

## **SPPS-IV Legal Advisor (Petroleum Concessions Directorate)**

**Department: Ministry of Energy – Petroleum Division**

**Directorate: Petroleum Concessions Directorate**

**Grade: SPPS-IV**

### **Job Purpose:**

To provide expert legal counsel on all aspects of petroleum exploration, licensing, production sharing agreements, and regulatory compliance to support the transparent, efficient, and investor-friendly management of Pakistan's petroleum concessions. The role ensures that concession management aligns with national laws, international best practices, and Pakistan's broader energy security and economic development objectives.

### **Qualifications & Eligibility:**

#### **1. Legal Advisor (Petroleum Concessions) – SPPS-IV**

- *Academic Requirements:*
  - Bachelor's or Master's degree in Law (LLB/LLM) from an HEC-recognized local or international university.
  - Additional certifications in oil & gas law, international arbitration, or energy law will be an asset.
- *Professional Experience:*
  - Minimum 3-5 years of experience in legal advisory, contract negotiation, or regulatory affairs in the petroleum, energy, or extractive sectors.
  - Prior experience working with public sector entities, exploration & production companies, or international oil and gas firms preferred.
- *Preferred Skills:*
  - Strong knowledge of petroleum concession agreements, upstream contracts, and joint venture frameworks.
  - Familiarity with national and international energy regulations.
  - Strong drafting, negotiation, and legal analysis skills.

### **Key Responsibilities:**

- Draft, review, and negotiate petroleum concession agreements, production sharing agreements (PSAs), joint operating agreements (JOAs), farm-out agreements, and other upstream oil and gas contracts to safeguard the national interest while attracting investment.
- Provide legal advice on all regulatory and contractual aspects of upstream oil and gas activities, including exploration, development, production, decommissioning, and environmental compliance.
- Advise on the design, execution, and legal structuring of petroleum licensing rounds, bid evaluation, and award of exploration and production rights, ensuring transparency and compliance with applicable laws.

- Interpret and apply national petroleum laws, petroleum policies, model agreements, environmental regulations, and international legal instruments relevant to the oil and gas sector.
- Assess legal risks associated with petroleum operations and provide mitigation strategies to protect the interests of the Government of Pakistan.
- Represent the Petroleum Concessions Directorate in negotiations with domestic and international oil companies, development partners, and investors to conclude agreements that promote efficient resource development.
- Support dispute resolution processes including arbitration, litigation, and mediation relating to petroleum concession agreements or regulatory matters.
- Keep abreast of international trends in petroleum contract models, environmental law, fiscal regimes, and investor-state dispute mechanisms to recommend necessary updates to Pakistan's legal and regulatory frameworks.
- Prepare legal briefs, memoranda, and policy notes for senior government officials and stakeholders on complex legal issues in the upstream petroleum sector.
- Contribute to the capacity building of Directorate staff through knowledge sharing on legal developments and best practices in petroleum law and contract management.

#### **Skills & Competencies:**

- In-depth knowledge of petroleum law, natural resources law, and public international law as it relates to hydrocarbons exploration and production.
- Strong contract drafting, negotiation, and legal advisory skills, particularly in the context of upstream petroleum agreements (PSAs, JOAs, farm-outs, unitization agreements).
- Demonstrated ability to analyze legal risks, regulatory compliance issues, and environmental liabilities in complex extractive industry projects.
- Understanding of international oil and gas standards, fiscal regimes, and best practices in concession management.
- Experience with investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS), arbitration, and energy sector dispute resolution mechanisms.
- Strong interpersonal and stakeholder management skills, including the ability to negotiate with multinational oil companies and government entities.
- Excellent legal research, drafting, and presentation abilities.

#### **Monitoring & Evaluation:**

- Ensure ongoing monitoring of compliance with legal and contractual obligations by concession holders.
- Contribute to regular legal risk assessments for petroleum concessions and advise on mitigation strategies.

- Support post-agreement monitoring including milestone achievement, reporting compliance, and enforcement of contractual obligations.

**Remuneration**

- As per SPPS-IV pay scale: Market-competitive remuneration package with applicable allowances as per Government of Pakistan rules.