

## **An Introduction to the Energy and Environmental Conflict Resolution Speakers Bureau**

We want to make you aware of a recently established Energy and Environmental Conflict Resolution and Prevention Speakers Bureau (“EEADR”). EEADR is a joint effort of two alternative dispute resolution (“ADR”) committees of the American Bar Association. It will:

- Provide easy access to speakers on the effective use of ADR approaches to solve environmental and energy industry problems.
- Offer skilled presenters with a wealth of experience in the practice and use of ADR to support client interests and needs from a wide variety of private and public organizations.

As senior counsel and ADR practitioners with practice areas in energy and environment, we know how important effective use of ADR has been to our clients. We believe that those engaged in businesses that relate to or impact energy or the environment can benefit from presentations about ADR, its uses and misuses, and practical information about how and when parties may wish to consider the use of ADR.

ADR techniques, especially mediation and broad collaborative processes, have become a widely accepted way of resolving and preventing environmental and public policy disputes for nearly every type of energy and environmental issue, from land use, permitting and siting matters to commercial and contract disputes, from environmental hazardous waste cleanups to energy generation, distribution and transmission. Disputes that would benefit from ADR may arise in a host of production or service businesses including:

- in the energy arena: disputes in the context of electricity, oil and gas, coal, nuclear, renewable energy and distributed generation, climate change responses, and energy services;
- in the environmental arena: disputes related to hazardous waste, water quality, water distribution, land use and development, fish and wildlife, environmental assessments and impact statements and air quality impacts;
- the growing field of energy and environmental trading,

With the ability in ADR to craft tailored solutions often not possible in a court of law, difficult disputes have been resolved in a fashion that satisfied all parties with projects moving forward that would have been blocked and settlements achieved more quickly, efficiently and with less long term animosity than litigation.

EEADR Speaker Bureau members are prepared to make presentations on a variety of subjects to help inform business participants of the opportunities and benefits of ADR use. Presentations on a variety of topics are available for conferences, meetings, or other venues that meet the needs of your organization. Topics of potential presentations include:

- Applying ADR to different segments of the energy industry;
- Applying ADR in different environmental dispute settings;
- ADR 101;
- When, and when not to consider mediation and other ADR techniques;
- What value is added by utilizing the services of a neutral;
- How to obtain information about neutrals;
- How to select the appropriate neutral to assist your dispute resolution efforts;
- Protecting the confidentiality of settlement negotiations;
- Representing clients during an ADR proceeding;
- Drafting ADR clauses;
- Structuring a collaborative process and engaging stakeholders; and
- Other topics as you believe appropriate.

All presentations are tailored to meet the needs of the audience and the time requirements of the conference or meeting.

On behalf of the sponsoring organizations, the American Bar Association's Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources, ADR Committee and the Dispute Resolution Section, Environmental Committee, we hope many will take advantage of this unique opportunity to obtain highly regarded speakers to support the success of business conferences and meetings. A list of potential speakers and their biographies can be found by logging on to [www.eeadr.org](http://www.eeadr.org) which will redirect you to the ABA's web page information for this program.

There is no charge for the services of the Speakers Bureau or its members. Details on how to obtain a speaker to meet specific needs and requirements are available by logging on to [www.eeadr.org](http://www.eeadr.org) which will redirect you to the ABA's web page information for this program.