



## Frederick Schmidt

Senior Partner

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**Fred has negotiated numerous contract solutions for large energy users and renewable energy project developers and navigated the most complicated utility rate proceedings to save hundreds of millions of dollars for his clients.**

**Client Advocacy:** Fred's advocacy for clients in utility rate cases have consistently resulted in millions of dollars saved for clients in several jurisdictions and resulted in the largest rate reduction in Nevada history, upheld after his argument to the Nevada Supreme Court.

**40 Years' Experience:** Fred offers his energy clients over 40 years' experience in the complex and constantly changing utility regulatory environment. His experience includes having twice been appointed commissioner on the Nevada Public Service Commission (currently the PUCN) and over a decade as Nevada's Consumer Advocate creating and leading the Attorney General's Bureau of Consumer Protection. It also includes three years as counsel for the Colorado River Commission.

Fred Schmidt frequently works with [Bryce Alstead](#), [Thor Nelson](#), [Laura Granier](#), [Ashley Wald](#), and [Austin Jensen](#).

### PRACTICES

Environmental and Natural Resources  
Government Affairs  
Project Development and Finance  
Public Utilities Regulation

### INDUSTRIES

Electric Power

### EDUCATION

University of New Hampshire Franklin  
Pierce School of Law, J.D., 1980  
Heidelberg University, B.S., 1975  
Mathematics

### BAR ADMISSIONS

Nevada

### EXPERIENCE

#### Energy

- Power Purchase Contract Negotiations
- Project Financing

#### Government Affairs

- Contracts
- Rate Matters
- Environmental permits
- Mergers
- Licenses
- Tariffs
- Regulations
- Legislation

### CLIENT RESULTS

Represented the largest customers of the NV Energy in recent 704B exit cases to obtain retail electric service from a competitive supplier.

Negotiated renewable energy credit agreement for first utility-scale solar photovoltaic project in Nevada and numerous additional renewable energy projects.

Obtained permits and regulatory approvals for over a dozen geothermal, solar PV, solar thermal and related transmission projects in Nevada.

Obtained a \$300 million rate adjustment in Nevada Power rate case after the Western Energy crisis which was upheld by Nevada Supreme Court after oral argument.

Drafted net metering and Renewable Portfolio Standard laws and various amendments to most of Nevada's utility laws over the last several decades.

Lobbied and assisted in drafting and adopting current tax abatement laws in Nevada for renewable projects.

Saved major clients millions of dollars from proposed rate increases in Nevada.

Succeeded in making rate design modifications for several customer classes, saving clients millions of dollars when electric rates were raised.

Negotiated and litigated to ensure client protections and savings in several major merger cases.

Successfully advocated to reduce water costs in numerous water rate proceedings.

## **SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

"National Conference on Current Issues in Electric Utility Rate Cases," *Presented by Law Seminars International. Presenter, Moderator, and Program Co-Chair for over a decade.*

"Energy in the Southwest," *Law Seminars International Conference Frequent Speaker*

"EUCI conferences on Energy Issues," *Frequent Speaker*

"Nevada State Bar," *Frequent Speaker*

"NARUC annual water utility rate case seminar one week training program," *Faculty member during 1980s and 1990s*

## **RECOGNITION**

- *The Best Lawyers in America*© Energy Lawyer of the Year, 2017
- *The Best Lawyers in America*© Energy Law, 2006-2022
- *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*,

Environment, 2016-2021

- Mountain States Super Lawyers®, Utilities, 2009-2010
- Nevada Super Lawyers®, Utilities, 2007-2008
- Super Lawyers® Corporate Counsel Edition

## **PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC AFFILIATIONS**

- State Bar of Nevada, Energy Utilities and Communication Law Section, First Elected Chairman and Executive Committee Member
- The National Association of Consumer Advocates, Washington D.C. office, President and Executive Committee Member and Chair, Electricity Committee
- National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, Electric and Water Committees, Member
- National Resources Council on National Energy Policy, Energy Engineering Board, Advisor
- Nevada Public Service Commission, Former Commissioner
- Former Nevada Consumer Advocate and Chief Deputy Attorney General
- Colorado River Commission, Former Counsel