

CONTACT

bsf@vnf.com
202.298.1863

PRACTICES

Air
Waste & Hazardous Substances

EDUCATION

American University, Washington
College of Law
Dartmouth College

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

District of Columbia Bar
Maryland State Bar

BRITT SPEYER FLEMING

PARTNER



Professional Background

Britt Speyer Fleming represents automobile manufacturers, specialty vehicle manufacturers, large public power utilities, engine and equipment manufacturers, trade associations, and coalitions before Congress, federal, and state agencies. Her practice focuses primarily on environmental law and regulation, energy policy, and technology development issues affecting these industry sectors. Since joining the firm in 1997, she has advised clients on various federal and state environmental and energy policy laws, with special emphasis on the Clean Air Act.

With regard to the Clean Air Act, Britt regularly represents clients in the development of mobile and stationary air regulations and counsels them on related implementation and compliance matters. In addition, she advises clients on the implementation of National Ambient Air Quality Standards, including those standards regulating ozone, particulate matter, and sulfur dioxide, and provides strategic advice and counseling on project planning throughout this dynamic process. Britt assists clients with permitting both new facilities and modification projects both at the state and federal levels. She also counsels clients on compliance with federal and California vehicle emission standards and emission standards for a variety of off-road engines as well as issues related to enforcement of those standards.

Britt is a co-coordinator of Van Ness Feldman's Environment practice and is the chair of the firm's recruiting committee.

Representative Experience

- Advises electric utilities on compliance strategies related to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Mercury and Air Toxics Standards (MATS). Representation includes meetings and interaction with EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA), Office of Air and Radiation, and applicable EPA regional offices.
- Represented a large manufacturer of off-road engines in an enforcement action involving allegations of a significant number of Clean Air Act violations. Settlement entailed extensive interaction with attorneys from EPA's OECA and the Department of Justice (DOJ) to develop a mitigation strategy and significantly reduced penalty amount.
- Worked closely with a large public utility client to obtain a Federal Power Act 202(c) Emergency Order to address potential non-compliance with MATS. Representation required interaction with the Department of Energy (DOE).
- Represented a heavy duty engine manufacturer before the California Air Resources Board (CARB) in resolving alleged violations of California's emission certification requirements. Settlement negotiations involved CARB enforcement and legal staff.
- Represented an association of automobile manufacturers in the strategy and rule development for air toxics regulations applicable to numerous plant operations, including surface coating (auto, plastic and metals), gasoline distribution, emergency engines, liquids storage, engine testing, and industrial boilers, among others. Engagement entailed working with companies to respond to the Information Collection Request, drafting comments, supplemental comments and technical amendments, and organizing and attending meetings with staff and management at OAQPS as well as EPA's Office of Air and Radiation, and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).
- Challenged, on behalf of an industry association, EPA's air toxics rule applicable to reciprocating

internal combustion engines (RICE). Representation involved meetings with Department of Justice (DOJ) and EPA Office of General Counsel (OGC) attorneys and developing consensus-based settlement with client association and other associations in the consolidated proceeding.

- Assists natural gas pipeline companies with Clean Air Act issues raised during the certification process before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), as well as during the state environmental permitting process.
- Counsels a control technology manufacturer on potential markets for innovative monitoring package. Representation involves facilitating contact with relevant EPA staff at the Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS).

Government Service

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, Air Enforcement Division

Legal Extern, 1997.

Awards and Honors

Chambers USA

Environmental Law, 2021-2024

Legal 500 - Leading Attorney - Environment - Regulatory, 2024

Articles and Presentations

- 2020 NACo Legislative Conference, National Association of Counties, Washington DC, 02/29/2020
- SAE International's Government/Industry Meeting, Washington DC, 01/23/2020
- [Proposed Air Quality Rules May Pose Challenge to Offshore Oil and Gas Industry](#), Law360.com, 03/24/2016
- Legal Perspective of the MATS Rule, Webinar, 05/24/2012

Alerts

- EPA and California Move to Further Regulate PFAS Chemicals, 10/08/2024
- EPA Finalizes Major Power Plant Rules, 04/26/2024
- EPA Finalizes Chemical Risk Evaluation Rule to Enhance Protection of Public Health, 04/25/2024
- EPA Heavy Truck Standards to Drive Down GHG Emissions, 04/01/2024
- EPA Files Record Climate Enforcement Action Against Corporate HFC Importer, 03/27/2024
- EPA Finalizes Groundbreaking Multipollutant Standards for Passenger Vehicles, 03/20/2024
- EPA Tightens the Fine Particulate Matter Standard, 03/07/2024
- EPA Strengthens Risk Planning and Management Requirements for Industry, 03/05/2024
- EPA Emphasizes its Criminal Enforcement Program, 02/26/2024
- New EPA Enforcement Priorities Target Climate Change, PFAS Contamination, and Coal Ash Impoundments, 08/24/2023
- EPA Releases Landmark Greenhouse Gas Standards for Power Plants, 05/12/2023
- Stringent New Vehicle Standards Proposed by EPA, 04/13/2023
- Reducing Smog in Downwind States: EPA Finalizes "Good Neighbor Plan", 03/21/2023
- EPA Proposes Tighter Wastewater Discharge Standards for Coal-Fired Power Plants, 03/13/2023
- EPA Proposes Updated RFS Volume Requirements and a New RFS Credit Market for Electric Vehicles,

12/06/2022

- Supreme Court Limits EPA's Authority to Regulate Greenhouse Gas Emissions, 06/30/2022
- DOJ Restores Supplemental Environmental Projects in a Slate of Environmental Justice Initiatives, 05/12/2022
- EPA Amends Freedom of Information Act Regulations, 07/03/2019
- EPA Finalizes Affordable Clean Energy Rule, 06/24/2019
- EPA Reconsiders Cost Justification for MATS and Proposes No Additional Requirements for Power Plants, 01/09/2019
- D.C. Circuit Decision Loosens Restrictions on Solid Waste, 03/23/2018
- Proposed Air Quality Rules May Pose Challenge to Offshore Oil and Gas Industry, 03/18/2016
- EPA Promulgates Long-Awaited Final Rule Revising the Definition of Solid Waste, 12/17/2014
- EPA Proposal for Regulating CO₂ Emissions from Modified Power Plants Would Require Efficiency Improvements, But Not CCS, 06/05/2014
- OUTLOOK 2014: KEY POLICY DEVELOPMENTS, 01/23/2014
- EPA Proposes New Standards to Regulate Carbon Dioxide Emissions from New Power Plants, 09/24/2013
- EPA Issues Final Rule Regulating Mercury, Other Pollutants from Power Plants, 12/22/2011