

# The Belt and Road Initiative and Local Colleges Training Path of International Energy Resources Legal Talents

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*Under the background of globalization, the proposal of The Belt and Road Initiative requires that in the reform and exploration of the training mode and target orientation of outstanding legal talents in the next few decades, it is necessary to meet the rapidly increasing demand for international energy and resources legal talents as a topic that cannot be ignored. This is of great significance to the survival and development of law departments in local engineering universities. Constructing the training mechanism of environmental and energy legal talents can not only meet the requirements of training outstanding legal talents, but also provide talent guarantee, which is feasible and scientific to some extent.*

**Key words:** The Belt and Road Initiative, local college, energy law, outstanding legal talents training

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Under the background of globalization, The Belt and Road Initiative puts forward higher requirements for the training of outstanding legal talents. Industrial cooperation in the field of energy is the important content and support of The Belt and Road Initiative to ensure the supply of energy resources and energy security. Therefore, in the reform and exploration of the training mode and target orientation of outstanding legal talents in the next few decades, it is necessary to meet the rapidly increasing demand for international energy and resources legal talents as a topic that can not be ignored. This is of great significance to the survival and development of law departments in local universities.

## I. Legal Issues of Energy Resources Cooperation under the Background of The Belt and Road Initiative

In 2013, China successively put forward two major initiatives, namely, the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road, which were collectively called The Belt and Road Initiative. The construction of The Belt and Road Initiative is China's idea of deepening regional cooperation with European and Asian countries and ASEAN, including many aspects such as economy, society and culture. At present, The Belt and Road Initiative is advancing from the concept level to the practice level. Energy is an important part of international economic cooperation in The Belt and Road Initiative, including cooperation in supply, transportation, development and guarantee of oil and gas, coal, electricity and renewable energy, among which oil and gas cooperation is undoubtedly the key area. Taking The Belt and Road Initiative as an opportunity to strengthen cooperation in energy resources is not only of great significance to a country's energy security, but also provides favorable conditions for enterprises of various countries to explore broader overseas markets. [1]

In The Belt and Road Initiative energy cooperation, enterprises are the main partners. The international cooperation of energy enterprises involves not only technical and economic issues, but also many legal issues to be solved. For example, as far as general legal issues are concerned, what kind of cooperation methods and organizational forms should Chinese and foreign enterprises adopt in energy cooperation? In addition to the mandatory provisions of relevant national laws, it is necessary to consider the characteristics of various enterprise forms, such as equity joint ventures and contractual joint ventures, which have completely different characteristics. Other examples are foreign exchange management, tax administration, labor issues, environmental resources protection and dispute settlement in cooperation between Chinese and foreign enterprises, which require professional lawyers and lawyers who are proficient in domestic and international laws to intervene and provide legal services to legally avoid risks. [2] Cooperation on specific energy projects will also involve a series of legal issues such as energy exploration and development, storage and transportation processing, clean production, energy conservation and emission reduction and technological innovation. In addition, since most energy projects may involve financing from relevant international financial institutions, it is an important part of seeking legal services in energy cooperation to know and abide by the relevant policies, rules and procedures established by these institutions in detail. [3] The above legal affairs requires a large number of talents specializing in energy law in the future, which brings important opportunities for the development of law departments in China, especially in engineering universities.

## **II. Advantages of Local Colleges in Training International Energy Resources Legal Talents:Take Guangdong University of Petrochemical Technology as an Example**

The author thinks that under the background of The Belt and Road Initiative , it is necessary for Guangdong University of Petrochemical Technology to vigorously cultivate international energy resources legal talents, and the school has unique advantages in cultivating international energy resources legal talents. First of all, Maoming City, where the school is located, is located in the southwest of Guangdong Province, bordering Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region in the west and the South China Sea in the south, with winding coastline and numerous good ports. It belongs to the overlapping area of Pan-Pearl River Delta region and Beibu Gulf Economic Zone, and is also an important sea passage in the southwest. As the largest petrochemical base in South China, Maoming is rich in oil shale resources, known as the “Southern Oil City” and an important energy base in Guangdong Province. With the completion of Baomao Expressway, Maoming plays an increasingly important role in the national strategy of The Belt and Road Initiative. Secondly, Guangdong University of Petrochemical Technology, as a public undergraduate university jointly established by Guangdong Provincial People's Government, SINOPEC, China National Petroleum Corporation(CNPC) and China National Offshore Oil Corporation(CNOOC), is the only university with petrochemical characteristics in South China and the pilot university of “Education and Training Plan for Outstanding Engineers” of the Ministry of Education. The school seized the opportunity of national higher education and rapid development of petrochemical industry, fully relied on the important platform of the Guangdong Provincial People's Government and the three major petrochemical central enterprises to build the school, vigorously implemented the three strategies of “coordinated development, connotation development and characteristic development”, actively promoted the “Innovation and Strengthening the School Project”, and strived to build a well-known petrochemical brand university in China.

