Van Ness Feldman LLP

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PRACTICES

Energy Transition

Litigation & Investigations

EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin Law School

California Institute of Technology

University of Wisconsin

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

District of Columbia Bar

U.S. Court of Federal Claims

U.S. Supreme Court

U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia

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 Fourth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims

MICHAEL F. MCBRIDE

PARTNER



Professional Background

Mike McBride focuses his practice on litigation, arbitration, mediation, and negotiations involving transportation, energy, and environmental issues, as well as nuclear regulatory matters.

Twice a former President of the Association of Transportation Law Professionals (ATLP), Editor-in-Chief of ATLP's Journal of Law, Logistics and Policy, past Program Committee Chairman of the Transportation Law Institute, and Program Committee Chairman of ATLP's annual Transportation Forum held at the Surface Transportation Board, Mike represents various rail shippers and other entities in transportation-related litigation and regulatory matters before the Surface Transportation Board, as well as in negotiation of and dispute resolution involving transportation contracts.

Mike also maintains a substantial environmental practice, including counseling on nuclear regulatory issues, and has also participated in the licensing of several nuclear reactors. In addition, he has experience litigating civil and criminal cases under the National Environmental Policy Act, the "Superfund" statute, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, and the Clean Air Act. In energy and environmental matters, his clients have included electric utilities (both in nuclear and non-nuclear capacities), the American Petroleum Institute, Edison Electric Institute, National Petrochemical & Refiners Association, the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers, Gas Processors Association, Global Automakers, Inc., the National Marine Manufacturers Association, Nuclear Energy Institute, the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute, The Chlorine Institute, the National Mining Association, Olin, a paper company, a chemical recycling company, and individuals.

Representative Experience

- Advised the Bipartisan Policy Center on its Nuclear Waste Initiative.
- Served as outside counsel to the Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future, an advisory committee to the Secretary of Energy.
- Served as lead counsel to petroleum industry associations in their challenge to EPA's renewable oxygenate standard for Reformulated Gasoline (RFG), and with respect to other RFG issues.
- Represented most of the control room operators and supervisors at Three Mile Island-Unit 2, from 1980-88, before the US Congress, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the courts.
- Represented the nuclear industry in *Silkwood v. Kerr-McGee Corporation.*
- Represented BP Amoco Chemical Company in the first formal small-shipment rate challenge before the Surface Transportation Board.
- Represented Viacom Inc. (now CBS Corporation) in nuclear decommissioning disputes in arbitration and before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
- Represented Trunkline LNG Company in litigation involving the importation and sale of liquefied natural gas.
- Represented Louisiana Energy Services in defending its license for a new uranium enrichment facility.

Awards and Honors

"Best Lawyers in America" by *Best Lawyers*

Wisconsin State Bar
U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California
Wisconsin Supreme Court
U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California

Transportation Law, 2016-2027

Chambers USA

Transportation: Rail (for Shippers): 2005-2026

Legal 500

Energy: Litigation, 2010-2011
Energy: Transaction & Regulatory, 2011

Super Lawyers

2009-2025

Top 10 Influential Regulatory Lawyers in USA's Nationwide Rail Transportation

Business Today Magazine, 2023

Association of Transportation Law Professionals

Presidential Achievement Award, awarded in 1990, 1991, 1993, 1996, 1999, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2013-2023.

Program Chairman, 2004-2015.

