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TRAILBLAZERS

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL

TOMMY BEAUDREAU

LATHAM & WATKINS LLP

PIONEER SPIRIT Tommy Beaudreau has always been fundamentally interested in energy and the environment. “My father worked on the North Slope after the Trans-Alaska Pipeline came online. And like every Alaskan, I love the great outdoors.” In 2010, Beaudreau joined the Interior Department to help with the fallout of the Deepwater Horizon explosion. “I lived through *Exxon Valdez*, so the chance to help make sure that never happens again was compelling.”

TRAILS BLAZED Beaudreau spent the first 15 months of his time in the Obama administration focusing primarily on reforms related to offshore oil and gas and raising standards. Once the department was reorganized, new rules were implemented and the industry was back to work, he was considering a return to private practice when Interior Secretary Ken Salazar offered him the opportunity to head a new agency, the Bureau of Offshore Energy Management. “Since I helped draw the blueprints, I wanted to see it through. We built a regulatory framework for offshore renewables basically from scratch. There is a great deal to be done, but laying the groundwork was exciting and very gratifying.” Beaudreau returned to private practice in January 2017.

FUTURE EXPLORATIONS Energy and the environment are among the top issues for the nation. “Finding the balance of the need for reliable energy production but also being mindful of the potential effects of that development will never go away. There are extreme views on both sides, but most Americans are somewhere in the middle. It’s a fascinating part of our country’s policy.”

