Holland & Hart



PRACTICES

Environmental Litigation
Environmental
Business Litigation
Appellate
Zoning and Land Use

INDUSTRIES

Energy and Resources
Renewable Energy and Storage
Mining
Oil and Gas Litigation
Data Centers

EDUCATION

University of Kansas School of Law, J.D., 2011
Order of the Coif
Kansas Law Review, Editor

The Catholic University of America, B.A., 2006
magna cum laude

BAR ADMISSIONS

Wyoming
Colorado

COURT ADMISSIONS

U.S. District Court for the District of Wyoming
U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit

Jeffrey Pope

Partner

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Jeff is an experienced advocate who helps clients tackle complex litigation and complex project development matters.

When clients need an experienced advocate, they call on Jeff's experience navigating complex disputes in high-stakes litigation. Jeff's experience spans dozens of trials and over a hundred appeals. Jeff excels at crafting innovative arguments on issues of first impression, a frequent occurrence in Wyoming.

He represents a range of industries on cases involving state and federal permits, surface use and access, eminent domain, leases, royalty payments, and commercial contracts.

Jeff is also a trusted advisor to clients permitting large-scale projects through Wyoming's industrial siting and county permitting processes. Jeff has assisted clients in permitting carbon capture, refining, wind, and solar projects and data centers. With in-depth knowledge of the process and strong relationships with regulators, Jeff has helped helps clients prepare applications that best position projects to secure necessary permits and advocates for clients at contested case hearings before Wyoming's Industrial Siting Council.

EXPERIENCE

Energy and Natural Resources Litigation

- Surface Use and Access
- State and Federal Permitting
- Eminent Domain
- Pipeline Disputes
- Oil and Gas Royalties
- Oil and Gas Leasing
- Appeals

Commercial Litigation

- Commercial Contracts
- Non-Compete Agreements
- Wrongful Death/Personal Injury
- Appeals

Industrial Project Development

- Siting Permits for Wind, Solar, Transmission lines, Carbon Capture, and Refining Projects
- Assisted Data Centers and Natural Gas Power Generators secure exemptions from permitting.
- County Conditional and Special Use Permits for Transmission lines, Data Centers, and Wind and Solar Projects

CLIENT RESULTS

Trial Cases

- Won case of first impression in the nation to resolve development dispute between mining and oil and gas interests, allowing the world's largest surface coal mine to protect the viability of its operations. *BTU Western Resources et. al v. Berenergy Corp.*, 2019 WY 57 (2019).
- Led litigation team that secured victory to uphold and enforce important covenants not to compete related to the sale of an accounting firm, recovering hundreds of thousands of dollars in damages.
- Secured large jury verdict in dispute over engineering negligence and breach of contract for national restraurant chain.
- Secured possession of a critical pipeline corridor through use of Wyoming's Eminent Domain Act.
- Won the renewal of coal mine permit in litigation before Wyoming's Environmental Quality Council.

Appeals

- Secured reversal of $31 million judgment in royalty dispute before the Wyoming Supreme Court.
- Secured reversal of Environmental Quality Council's denial of coal mine permit in a case of first impression about Wyoming's Environmental Quality Act.
- Led appellate team that secured reversal of adverse possession ruling to allow ranch to keep critical sections of ranching operations.
- Won first order in lieu of consent case litigated in over 30 years and secured affirmance on appeal, allowing first coal mine permit application in over 40 years to proceed.

Site Permitting

- Secured first of its kind permitting exemption for one of the largest combined power and industrial projects in the history of Wyoming.
- Led team that acquired industrial siting permit for Fortune 100 company's state of the art carbon capture project.
- Led team that acquired first-ever industrial siting permit awarded to

a commercial solar and battery storage facility.

- Led the team to permit the largest solar facility in Wyoming.
- Secured industrial siting permits for multiple solar and wind facilities and assisted in subsequent transfers and amendments of those permits.

PUBLICATIONS

"How Data Center Projects Can Navigate Wyo. Siting Process," *Law360*, September 22, 2026

"Avoiding a Cline-Style Judgment: Mitigating class action risks of interest on late payments," *Landman*, Co-Author, January/February 2025

"Wyoming Oil and Gas Section," *The American Bar Association's Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources 2024 Year in Review Publication*, Co-Author, December 2024

"Wyoming Oil and Gas Section," *The American Bar Association's Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources 2023 Year in Review Publication*, Co-Author, December 2023

"Early Engagement Avoids Perils of Wyoming Industrial Siting," *pv magazine*, April 6, 2023

"Wyoming Oil and Gas Section," *The American Bar Association's Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources 2022 Year in Review Publication*, Co-Author, December 2022

"Wyoming Oil and Gas Section," *The American Bar Association's Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources 2021 Year in Review Publication*, Co-Author, December 2021

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

"Environmental Issues in Solar Energy Projects," *Panelist, Strafford CLE Webinar*, March 27, 2025

"Building a Better Appellate Process," *Wyoming Municipal Court Judicial Conference*, May 2023

RECOGNITION

- *The Best Lawyers in America®,* Appellate Practice, 2027
- *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America*, Appellate Practice; Commercial Litigation; Environmental Law; Oil and Gas Law, 2024, 2025

PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

- Mining Associates of Wyoming, Board of Directors, 2023-present
- Cheyenne LEADs, Board of Directors, Secretary, 2021-present
- Wyoming College of Law Prosecution Assistance Clinic, Guest

Lecturer, 2013-present

- Cheyenne East High School, Debate Coach, 2011-present
- Wyoming College of Law, Adjunct Professor of Law, 2015-2016
- Wyoming Blockchain Coalition, Founding Member, 2018