HUSCH BLACKWELL



Carrie Collier-Brown

PARTNER

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OVERVIEW

With her deep understanding of the Texas wholesale and retail electric markets and the regulatory environment at the Texas PUC and ERCOT, Carrie provides clients with practical solutions in agency proceedings, corporate transactions, and civil litigation.

Carrie represents clients in a broad range of matters, including competitive retail and wholesale market policy, renewable energy project development and acquisitions, regulatory certifications, rate applications, compliance and enforcement, and electric transmission Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) proceedings.

Carrie has developed a particularly strong niche practice in advising electric generators and end users on complex behind-the-meter and private use network projects (PUN) in ERCOT. She has extensive experience guiding clients through the regulatory process for interconnecting these projects to the grid, including large loads co-located with power generation facilities.

"Carrie Collier-Brown is an excellent regulatory attorney and has deep knowledge of the electric industry in Texas, particularly as it applies to retail electric providers."

— Chambers USA 2024

Industry

Energy & Natural Resources

Services

Data Centers
Electric Transmission
Energy Regulation
Hydrogen
Private Use Networks
Solar Energy
Wind Energy

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Prior to earning her law degree, Carrie worked at the Texas Legislature covering proposed legislation to create a competitive retail electric market. She went on to accept a role with the Texas PUC, where she led numerous rulemaking projects to implement retail electric choice before returning to legislative work in a government relations role. Fascinated by the complexity of energy regulatory law, she pursued a law degree, and then joined an energy-focused firm in DC.

She later returned to her home state of Texas, and more than 15 years later, Carrie continues to love the intersections of energy law, markets, and policy at the heart of her law practice. She is known as a highly knowledgeable advocate for participants in the competitive electric market in Texas and for her many years of experience in sophisticated commercial and regulatory transactions. Most of all, clients appreciate her creative thinking: Carrie's solutions are never off-the-shelf answers, and she has a true talent for particularly complex projects.

Experience

- Represented renewable generator on regulatory matters related to interconnecting 200 MW data center retail loads co-located at its wind generation resource in ERCOT.
- Representing data center developer on regulatory matters related to interconnecting more than 2 GW of retail load co-located at existing and new solar and wind generating facilities in ERCOT.
- Representing developer to interconnect 1.8GW of new renewable generation co-located with 1.8GW of new data center load in electric cooperative service area in ERCOT.
- Representing client on regulatory matters related to development of new 1.2 GW gas-fired generation resource interconnecting with co-located 1.2 GW data center load in ERCOT.
- Led team that represented Cross Texas Transmission on successfully obtaining approval from Texas PUC on CCN application to the PUCT for a transmission line in ERCOT to interconnect new renewable generation project (PUC Docket No. 56402).
- Represented association of competitive retail electric providers in rulemakings, policy proceedings, and contested cases.

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Experience

- Advises wholesale market participants with registration and compliance matters regarding ERCOT, Texas Reliability Entity (TRE), and the Texas PUC. Advises clients on regulatory issues in a broad range of energy contracts and due diligence for generation project development and acquisition transactions.
- Represented portfolio company in formation of joint venture to own and operate on-site power generation utilizing captured flared natural gas in Yoakum County, Texas.
- Represented client as local counsel on acquisition of generator; counseled on post-closing regulatory filings at the Texas PUC and FERC, as well as post-closing agreements.
- Represented private equity company in acquisition of terminaling and storage assets in several states for approximately $160 million. The assets added approximately 7 million barrels of NGL storage.
- Represented borrower in announced sale of fractionation facility near Corpus Christi, Texas. Purchase included 57-mile pipeline enabling facility to receive natural gas liquids from various pipelines that allow the delivery of fractionated products to several Corpus Christi-area markets.
- Assisted Crusoe Energy Systems in reaching financial close in the second phase of a $15B joint venture with Blue Owl Capital and Primary Digital Infrastructure to fund the 1.2-gigawatt AI data center in Abilene, Texas.
- Assisted Galaxy Digital in reaching financial close of a $1.4 billion project financing facility to support the continued development of its Helios data center campus in West Texas.

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Recognition

- BL Rankings' *The Best Lawyers in America®*
  - Energy Law, 2025-2027
  - Energy Regulatory Law, 2025-2027
- *Chambers USA*
  - Energy: State Regulatory & Litigation (Electricity), 2021-2026
- *The Legal 500 United States*
  - Energy: Energy regulation: electric power, Recommended lawyer, 2025 and 2026
- Best News Article, State Bar of Texas, 2021-2022

Education

- J.D., Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law
- B.A., University of Texas at Austin

Admissions

- Texas
- District of Columbia

Community Leadership

Carrie is passionate about voter outreach, and in 2018 she founded Texas Blue Action, an organization which aims to increase voter turnout. She also cares deeply about supporting and fundraising for her children's schools and serves as a campus parent representative for Eanes 4 Equity, a non-profit organization celebrating diversity and building connections within the school district community.

Carrie previously served on the Austin Electric Utility Commission in 2018-2019, as appointed by Austin City Council Member Paige Ellis.

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