

**CONTACT**

lga@vnf.com  
202.298.1915

**PRACTICES**

Electric  
Hydropower  
Oil, Gas, & LNG

**EDUCATION**

Georgetown University Law  
Center  
Syracuse University

**BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS**

U.S. Court of Appeals for the  
Ninth Circuit  
U.S. Supreme Court  
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth  
Circuit  
District of Columbia Bar  
U.S. Court of Appeals for the  
Second Circuit  
U.S. Court of Appeals for the  
Third Circuit  
U.S. Court of Appeals for the  
District of Columbia Circuit  
U.S. Court of Appeals for the  
Eighth Circuit

**LAWRENCE G. ACKER**

**PARTNER**



**Professional Background**

Lawrence Acker has extensive experience representing natural gas and electric power industry participants in regulatory, commercial, and transactional matters, including infrastructure development, in proceedings before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), in civil litigation, and in related appeals. Larry works closely with company counsel and senior executives, as well as experts in related fields of law and other disciplines. He frequently manages the work of groups of lawyers in complex matters.

He has also conducted live, video and webcast seminars within the U.S. and abroad on sources of regulatory and litigation exposure, market manipulation, enforcement and compliance matters, LNG projects and other infrastructure development.

**Representative Experience**

Larry has served as lead outside counsel assisting clients with a variety of matters that involve energy regulation, including:

- Appeals of FERC Orders. Recent examples include:
  - Challenges in the D.C. Circuit to FERC orders assessing RTEP costs to NYPA (pending);
  - Challenges in the D.C. Circuit to FERC hydropower orders respecting federal pre-emption of state regulation (pending);
  - Argument in *MRES v. FERC* (D.C. Circuit), 918 F.3d 954 (2019);
  - Argument in *Portland General Electric Co. v. FERC*, 854 F.3d 629 (2017); and
  - Argument in Ninth Circuit in *Idaho Power Co. v. FERC*, 801 F.3d 1055 (2015).
- The regulatory and commercial component of due diligence for potential investors in infrastructure projects;
- Negotiation of precedent and other commercial and operating agreements;
- Authorizations for LNG, pipeline, and hydropower projects, some of which have been contested;
- Enforcement investigations and compliance planning;
- Agency evidentiary proceedings; and
- Acting as regulatory counsel in civil litigation in which FERC issues are present.

Larry's work encompasses natural gas, electric, and hydropower matters. He was lead rate and tariff counsel for the Panhandle Eastern family of interstate pipelines, an active participant in the development of LNG terminals for a variety of companies and investors, regulatory counsel in the multi-party Louisiana coastal wetlands civil litigation against the oil and gas industry, and currently serves as lead FERC counsel for the Hells Canyon hydropower project. He also was lead counsel for more than four years for the power marketers in FERC's California refund proceedings, and related appeals, including presenting oral argument before the Ninth and D.C. Circuits; and he was in the leadership group of the Marketers in FERC's Pacific Northwest refund proceedings, including arguments challenging FERC before the Ninth

Circuit, resulting in the remand of FERC's Orders.

He represented the California ISO in connection with prominent market manipulation matters and to block interference with the ISO's efforts to prevent load shedding during summer peak periods in Southern California.

## **Awards and Honors**

### **Super Lawyers**

2008-2019

### **"Lawyer of the Year" by *Best Lawyers***

Energy Regulatory Law, 2020

### **Legal 500 - Recommended Attorney**

Energy Regulation - Oil & Gas, 2019

### **"Best Lawyers in America" by *Best Lawyers***

Energy Law, 2005-2020

Energy Regulatory Law, 2018-2020

Natural Resources Law, 2013-2020

Oil and Gas Law, 2018-2020

### **Legal 500**

Natural Gas & Oil 2017

### **Chambers USA**

Energy: Electricity (Regulatory & Litigation), 2003-2019

Energy: Oil & Gas (Regulatory & Litigation), 2003-2019

### **Profiled in *Euromoney Guide to the World's Leading Energy Lawyers***

## **Articles and Presentations**

- 2019 Fall FERC Regulatory Committee Meeting, 09/13/2019
- Evaluating a Compliance Program, Association of Corporate Counsel, 01/28/2019
- AGA FERC Manual: A Guide for Local Distribution Companies (2010-2017), Principal Author  
American Gas Association, 2010-2018 Editions , 01/01/2017
- AGA Energy Market Regulation Conference 2016, American Gas Association, Washington DC,  
12/08/2016
- U.S. Based Small Scale LNG Projects, Euromoney Expert Guides, 02/01/2016
- Webinar: Recent Developments in the Regulation of Small-Scale Liquefaction Facilities, 11/19/2014
- AGA Energy Market Regulation Conference 2013, American Gas Association, New York NY,  
10/03/2013