

## Chapter 2

# Aftermath of the Dodd-Frank Act and Related Implications for Publicly Traded Energy Companies

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**§ 2.01. Introduction.**

On July 21, 2010, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the Dodd-Frank Act)<sup>2</sup> was enacted in the wake of the financial crisis and recent environmental, health and safety disasters, such as the Upper Big Branch mine disaster in West Virginia (“UBB”) and the Gulf Oil spill. In addition to addressing the financial crisis, the Dodd-Frank Act included provisions specifically applicable to publicly traded coal, natural gas and other energy companies.

The Dodd-Frank Act included numerous provisions which required additional rule-making by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) and the stock exchanges and national securities associations (collectively, the “Exchanges”). This chapter provides an overview of the Dodd-Frank Act as it relates to publicly traded companies generally and specifically publicly traded energy companies and provides an overview of SEC rule-making relating to the Act.

**§ 2.02. Dodd-Frank Act — Effective Provisions and SEC Rule-Making Activity.**

**[1] — Reporting Mine Safety and Violation Information.**

*Dodd-Frank Act.* Section 1503 of the Dodd-Frank Act was adopted in the wake of the UBB mine disaster. This section requires publicly traded

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<sup>2</sup> Pub. L. No. 111-203, 124 Stat. 1376 (2010) [hereinafter, “Dodd-Frank Act”].