

Energy Regulation

At Wilkinson Barker Knauer, we understand energy regulation. Our attorneys assist clients in all aspects of energy and infrastructure regulation, including proceedings before state and federal agencies and courts, counseling clients on transactional matters, engaging in legislative and policy advocacy, and collaborating on strategic planning issues. With a team that includes former state commissioners, commission counsel and in-house counsel, we bring decades of diverse insight and experience to help companies solve problems so they can maintain and grow their businesses. Our attorneys have worked with vertically-integrated and restructured electric utilities, gas utilities, power generators, fuel and commodity marketers and suppliers, underground natural gas storage entities, pipelines and rural electric co-operatives.

At the state level, our attorneys have been involved in hundreds of natural gas, electric and steam rate cases before state commissions, particularly throughout the Mountain West, and we have counseled clients in nearly every other type of regulated proceeding.

In the federal arena, we frequently appear before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and advise clients on related electric and natural gas issues. We counsel clients on a wide variety of regulatory matters, and provide advocacy, analysis, and compliance advice.

The firm routinely assists with transactional matters that are subject to energy-specific regulation. Our energy transactions practice provides advice that combines commercial transactional expertise with specialized energy industry subject matter knowledge, which assists clients in identifying and addressing regulatory issues.

Many of our energy clients have operations that implicate both state and federal regulatory issues. Our appreciation of the interplay between federal and state regulation enables us to assist clients in developing an overall regulatory strategy that addresses each of the applicable regulatory regimes. We have experience representing and counseling clients in renewable energy development, integrated resource planning, certificate of public convenience and necessity applications, fuel-switching proceedings, and grid modernization and home energy management programs.

Our expertise straddles the intersection of energy and communications networks, with significant policy expertise in grid modernization and emerging technologies. The firm has been at the forefront of innovative performance-based regulatory solutions that create incentives for utilities to make prudent investments in energy-saving technologies and grid modernization.

We understand the need to ensure that our client service is both efficient and cost-effective. We appreciate the issues facing the industry and work with others, including regulators, to achieve the results that our clients need. We understand the role of outside counsel, and will provide an independent view of any matter assign to us while working to advance zealously the interests of our client, all in cooperation of our client's in-house legal staff. We are prepared either to take the lead or to act in a supporting role, according to the needs of our client.

HIGHLIGHTS

At the forefront in developing innovative performance-based solutions that create incentives for utilities without burdensome regulations

Expertise includes crafting and negotiating power plant operating agreements, transmission and distribution network agreements, and advanced metering infrastructure deployment agreements

Involved in current issues surrounding power plant retirements and fuel conversions throughout the mountain West, Southwest and Midwest