Guangdong University of Petrochemical Technology's undergraduate major in law was established in 2004, and in 2007, it was granted the right to a bachelor's degree in law. Compared with other majors, law is a more dynamic and promising major in the school. For more than ten years, with the support and help of schools and all sectors of society, teachers of law majors have carried forward the spirit of self-improvement and actively carried out discipline construction. At present, the discipline development has clear ideas, continuous optimization of personnel training types, and prominent features of professional service direction. The law major is still a pilot project of comprehensive reform of provincial majors. With the active efforts of law teachers, the discipline of environmental and resource protection law has won the fourth round of key discipline construction. Established a strict teaching management system, set up a strong teaching team, and set up a good style of study and teaching; the school has established a legal aid workstation for mock trial and young volunteers, which is rich in books and materials. Six off-campus internship bases were set up: Maoming Intermediate People's Court, Maonan District People's Court, Gaozhou People's Court, Huazhou People's Court, Dianbai County People's Court and Guangdong Yuemao Law Firm, which fully met the needs of internship and internship of law students. Two practice bases have been set up in the school: one is mock trial with 280 square meters of land and complete facilities, and the other is the legal aid workstation for young college volunteers affiliated to Maoming Legal Aid Office. All practical teaching courses in the talent training program can be offered normally as planned, and the practical teaching has achieved good results. Practice bases inside and outside the school, cooperative education and other aspects have shown a good development trend. At present, teachers' teaching reform and teaching research have new ideas, and the teaching level and quality are constantly improving. Students in school have a clear learning purpose, high learning enthusiasm, and the judicial pass rate and postgraduate entrance examination rate are constantly improving. Graduates have outstanding achievements in serving the society and strong social influence.

## **III. Guangdong University of Petrochemical Technology's Ideas and Methods of Training Energy Law Talents**

In order to start the training and reserve of international energy resources law talents and help the implementation of The Belt and Road Initiative, Guangdong University of Petrochemical Technology can adopt the following ideas and methods in training energy resources law talents in combination with the actual situation of schools and regions.

### **1. The Campus Linkage of Personnel Training**

As mentioned earlier, Guangdong University of Petrochemical Technology is a university with petrochemical characteristics. Petrochemical and related supporting majors (such as oil and gas storage and transportation, environmental engineering, etc.) have a long history and strong faculty, which provides a good background for the training of energy and resources legal talents. As we all know, as a compound talent, the energy and resources legal talents should possess not only solid legal skills, but also theoretical reserves of energy. Therefore, it is necessary to integrate the resources in the school, adopt the linkage of professional teachers in the school, and invite excellent instructors in the energy direction to give lectures, so as to improve students' scientific and technological literacy and practical skills. As for the specific training mode, we can take the form of double degree or minor in the second degree, so that the qualified students can obtain greater

benefits from the form and content, and thus be in a favorable position in the fierce competition in the talent market.

## **2. Inter-school Linkage of Personnel Training**

In the planning of training energy law talents, we should consider the whole and systematicness, without being limited to one school. Through inter-school linkage within the system and between regions, we can provide students with high-quality teaching and research resources to the maximum extent. Guangdong University of Petrochemical Technology has set up a four-year innovative training class for applied undergraduate talents in bioengineering, polymer materials and engineering, and Guangdong University of Light Industry Technology. The cooperative training mode of "2+1.5+0.5" has been adopted, that is, in the 1st-4th semester, the teachers of Guangdong University of Petrochemical Technology mainly undertake the teaching tasks; In the 5th-7th semester, students study in Guangdong Light Industry Vocational and Technical College, and the teachers of Guangdong Light Industry Vocational and Technical College were mainly responsible for the teaching tasks. In the 8th semester, students will study in the enterprise, and the teachers of Guangdong University of Petrochemical Technology, Guangdong Light Industry Vocational and Technical College and part-time teachers of the enterprise will jointly undertake the teaching tasks. This mode can be popularized and applied to the training of energy resources law talents, and can continue to broaden the thinking, and strongly combine with other characteristic colleges within the industry system and brother colleges in neighboring areas to carry out the deep cross training of international energy resources and law direction. For example, Guangdong Ocean University has a strong professional level in the direction of international law and Sun Yat-sen University in the direction of international law and environmental resources law, while Guangdong University of Petrochemical Technology has established good cooperative relations with the above-mentioned universities, and has sent many students to the School of Law of Sun Yat-sen University to exchange studies. In order to meet the needs of training energy law talents, we can consider strengthening cooperation with these universities, so that students can have a broader and open vision and thinking.

### **(C) School-enterprise Linkage of Personnel Training**

It is suggested that skills training should be included in the training process of energy law talents, and the co-construction and linkage with enterprises, law firms and other practical departments should be strengthened. The Law Department of Guangdong University of Petrochemical Technology, in addition to establishing practice bases with Maoming's local public security law department and Guangdong Yuemao Law Firm, recently reached a "Law Practice Teaching Base Construction Agreement" with Guangdong Chengzhi Law Firm, Guangdong Chanbo Law Firm, Guangdong Qinsen Law Firm and other famous law firms in the Pearl River Delta and western Guangdong, jointly launched the "Excellent Legal Talents Training Plan" and hired senior lawyers recommended by law firms as "legal practice instructors". The two sides jointly establish a practical teaching scheme for law majors, and select a certain number of undergraduates of designated grades to participate in the internship every year. In addition, in the near future, we are committed to exploring the construction of practical teaching and research mechanism of "production, learning and research" with petrochemical energy enterprises, innovating teaching content, and strengthening the training of students' energy legal skills in professional practice. The basic idea is to require students to participate in at least one enterprise project in their junior or senior professional practice, and study the operation and handling of legal practices involved in the project under the joint guidance of enterprise practice instructors and school teachers. After the internship, students should write the internship summary under the guidance of the internship teacher, summarize the relevant cases, and exchange and discuss in the form of seminar, thus playing a role of analogy and drawing inferences from others, which can greatly improve students' practical skills and operational ability. In short, under the background of the homogenization of Chinese law departments and colleges and the explosive increase in the number of law graduates, in order to survive and develop, local undergraduate colleges and universities must create more and richer training modes of legal talents in combination with local realities and their own characteristics. Guangdong University of Petrochemical Technology puts forward the construction of the training mechanism of energy law talents under the background of the current Belt and Road Initiative, which can not only meet the requirements of training outstanding law talents, but also provide talent guarantee, and has certain feasibility and scientificity.

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