Holland & Hart



PRACTICES

Environmental
Energy Consumers, Developers, and Public Utilities
Water Resources

INDUSTRIES

Energy and Resources
Conventional Power
Renewable Energy and Storage
Data Centers

EDUCATION

Wake Forest University School of Law, J.D., 2006

University of Southern California, B.A., 2002
cum laude

BAR ADMISSIONS

California
Nevada

Lucas Foletta

Partner

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Lucas delivers strategic counsel to help large-scale energy consumers navigate complex regulatory hurdles and secure reliable power sources.

Lucas represents industrial and commercial energy consumers, such as gaming companies and industrial users, in proceedings before the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN) involving rates, rulemaking, market purchases, and other contested issues. Lucas is known for his ability to craft resourceful arguments to advocate clients' positions and advance their objectives on critical issues.

Project developers and other large-scale consumers turn to Lucas for strategic counsel to source and establish new service to meet their vast power needs. He works with clients to identify their power supply options and develops a regulatory roadmap. He also negotiates a wide range of agreements and arrangements with public utilities, from power purchase and energy supply agreements, to high voltage distribution agreements and line extensions. Lucas brings specialized expertise advising data center projects with a variety of energy needs.

In the due diligence phase of purchase, sales, and tax equity transactions, clients rely on his deep regulatory expertise to evaluate the reliability of assertions and projections by other parties regarding permitting and other regulatory compliance issues.

Lucas' practice also includes a focus on state and local regulatory matters, drawing on experience from his years of service in government. He represents clients before a number of state and local boards, including the Division of Water Resources, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, and Nevada Transportation Authority. He also acts as board counsel to Western Regional Water Commission, the Northern Nevada Planning Commission, the Carson-Truckee Water Conservancy District, and the Washoe County Water Conservation District.

Before joining Holland & Hart, Lucas was a partner at McDonald Carano in Reno, where he chaired the Energy, Environment & Natural Resources Law Practice. Previously, he served as General Counsel and Policy Director to Nevada Governor Brian Sandoval.

EXPERIENCE

Energy Regulatory

- Rate cases and contested proceedings before the Public Utilities

Commission of Nevada

- Power purchase agreements and energy services agreements
- High voltage distribution and Rule 9 facilities agreements
- Market power purchases under NRS 704B
- Representing large gaming companies, solar industry groups, and commercial energy users
- Energy procurement strategy and contract negotiation Bullets

Administrative & Government Affairs

- State and local agency representation
- Water rights permitting matters
- Bid challenges and defense under state procurement law
- Licensing and regulatory matters before various Nevada agencies
- Legislative development and advocacy
- Representing governmental water and conservation boards

CLIENT RESULTS

- Represented several institutional electric users in securing authority to purchase energy from market providers pursuant to NRS 704B.
- Represented national solar trade group in contested proceedings before the Public Utilities Commission regarding net metering.
- Represented the tax equity investor in connection with the financing of a repowering of a utility-scale geothermal project.
- Represented the developer of one of the largest PV projects in the United States in connection with development financing.
- Represented the tax equity investor in connection with the financing of a PV a utility-scale project on tribal land within the Moapa utility corridor.
- Represented large southern Nevada water users in challenging an order of the State Engineer in state court.
- Represented large utility users in successfully defending a decision of the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada in the Second Judicial District Court.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

"Behind-the-Meter Playbook: Ownership, Operations & Utility Integration," *Data Center World POWER 2025*, San Antonio, TX, September 30, 2025

RECOGNITION

- *Chambers USA*, Environment, 2025, 2026
- *Lawdragon*, 500 Leading Energy Lawyers, 2025; 500 Global Leaders in Energy, 2026
- *The Best Lawyers in America*® Lawyer of the Year, Administrative / Regulatory Law – Reno, 2027

- *The Best Lawyers in America*® Government Relations Practice, 2024-2027; Administrative & Regulatory Law, 2021-2027; Energy Regulatory Law; Environmental Law; Utilities Law, 2027
- *Nevada Business Magazine*, Legal Elite: Best Government Attorneys, 2013

PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

- State Bar of Nevada, Energy, Utilities and Communication Section Chair, 2018-2024
- State Bar of Nevada, Northern Nevada Disciplinary Board, Member, 2020-2023
- City of Reno Charter Review Committee and Green Building Task Force Affiliation Bullets, Past Member