

Steve Otilar

Steven P. Otilar has been representing clients in the development, finance, acquisition and divestiture of domestic and international energy projects for over 19 years, with a particular emphasis on upstream projects in emerging markets.

He counsels clients on obtaining rights to develop oil and gas projects around the world, as well as gas and liquid pipelines, wind, solar and natural gas power projects. He regularly negotiates and structures a variety of investment vehicles – including joint ventures, joint operating agreements, participation agreements, farm-in/farm-out agreements, shareholder agreements, alliance agreements, teaming agreements and joint bidding agreements – relating to the development of major energy and infrastructure projects. Mr. Otilar also represents clients with the underlying tender, construction, engineering and procurement documentation for on-shore and offshore energy projects.

He is a former chair of the *HBA International Section* and member of the executive committee of the *Texas Bar International Section*. He is the former Director of the US Region of the *Association of International Petroleum Negotiators*, and currently serves on the Executive Committee, as Vice President of Education. Mr. Otilar serves on the Executive Committee of the *Institute of Energy Law*, serving on the Strategic Planning Committee and as Co-Chair of the Membership Committee. He is also an editor of the *Oil, Gas & Energy Law Journal*.

Mr. Otilar received his B.A. *cum laude*, with honors, from Southwestern University in 1992 and his J.D. *cum laude* and Order of the Coif from University of Houston Law Center in 1995. Prior to joining Akin Gump, he was a partner at a leading international law firm.