



Amanda C. Drennen

Partner

Amanda Drennen focuses her energy practice work on transmission planning and rate regulation and design. Clients seek out Amanda's ability to understand complex legal, economic, technical, and policy matters affecting the electric industry, especially as the industry transitions to address the threat of climate change. Amanda uses this knowledge and her ability to develop creative and innovative solutions to guide her clients and protect them from profit-seeking utilities—leading to over a billion dollars of favorable settlements and successful administrative and appellate outcomes.

Amanda has significant expertise and experience with transmission planning in regions across the country. She has advocated for favorable tariff and market rule changes that reflect the unique interests of her clients and ensure that all entities have fair, open access to the transmission system.

Amanda is a graduate of the New York University School of Law where she was an Executive Editor of the *Environmental Law Journal*. She received her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Pittsburgh. Prior to graduating from law school, Amanda had a variety of energy-related experiences, including an internship at the Eastern Environmental Law Center, where she developed arguments opposing construction of natural gas pipelines and clinic work at the Natural Resources Defense Council's Clean Energy Program.

Representative Matters

- Represented the Northern California Power Agency before the Federal Circuit and the Court of Federal Claims in a successful challenge of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's interpretation of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act. *N. Cal. Power Agency v. United States*, 942 F.3d 1091 (Fed. Cir. 2019) and *N. Cal. Power Agency v. United States*, 161 Fed. Cl. 498 (2022).

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EDUCATION

New York University School of Law, JD
2018, New York, NY
Environmental Law Journal

University of Pittsburgh, BA,
summa cum laude, 2013,
Pittsburgh, PA
History and Classics

ADMISSIONS

New York

District of Columbia

United States Courts of Appeals
for the District of Columbia and
Ninth Circuits

United States Court of Federal
Claims

- Represented the Office of People's Counsel for the District of Columbia in its appeal of the D.C. Public Service Commission's approval of Pepco's proposal to charge ratepayers for environmental remediation of pollution caused by the utility. The court granted the petition in full and remanded the matter to the Commission. *Off. People's Couns. v. D.C. Pub. Serv. Comm'n*, 284 A.3d 1027 (App. D.C. 2022).
- Represented clients in successfully challenging investor-owned utilities' rate incentive requests at FERC and participated in briefs defending FERC's orders denying the incentives at the Ninth Circuit. *Pac. Gas & Elec. Co. v. FERC*, Case No. 24-2527 (9th Cir. 2024).
- Briefed and argued successful interlocutory appeal of FERC administrative law judge's order. *DCR Transmission, L.L.C.*, 191 FERC ¶ 61,212 (2025).
- Represented a group of ratepayer advocates in a successful protest of proposed changes to PJM's Regional Transmission Expansion Planning Protocol which would have given transmission owners undue influence over PJM's transmission planning process to the detriment of other market participants. *Duquesne Light Co.*, 189 FERC ¶ 61,181 (2024), *pending on appeal PJM Transmission Owners v. FERC*, Case No. 25-1064 (D.C. Cir. 2025).
- Represented the Office of the People's Counsel for the District of Columbia in a proceeding to determine the D.C. Public Service Commission's authority to direct electrification. *Implementation of Elec. and Nat. Gas Climate Change Proposals*, Formal Case No. 1167 (D.C. Pub. Serv. Comm'n 2022).
- Represented state entities, consumer advocates, and joint action agencies in rate case proceedings, resulting in over a billion dollars of favorable settlements.
- Advocated for clients in Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and Department of Energy rulemaking proceedings on rate incentives, cybersecurity, transmission planning, and generator interconnection processes.
- Advised clients on tariff and market rule changes related to generator

interconnection reform, resource adequacy, and transmission planning.

- Advised on the jurisdictional issues surrounding a utility's electric vehicle program and the effects of newly passed legislation.
- Represented clients in an amicus brief before the Supreme Court defending the constitutionality of public, educational, and governmental access (PEG) channel requirements and the viability of public access television. *Manhattan Cmty. Access Corp. v. Halleck*, 587 U.S. 802 (2019).

Resources

- *FERC'S Enforcement Order on GreenHat and Takeaways for Market Participants*, by Lisa G. Dowden, Amanda C. Drennen (March 2022).