee for energy law, hydro power, oil & gas, 2013 - 2018

Network Leader, JUC Network for Energy Law, 2017

Awards

Electricity, Chambers Europe, Band 1, 2019

Oil & Gas, Chambers Europe, Band 3, 2019

Capital Markets, IFLR1000, Highly regarded, 2019

Energy and infrastructure, IFLR1000, Highly regarded, 2019

Project development, IFLR1000, Highly regarded, 2019

Project finance, IFLR1000, Highly regarded, 2019

M&A, IFLR1000, Highly regarded, 2019

Oil and gas, Legal 500, Tier 1, 2019

Electricity and renewable energy, Legal 500, Tier 1, 2019

Energi og klima, Finansavisen, 1st place, 2019