Holland & Hart

PRACTICES

Environmental
Energy Consumers, Developers, and Public Utilities
Business Litigation
Environmental Litigation

INDUSTRIES

Energy and Resources
Conventional Power
Renewable Energy and Storage
Mining
Data Centers

EDUCATION

University of Denver Sturm College of Law, J.D., 2019
Order of the Coif
Senior Editor, *Denver Law Review*

University of Colorado, B.A., 2016

BAR ADMISSIONS

Arizona
Colorado
Idaho
New Mexico
Oregon
Wyoming

COURT ADMISSIONS

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

Austin Jensen

Associate

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Austin provides strategic counsel to energy and natural resources clients on energy regulation and complex litigation.

Energy Regulation: Austin assists clients with matters involving the regulation of utilities and electric markets, complex utility rate proceedings, energy development, and the nuances of administrative law and litigation. Austin's clients include energy consumer associations, individual energy consumers, energy developers, and entities subject to or threatened with regulatory oversight.

Complex Commercial and Natural Resource Litigation: Austin represents client in a wide range of environmental and commercial matters, including defense of energy projects and mining permits, commercial disputes, toxic tort suits, land use disputes, and employment claims.

Austin provides counsel and advocacy on behalf of his clients in administrative proceedings and courts in Arizona, Colorado, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, and Wyoming as well as before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

Austin is part of the public utilities regulatory team and frequently works with Thor Nelson, Michelle King, Nik Stoffel, Abby Briggerman, Austin Rueschhoff, Kristine Roach, Fripp Prioleau, and Seamus Crowley.

Before joining Holland & Hart, Austin was in-house counsel for a large telecommunications provider, and gained appellate experience serving in Justice Gabriel's Chambers of the Colorado Supreme Court. He draws from this experience to provide a personal understanding of the business pressures companies face when navigating legal and administrative challenges.

EXPERIENCE

Austin assists with a variety of public utilities and project development matters, including:

- Complaint proceedings
- Tariff issues

- Rate cases
- Rate-making principles
- Resource planning and project financing
- Demand side management
- Permitting
- Legislation and rulemaking
- Settlement and mediation
- Regulatory due diligence review of energy projects
- Public convenience applications

Austin represents clients before administrative agencies and courts on matters including:

- Natural resources litigation
- Commercial litigation
- NEPA compliance and litigation
- Land use disputes

CLIENT RESULTS

Energy Regulation

Successfully achieved dismissal of a complaint proceeding before a Colorado regulatory agency that sought to force regulatory oversight upon his client. Austin defended the administrate agency's dismissal to the Colorado Supreme Court, which affirmed the agency's decision. The client now has the certainty that its business will not be subject to the risk of regulatory oversight.

Briefed, argued, and prevailed in an appeal to the New Mexico Supreme Court defending administrative agency's decision significantly reducing risk and costs to the client.

Part of team that obtained a substantial rate decrease for clients in Nevada while also securing $120 million credit to Nevada Power Company ratepayers to help offset the economic pressures felt by businesses due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Litigation

Obtained decertification of a large, nation-wide class and collective action that reduced client risk exposure, leading to a favorable settlement and resolution for the client.

Achieved outright dismissal of claims against the client, an international corporation, from a former employee claiming several forms of discrimination.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

"Regulatory Roundup: Electric Market Trends Customers Should Know,"

Utah Association of Energy Users Conference, May 8, 2023

PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

- Energy Bar Association, Board Member, 2021-present
- Denver Bar Association, Member, 2019-present
- Colorado Bar Association, Member, 2018-present
- Colorado LGBTQ+ Bar Association, Board Member and Co-Chair for Judicial Endorsements, 2016-present