Environment and Natural Resources

Our lawyers combine substantive knowledge of environmental law with their litigation, compliance counselling, permitting, regulatory and legislative advocacy, and commercial transaction experience.

You may be considering potential litigation. Or need permitting advice for a large-scale project. Or you could be in the midst of a complex enforcement action, facing record-setting fines and long-term damage to your brand. All at a time of heightened media attention. The environmental lawyers at Hogan Lovells can ably assist with both your most complex legal challenges and the day-to-day issues that must be addressed to maintain compliance and keep abreast of recent policy and regulatory changes.

We take a collaborative approach to working with you and with regulators to solve your legal challenges. We offer litigation, permitting, compliance counseling, regulatory and legislative advocacy, and commercial transactions advice. We have earned a reputation as effective negotiators. Integrity is important to us. Clients like that we are transparent in our problem solving and provide practical advice.

And we know your industry. We have experience with manufacturing, energy, transportation, chemicals, agriculture, and many other sectors. State and local governments and trade associations also turn to us to address their environmental issues.
Representative experience

Represented Hyundai in claims alleged by DOJ and EPA regarding fuel economy estimates for its fleet of light-duty vehicles sold in the U.S.

Represented major refinery in lawsuit threatened by DOJ and EPA involving alleged violations of CAA’s fuels standards at refineries and terminals throughout the U.S.

Successfully challenged, in federal district court, the U.S. government’s decision to list Lesser Prairie Chicken as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act.

Representing Inmar in investigation by California prosecutors into hazardous waste management, and in federal/state efforts to reform hazardous waste laws impacting retail sector.

Representing Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority before DOJ and EPA to address alleged noncompliance with the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards.

Leading Delfin LNG’s efforts to obtain federal and state approvals for first LNG Deepwater Port for export of LNG from U.S.

Providing regulatory, compliance, and litigation counsel to heavy-duty vehicle/engine manufacturer Daimler Trucks North America on environmental/safety issues; successfully challenged EPA actions in D.C. Circuit.

Assisting Railway Supply Institute Committee on Tank Cars develop U.S./Canadian regulatory strategy for crude-by-rail transport by working closely with U.S. and Canadian transportation officials.
Advising Ecosystems Investment Partners, nation’s largest private equity firm investing in land-based environmental offset markets, on regulatory, policy/legislative, corporate/financial, tax, and real estate matters.

Filed precedent-setting crude-by-rail lawsuit for American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers, against BNSF Railway in U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, challenging surcharges.

Negotiated federal development approvals for North Sky River wind farm, including 102 turbines on private land near the Pacific Crest Trail in Southern California.

Representing Murray Energy in challenging the DOI's unprecedented expansion of its regulations governing coal mining under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act.

Assisted a luxury ski resort with environmental permitting, development of compliance programs, and self-audit submissions.

Represented Orbital Sciences Corporation in connection with environmental issues in US$5bn agreement to combine Orbital with Alliant Techsystems Inc.’s aerospace and defense businesses.

Led environmental diligence and negotiated allocation of environmental liability for PPG Industries in US$2.3bn acquisition of COMEX, a Mexican manufacturer of coatings.

Representing apartment management REIT in challenging state’s decision to terminate participation in voluntary cleanup program and EPA’s listing of property on National Priorities List.

Representing major and independent upstream oil/gas producers regarding enforcement actions and responding to information requests by state and federal agencies related to air quality compliance.

Representing subsidiary of large steel/aluminum company in litigation over insurance coverage and cleanup liability regarding Lower Duwamish Waterway Superfund Site in Seattle.
Awards and rankings

- Practice Group of the Year, Law360, 2018
- Ranked Band 1 for Natural Resources and Environment in Colorado, Chambers USA, 2020
- Ranked Band 2 for Environment in the District of Columbia, Chambers USA, 2020
- Ranked Band 3 for Environment Nationwide, Chambers USA, 2015-2020
- Ranked Band 3 for Climate Change Global-wide, Chambers Global, 2015
- Ranked Band 3 for Climate Change Nationwide, Chambers USA, 2015
- Ranked Band 3 for Environment in Mexico, Chambers Latin America, 2015
- Ranked Band 3 for Regulatory: Environment Europe-wide, Chambers Europe, 2015
- Ranked Band 2 for Energy and Natural Resources in Venezuela, Chambers Latin America, 2015

Latest thinking and events

News
Okpabi appeal ruling: difficult for UK parent companies to avoid foreign claimants suing in England

Hogan Lovells Publications
2021 Enforcement Horizon: New administration civil and criminal enforcement efforts

Press Releases
Hogan Lovells advises Colorado’s Regional Transportation District on US$340m bond issuance

Press Releases
Hogan Lovells advises Roku, Inc on acquisition of Quibi’s
Press Releases
Hogan Lovells welcomes the New Year and 25 new partner and 60 new counsel promotions

Hogan Lovells Publications
RCEP – bigger, but is it better? Taking Stock of Asia’s new free trade agreement

Global Regulatory Alert