Articles and Presentations

- Is Humphrey's History?, Journal of Transportation Law, Logistics and Policy, Vol. 92, 12/19/2025
- Back-End Nuclear Fuel Cycle: Advising Utilities and Developers on SNF Storage, Transport, and Disposal, BARBRI, 11/20/2025
- The 'End Game' UP-NS Merger, Railway Age, 10/02/2025
- 2025 Southwest Association of Rail Shippers (SWARS) Semi-Annual Conference, Southwest Association of Rail Shippers, Phoenix Arizona, 10/01/2025
- Electric Power: A Cautionary Tale, Railway Age, 07/27/2023
- Railroads' Common Carrier Obligation: Its Legal and Economic Context, ATLP's Journal of Law, Logistics and Policy, Vol. 87 Issue 1 pp. 39, 06/01/2020
- Railroad's Common Carrier Obligation: Its Legal and Economic Context, United States Department of Agriculture, 06/01/2020
- So, What Do Rail Shippers Really Want?, Railway Age, 08/22/2019
- Institute of Nuclear Materials Management - 60th Annual Meeting, Palm Desert CA, 07/15/2019
- Association of Transportation Law Professionals 90th Annual Meeting, Association of Transportation Law Professionals, Washington DC, 06/09/2019
- The US Nuclear Waste Impasse, Nuclear Engineering International, 04/01/2018
- Southwest Association of Rail Shippers' 2017 Semi-Annual Meeting, Irvine California, 10/04/2017
- 32nd Spent Fuel Seminar , Institute of Nuclear Materials Management and the U.S. Nuclear Infrastructure Council , Washington DC, 01/11/2017
- Options for Consolidated Storage of Nuclear Waste and States' Authority to Regulate Nuclear Waste, 07/30/2015
- Transportation Forum XI, The Association of Transportation Law Professionals, Washington DC, 11/10/2014
- APPA's Legal Seminar, American Public Power Association, San Antonio TX, 10/19/2014
- NWSC's 2013 Fall Meeting, Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition, Washington DC, 11/12/2013

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- Nuclear Power at the Crossroads, The Environmental Forum, Vol. 30 Issue 2 pp. 34, 03/01/2013
- Nuclear Power at the Crossroads, The Environmental Forum, Vol. 30 Issue 2 pp. 34, 03/01/2013
- Renewable Energy Tax Incentives and Loan Guarantees Under the New Stimulus Plan, Shearman & Sterling LLP, New York NY, 03/18/2009
- Is the Price-Anderson Act an Appropriate Model for the Railroads?, Journal of Transportation Law, Logistics & Policy, Vol. 76 pp. 93, 03/01/2009
- Railroad Transportation of Nuclear Waste and Other Hazardous Materials, The Electricity Journal, Vol. 21 Issue 3 pp. 55, 04/01/2008
- After Otter Tail, Most Rate Regulation Is Kaput, Journal of Transportation Law, Logistics & Policy, Vol. 74 Issue 1 pp. 128, 03/01/2007
- A New Twist to Amtrak's Annual Kabuki Dance, Journal of Transportation Law, Logistics & Policy, Vol. 72 Issue 3 pp. 370-393, 09/01/2005
- Railroads May Not Refuse to Carry Dangerous Commodities, Journal of Transportation Law, Logistics & Policy, Vol. 69 Issue 4 pp. 391, 08/01/2002
- The Future of Rail Mergers in North America - The View of the Shippers, Journal of Transportation Law, Logistics & Policy, Vol. 68 Issue 2 pp. 129, 01/01/2001
- Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Merger Procedures, Railroad Mergers: History, Analysis, Insight (F. Wilner ed.) (1997) , 10/01/1997
- Solicitation of Information from Ex-Employees in ICC Proceedings, Transportation Practitioners Journal, Vol. 61 Issue 4 pp. 640, 07/01/1994
- Valuation of Railroad Property Consistency Is a Virtue, Transportation Practitioners Journal, Vol. 60 Issue 1, 09/01/1992
- Railroad Rate Guidelines for Commodities Other Than Coal, Transportation Practitioners Journal, Vol. 59 Issue 4, 07/01/1992
- Interstate Commerce Commission Certification of State Regulatory Bodies and Review of Intrastate Rate Decisions: The Need for Reform, I.C.C. Practitioners Journal, 06/01/1984

Alerts

- NRC Proposes $9,000 Penalty for Violations Associated with the Safe Use and Control of NRC-Regulated Material , 08/21/2025
- Supreme Court Narrows Both Judicial Review and Scope of NEPA Reviews, 06/02/2025
- White House Publishes Executive Orders Aimed at Accelerating Nuclear Energy, 05/30/2025
- Congress Passes ADVANCE Act to Accelerate Deployment of Advanced Nuclear Reactors, 06/24/2024
- U.S. District Court for The Northern District of California Vacates EPA's Clean Water Act Section 401 Certification Rule, 10/25/2021
- OUTLOOK 2014: KEY POLICY DEVELOPMENTS, 01/23/2014
- Nuclear Waste Fee to Be Suspended Indefinitely, 11/21/2013
- Yucca Mountain Litigation Saga Update: No Flouting Allowed, 08/14/2013