HUSCH BLACKWELL



Michael Blackwell

PARTNER

THE LINK VIRTUAL OFFICE
PHONE: 202.378.2333

WASHINGTON, DC*
PHONE: 202.378.2300

EMAIL: MICHAEL.BLACKWELL@HUSCHBLACKWELL.COM

OVERVIEW

Michael helps clients navigate structural changes in the energy industry. His practice centers around the rapidly changing regulatory developments and commercial arrangements in the electric power industry.

Michael practices from Carmel, Indiana as a member of our virtual office, The Link.

Michael is experienced with energy infrastructure development and transactions, advising clients on federal and state energy laws, regulations, and policies. He represents clients in transactional and commercial matters and in proceedings before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), state public service commissions, and state and federal courts. He advises clients on organized U.S. energy markets and transmission and interconnection procedures in both FERC jurisdictional independent system operators and non-jurisdictional distribution and transmission owning utilities. Michael assists clients in obtaining regulatory authorizations and approvals and in complying with regulatory requirements. He has extensive experience conducting due diligence and managing the regulatory approval process.

Supporting the development of transmission facilities, large loads integrations, interconnection facilities, electric power generators, and battery storage assets is the core of Michael's practice. He represents project developers, equity investors, financial institutions, marketers, large load customers, data center developers, and energy services providers in mergers, acquisitions, asset sales, corporate financings, restructurings, and energy

Industry

Energy & Natural Resources

Services

Data Centers
Electric Transmission
Energy Regulation
Energy Storage
Hydrogen
Mergers & Acquisitions
Private Use Networks
Solar Energy
Wind Energy

© 2026 HUSCH BLACKWELL LLP. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

outsourcing arrangements. He has experience drafting and negotiating power purchase and sale agreements, renewable energy credit sales agreements, interconnection agreements, service agreements, membership interest purchase agreements, equity capital contribution agreements, credit agreements, energy service agreements, utility contracts, and other energy-related commercial and transaction documents.

Michael is recognized as “Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch” for his knowledge in energy regulatory law. Alongside his domestic practice, he has also advised governments and industry stakeholders in developing nations on electric market and transmission planning reform. He is a member of the Clean Energy Buyer’s Association (CEBA) and has extensive experience advising data center developers, tenants, and power suppliers. Prior to entering private practice, he was an attorney at the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO), where he served as lead in house counsel on several queue reform filings and the creation of HVDC interconnection procedures.

Outside of the office, Michael is an adjunct professor at Indiana University McKinney School of Law, where he teaches a seminar on energy industry regulation. He volunteers extensively and serves in a leadership capacity for several community organizations. Michael is a current board member of the Charitable Foundation of the Energy Bar Association and board president of the Wawasee Sailing Foundation.

Case Study

Helping Minority- and Veteran-Owned Business Secure a Game-Changing Contract

Through the Communities for Change initiative, our attorneys helped a clean energy design/build firm negotiate and secure a multimillion-dollar contract.

Experience

- Counsel and represent large transmission owner and operator in Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity proceedings before the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, including the preparation of application materials, testimony, briefing, discovery responses, and witness preparation.
- Negotiated procurement and regulatory issues related to power supply agreements for large industrial facilities in Idaho, including counsel on regulated electric utility rate structures and state utility procurement contract requirements.

© 2026 HUSCH BLACKWELL LLP. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Experience

- Advised client in negotiation of revised power supply and interconnetion arrangements with the Tennessee Valley Authority, including counsel on applicability of new interconnection transition procedures and negotiated reduction in security risk to project developer.
- Advised institutional investor on New Mexico public utility holding company regulations, addressing complex issues related to ownership structures and affiliate codes of conduct.
- Provided regulatory counsel regarding tolling agreements and shared interconnection agreements in ERCOT, including extensive research into ERCOT protocols to support development of Private Use Networks and behind the meter power supply arrangements.
- Advise clients on FERC Standards of Conduct regarding wholesale energy market trading and generator control room protocols for offshore wind generation facilities.
- Counsel clients on transmission rate structures and federal-state jurisdictional issues related to siting of large industrial load and generation assets in the Entergy region of MISO.
- Advise generation developer client on cost and process impacts of revisions to PJM study processes, and negotiate terms of related interconnection service agreement and financing agreement.
- Represented Swift Current Energy as project development counsel in the multi-year development and sale of the Steel River solar and storage project to Cypress Creek Renewables.

Recognition

- *The Legal 500 United States*
    - Energy: Energy regulation: electric power, Recommended lawyer, 2026
- *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America*
    - Corporate Law, 2024 and 2025
- Capital Pro Bono Honor Roll, Honors, 2023

© 2026 HUSCH BLACKWELL LLP. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Education

- J.D., Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law
  - Editor, Indiana International and Comparative Law Review
  - Certification in Energy, Environmental, and Natural Resources Law
- B.A., Indiana University
  - Economics, *summa cum laude*
  - Certification in Business Management, Kelly School of Business

Admissions

- Indiana
- U.S. Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Indiana

Michael is associated with the Washington, DC office for telephone and mail purposes only. He is not admitted to practice in District of Columbia.

Community Leadership

Michael serves as an adjunct professor at Indiana University McKinney School of Law, teaching a course on emerging issues in energy law. He also guides and mentors students in the completion of advanced legal writing requirements on topics in energy law.

Michael serves as a board member of the Wawasee Yacht Club and is a former board member of the Latino Youth Collective in Indianapolis, Indiana.

---

*Michael works remotely and is licensed in Indiana, practicing in Carmel, IN. Contact Michael via email or phone for in-person/virtual meetings. Use the Washington, DC office address for mail/deliveries only.

© 2026 HUSCH BLACKWELL LLP. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED



The Legal 500 United States

© 2026 HUSCH BLACKWELL LLP. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED