



Mike Blankenship Discusses Trump Administration Plans to Lower Energy Bills with *Houston Chronicle*

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Winston & Strawn partner Mike Blankenship was quoted in a *Houston Chronicle* article discussing the Trump Administration's plans to cut Americans' energy bills in half within the first year of taking office. Many believe this may be a difficult goal to achieve, as the money Americans spend on gasoline is almost entirely determined by global oil markets and electricity bills largely depend on the price of natural gas, which is already fairly low in the United States, and the cost of building out the power grid. Trump is expected to increase oil and gas leasing on federal lands and waters, while reducing environmental regulations and speeding up the permitting of new pipelines.

"It's going to be very difficult for (Trump) because we're already drilling at the highest capacity," said Mike. "You can drill more on federal lands, but most drilling happens on private land."

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Michael J. Blankenship