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Mintz Levin Hires Ex-Haynes And Boone, DOE Clean Tech Pro

By **Megan Stride**

Law360, Chicago (October 31, 2012, 7:04 PM ET) -- Mintz Levin Cohn Ferris Glovsky & Popeo PC has hired the founder of Haynes and Boone LLP's clean technology practice, who once served as a U.S. Department of Energy official, for its corporate and securities section in Boston, Mintz Levin said Wednesday.

Paul Dickerson, who launched Haynes and Boone's clean tech practice group in 2008, is also joining Mintz Levin's energy and clean technology practice as of counsel, bringing expertise he developed at the DOE and U.S. Department of Commerce as well as in the his private sector work.

"Paul has been at the forefront of the development and advancement of energy innovation policy for the better part of his career, having played a key role in moving groundbreaking technologies from concept to commercialization while serving at the DOE and in private practice," Thomas R. Burton III, chairman of Mintz Levin's energy and clean technology practice, said Wednesday.

Burton said the addition of Dickerson is especially valuable given his knowledge of the fast-changing clean energy industry and the needs of the energy market worldwide.

Dickerson was the chief operating officer of the DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy from 2006 until 2008, where he oversaw the office's \$1.8 billion budget. In that role, he worked to help develop energy efficiency policies, as well as renewable and alternative energy technologies themselves.

Dickerson also once served as the chief of staff for the U.S. & Foreign Commercial Service at the Commerce Department, where he handled the daily management of the service's employee network spanning 260 offices and also directed implementation of the trade promotion unit's worldwide policies, according to the firm.

Dickerson currently sits on the Texas Bioenergy Policy Council after being appointed by Gov. Rick Perry. He is also a certified public accountant.

Dickerson told Law360 on Wednesday that clean technology is a unique area of law because it often involves so many other legal specialties, including environmental, securities and restructuring.

"It truly encompasses most of a full service law firm's practice areas," he said.

Dickerson had high praise for Mintz Levin's abilities in that space, saying "there is no better firm" for representing growing companies and their investors, whether early stage

venture capitalist firms or late stage private equity stakeholders, as they go through various transactions and transitions.

Mintz Levin has made several other prominent hires this year.

On Oct. 22, Adam Gale, the former head of Chadbourne & Parke LLP's hedge fund practice group started at a new post in Mintz Levin's corporate and securities section in New York.

Gale has worked with funds, their sponsors, broker-dealers, banks and registered investment companies on a slew of regulatory and securities law compliance issues.

Mintz Levin unveiled hires on the West Coast in October as well, saying it had picked up real estate attorney Paul Churchill from Goodwin Procter LLP to head up its San Francisco office and also added former Greenberg Traurig LLP litigator Evan Nadel.

Churchill previously managed Goodwin's office in San Francisco, and signed on with Mintz Levin as a managing partner. He focuses on real estate acquisitions, developments, leasing and other transactions, while Nadel, who joined Mintz Levin as a member of its litigation section, has defended putative class actions over consumer products and false advertising.

Mintz Levin employs roughly 500 attorneys and has seven U.S. offices and one in London.

--Additional reporting by Erin Coe and Kelly Rizzetta. Editing by John Quinn.

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