Energy Regulation

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- **Advocacy to Create Opportunities to Compete**
  Within our project development practice, our regulatory team helps clients create opportunities to compete with new services, technologies and business models in complex regulatory environments where incumbents resist change.

- **Navigate complex energy regulatory environment**
  Our regulatory team helps clients navigate the complex and evolving federal and state regulatory schemes to enable projects to be built, electric power to be sold, and financing to flow.

**OVERVIEW**

Wilson Sonsini’s energy regulatory team advocates for innovation and competition in the regulation of electric energy across the nation. The energy industry in the U.S. is undergoing a metamorphosis: from carbon-intensive to sustainable, from centralized to distributed, from commodity to service, and from vertically-integrated to competitive. Consumers don’t need to be sold on the benefits of moving to smarter, cheaper and more sustainable ways to use power; they are already there. Powerful incumbents control key barriers that presently impede the efficient evolution of the electric power sector, and we have built a practice that is focused on creating opportunities for independent companies to compete in this evolving energy regulatory environment.

Our energy regulatory team assists clients in removing barriers to entry and maximizing their opportunities. We advocate before state and federal regulatory commissions that oversee the market rules and incentive programs that drive development of clean energy resources. Working with our clients, we dismantle key barriers and revise skewed incentives that presently impede the efficient evolution of the electric power sector and provide strategic counsel and guidance to clients as new market designs and business models emerge. In addition to our regular practice before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), our attorneys have represented renewable energy clients and interests before more than 25 state public utilities commissions in contested cases, rulemakings, and complaint proceedings.

In addition to our advocacy work, the energy regulatory team supports Wilson Sonsini’s leading renewable energy project finance practice. Our team specializes in unpacking complex transactions within the ISO/RTO markets and assisting parties in understanding, and allocating, risk and opportunity. Working closely with the project financing team, the energy regulatory team ensures compliance, and facilitates necessary governmental approvals, in connection with financing clean energy infrastructure projects.

Our energy team also works closely with Wilson Sonsini’s other regulatory experts in order to help clients comply with related regulatory regimes that affect the energy industry: Antitrust and Competition, Committee on Foreign Investment in the U.S. (CFIUS), Export Control and Sanctions, Federal Trade Commission, and Privacy and Cybersecurity.