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Rejecting Power-Purchase Agreements in Energy Cases: Do Bankruptcy Courts Have Exclusive Jurisdiction?

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In a much-awaited and pivotal decision in the PG&E chapter 11 proceeding, the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of California held that it not only has exclusive jurisdiction over the rejection of wholesale power-purchase agreements, but that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has no such jurisdiction and any determinations by FERC to the contrary would be void. While the decision might not be surprising to most bankruptcy practitioners, the proposition that FERC has no jurisdiction over the breach or modification of a power-purchase agreement is not only shocking to energy practitioners, but contrary to well-established authority in the energy arena.

To read the full article, click here: Rejecting Power-Purchase Agreements in Energy Cases: Do Bankruptcy Courts Have Exclusive Jurisdiction?

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