

ENVIRONMENT

OVERVIEW

BCLP has particular depth in the environmental field and we offer a leading environmental practice committed to balancing social, environmental and economic concerns. For more than 30 years, our lawyers have represented clients facing a broad range of environmental issues and challenges, including environmental compliance counseling, litigation, liability management, strategic planning and stewardship. The technical skills of our environmental lawyers combine with a multidisciplinary approach to offer clients an exceptional, comprehensive service. Our practice methods are deliberately solution-orientated and geared towards treating environmental law practice as a means to client's ends rather than as an end in itself.

The lawyers who practice environmental law at BCLP have the experience and reach to assist clients in the wide variety of matters they face in the field, in the courtroom and at the negotiating table. The hallmarks of our practice are deep technical knowledge in environmental and occupational health and safety law, a record of success in the litigation and trial of significant environmental and related insurance-coverage lawsuits (including group/class actions and mass torts), and advising on major projects of international, national and regional importance that raise complex environmental issues. We help our clients to navigate through the intricacies of environmental law and policy, including nature conservation, environmental impact assessment, environmental regulatory issues, dispute resolution and the environmental aspects of real estate and corporate transactions. Delivering solutions to environmental problems that confront owners of contaminated land, and developers of regeneration projects on brownfield land, also remains a core part of our business.

Our lawyers are well aware that it is often essential for corporate and other institutional clients to maintain a working relationship and reputation for integrity, cooperation and environmental excellence with regulators and other public stakeholders. Our lawyers have many years of experience working with agencies and other stakeholders to represent clients effectively and with appropriate sensitivity to their reputational interests.

Lawyers in the Environmental Practice Group represent the firm's clients over the full spectrum of environmental and occupational safety and health matters. Please visit our associated environment pages to view more specific areas of our experience.

AWARDS

- BCLP was ranked as National Tier 1 in Environmental by "Best Law Firms" (2018 Edition)
- BCLP was ranked by Chambers UK 2019 in Tier 3
- BCLP was ranked by Legal 500 UK 2018 in Tier 3
- BCLP was ranked by Chambers USA 2020 in the following categories:
 - Colorado – Environment (Band 3)
 - Illinois – Environment (Band 2)
 - New York – Environment (Band 1)
 - St. Louis & Surrounds – Environment (Band 1)
- BCLP was ranked by Chambers USA 2021 in the following categories:
 - Colorado – Environment (Band 3)
 - Illinois – Environment (Band 2)
 - Missouri: St. Louis & Surrounds – Environment (Band 1)
 - New York – Environment (Band 1)
 - USA Nationwide – Environment (Band 4)

MEET THE TEAM



Lee Marshall

Global Department Leader – Litigation
& Investigations, San Francisco

lee.marshall@bclplaw.com

[+1 415 675 3444](tel:+14156753444)



Mark Richards

Partner and Regional Practice Group
Leader - Energy, Environment and
Infrastructure, London

mark.richards@bclplaw.com

[+44 \(0\) 20 3400 4603](tel:+442034004603)



Liz Blackwell

Partner, St. Louis

liz.blackwell@bclplaw.com

+1 314 259 2513



Paul J. Lopach

Partner, Denver

paul.lopach@bclplaw.com

+1 303 866 0207



Bryan E. Keyt

Partner and Global Practice Group

Leader - Energy, Environment and

Infrastructure, Chicago

bryan.keyt@bclplaw.com

+1 312 602 5036

RELATED CAPABILITIES

- Mass Torts & Product Liability
- Health & Safety
- Energy Transition
- Food & Agribusiness

AREAS OF FOCUS

- PFAS

EXPERIENCE

- Representing clients before state water resources agencies, state environmental regulators, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other governmental agencies.
- Advising clients on securing long term water supplies for industrial, mining, and large-scale residential development.
- Analyzing existence and stability of appurtenant water rights.
- Negotiating agreements to buy and sell water, and transfer water rights, including multi-state water allocation agreements.
- Accessing water supply from federal reclamation projects.
- Representing clients in state-wide water adjudications in Arizona.
- Advising clients on Arizona, California, Illinois, Missouri, New York, and Pennsylvania state water laws and allocation schemes.

RELATED INSIGHTS

News

Apr 30, 2025

BCLP advises SatixFy on the English law aspects of its proposed acquisition by MDA Space

News

Apr 29, 2025

BCLP advises SatixFy on securing £1.8 million contract from the UK Space Agency

Blog Post

Mar 31, 2025

PFAS in Consumer Products: State-by-State Regulations

Manufacturers, distributors, and retailers of consumer products across a broad spectrum of industries are being impacted by state laws regulating the presence of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (“PFAS”) in their products. This area is rapidly developing as states create new laws or amend existing ones, and the penalties and litigation risks for non-compliance can be significant.

Insights

Mar 17, 2025

EPA Announces New National Enforcement Policies

Blog Post

Mar 12, 2025

Environmental Justice Revisited

Since January 20, 2025, the Trump Administration has implemented numerous changes to federal environmental justice (“EJ”) initiatives which are expected to result in reduced permitting and regulatory burdens. While the current administration may continue to make changes to EJ policies on a federal level, it is important to know that many states still have their own EJ policies that remain enforceable. This insight discusses the following three things: provides the necessary historical context regarding EJ; outlines the recent actions by the Trump Administration; and explores some state regulations and potential ramifications for your business. It is vital for your business to stay current with these developments and to consult with legal counsel before making any changes to your operations based on the current administration's actions.

Blog Post

Feb 04, 2025

PFAS in Soil: State Regulations

In the absence of enforceable federal standards for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (“PFAS”) in soil, several states have started the process of regulating PFAS in soil themselves. These regulations have implications for due diligence, site investigations, and remediation decisions. This client alert explores the current landscape of state regulations regarding the advisory, notification, and cleanup levels for PFAS – most commonly perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (“PFOS”) and perfluorooctanoic acid (“PFOA”) – in soil.

Insights

Feb 03, 2025

HFC Regulation: Navigating Impacts to a Fast-Growing “Climate Control” Industry

Climate control technology is increasingly a focal part of modern society's expectation to have sophisticated supply chains, particularly relating to perishable items such as pharmaceuticals, raw products, and food. The United States federal government and state governments have been actively working to regulate hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), which are critical to refrigeration and the quickly evolving supply chain. This article provides a survey of United States legal obligations that may impact everyday business decisions regarding the production, use, and transport of HFCs, and what industries may expect as the regulations continue to develop and take force.

Blog Post

Jan 24, 2025

EPA Risk Evaluation for 1,4-Dioxane

Blog Post

Dec 19, 2024

PFAS in firefighting foam (AFFF) and equipment: state-by-state regulations

Numerous states have either enacted or proposed regulations regarding per- or polyfluoroalkyl substances (“PFAS”) present in Class B Aqueous Film-Forming Foams (“AFFF”) used for firefighting, or present in firefighters’ clothing and equipment. These regulations typically involve restrictions in four general areas: Discharge or Use Restrictions. These regulations usually limit or prohibit the use of AFFF in training or testing exercises, and may only allow the use of AFFF in active firefighting situations; Disposal, Storage, Inventory or “Take-back” Provisions. Some states have enacted state run programs to purchase and dispose of AFFF, usually purchasing supplies from government agencies; Notification or Reporting Requirements. When continued use of AFFF is allowed, some states have required that businesses report specific details regarding their discharge; and Limitations on Personal Protective Equip...