

*Special Counsel*

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**Practice Areas**

Business & Finance

Energy

International

Mergers & Acquisitions

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**Bar Admissions**

Colorado, 1986

Louisiana, 1996

Texas, 1978

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**Education**

University of Kentucky  
College of Law, J.D., 1970

University of Kentucky,  
B.A., 1968

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Bill Strait is a member of the firm's Business & Finance Practice Group, with more than 30 years of oil and gas, mining, and environmental law experience, including extensive experience in asset acquisitions and sales, U.S. and international joint ventures, international petroleum and mining concessions, permitting of major projects, and land rights. He has served as legal counsel for major oil and mining companies and independents, as well as for large offshore service companies and drilling contractors. He has also participated in the evaluation and drafting of natural resource laws and regulations.

Mr. Strait's primary practice has focused on the areas of drafting and negotiating oil and gas and mining industry contracts and participating in and coordinating complex due diligence projects. He has had primary drafting responsibilities on numerous high value, long-term commodity and product purchase, sales, processing, and transportation agreements involving several commodities including crude oil and natural gas, coal, sulphur, copper concentrates, soda ash, petroleum coke, and refined/semi-refined metals. Mr. Strait has also coordinated and participated in numerous due diligence efforts for, and the documentation of, asset purchases and sales and corporate mergers and acquisitions.

Mr. Strait has served as primary counsel for Louisiana clients in pursuing the development of a major phosphate fertilizer manufacturing plant in Sri Lanka; in permitting a major expansion of a soda ash operation in Wyoming; in overhauling the reclamation plan and bonding for an aging potash mine in Utah; and in acquiring mining rights in Argentina, Mexico, Peru, South Africa, and Indonesia. He has developed client comments submitted to governmental authorities on legislative and regulatory proposals affecting oil and gas and mining operations. He has also authored e-business arrangements agreements and procedures for the auctioneering of copper concentrates.

Additionally, Mr. Strait prepares ocean shipping agreements for the worldwide delivery of copper concentrates and other products, and he routinely prepares a wide variety of other agreements to facilitate client operations, such as services and operating agreements; agreements for the purchase of goods, equipment, and material; joint venture agreements; surface leases; and processing agreements.

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#### **Memberships**

- American Bar Association
- Colorado Bar Association
- Louisiana State Bar Association
- State Bar of Texas