

Environmental Compliance Counseling & Advocacy

Staying current on environmental regulations, technologies, and trends can be a full-time job — and that's where Michael Best comes in. Our lawyers make it their business to keep ahead of the curve, not only advising clients on their current environmental compliance obligations, but also helping you anticipate and respond to changes.

Armed with decades of experience, our environmental counseling team helps clients obtain permits for new developments and ensure compliance for businesses. We provide counsel throughout the regulatory process, starting with project design and ways to minimize permitting obligations. To facilitate ongoing compliance, we often help clients design and implement environmental management systems tailored to their specific needs.

We also advise clients that are undergoing environmental compliance audits or conducting voluntary self-reporting and corrective action. Given governments' capacity to use audits as evidence in permitting, enforcement, and criminal proceedings, careful formulation and implementation of these structures is critical.

We work with numerous trade associations in the development of environmental regulations impacting their members. As environmental regulations continue to evolve, Michael Best is committed to effecting policy changes on behalf of our clients, whether representing corporations, government entities, trade associations, or individuals. Our advocacy encompasses lobbying for new rules, petitioning for favorable applications of existing rules, and litigating the development or application of rules when necessary.

Experience

Our attorneys provide environmental compliance counsel and advocacy services in many different areas, such as:

- Federal, state, and local environmental permitting
- Compliance and risk management training
- Environmental management systems
- Compliance audits and self-policing
- Government relations and policymaking
- Clean Air Act
- Clean Water Act
- Wastewater management and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting
- Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA or Superfund)
- State-specific cleanup programs
- Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act

- Solid and hazardous waste generation and management under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)
- PCBs and asbestos waste management
- Waterfront development
- Wetlands water quality certification
- Workplace safety