

ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION

Modernization of the nation's energy grid is vital to guaranteeing companies and individuals uninterrupted access to power. Husch Blackwell is at the leading edge of the regulatory, business, and legislative matters affecting electric transmission in the United States.

Whether our clients' focus is on transmissions from renewable or traditional energy facilities, we work closely with owners, developers, regional transmission organizations (RTOs), state utility commissions, and other government officials to advance our clients' interests.

Our guidance to clients in the electric transmission sector includes:

Negotiation of transmission service and interconnection agreements

Regulatory and legislative policy guidance and advocacy

Construction and acquisition of transmission facilities

Facilitation of access to energy supplies

Transactional interconnection issues, including site and land use, cost allocation, and rate recovery

FERC and Texas PUC hearings

Integration of renewables into bulk power markets



The commercial viability of our biofuel refining technology is made possible through international collaboration among world-class organizations. Husch Blackwell helped facilitate these relationships and the financing necessary to move our projects forward.

— Robert Tripp,
CEO, Benefuel Inc.

Contact Information

James J. Hoecker
202.378.2316
james.hoecker@
huschblackwell.com

Linda L. Walsh
202.378.2308
linda.walsh@
huschblackwell.com

Representative Experience

Representation of client in connection with its restructuring as a real estate investment trust for the purpose of investing in electric transmission systems and other energy infrastructure assets.

Represented buyer in purchase of a significant undivided interest in a 216-mile, 345-kilovolt transmission system in the southwestern United States.

Represented electric cooperative in acquisition of interstate transmission facilities in the Midwest from an investor-owned utility.

Lead counsel on negotiation of joint development arrangements between transmission-owning cooperatives and independent transmission company for construction of extra high voltage transmission.

Assisted independent transmission developer in the assessment and identification of financing and partnership opportunities for the development of a 100-mile, 230-kilovolt transmission project in the southwestern United States.

Represented investor-owned utility in connection with multiple acquisitions and dispositions of electric utilities, including electric transmission assets.

Led contracts team implementing spinout and restructuring of an integrated utility into a transmission company, generation company and system operator.

Represented Midwest (now MidContinent) Independent System Operator shortly after formation in its acquisition of the assets of a regional power pool and in initial \$100 million senior notes offering.

Representation of transmission-owning members of the Southwest Power Pool on all aspects of market design, tariff reforms, and development of cost allocation and integrated planning processes.

Representation of nonutility transmission developers and transmission owners in applications for incentive rate treatment for specific projects from FERC and state regulatory bodies.

Representation of an electric cooperative on transmission planning and before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in rate and regional transmission organization (RTO) proceedings.

Represented Canadian regional transmission organization in developing a process for a major transmission addition.

Key advisor on development and approval of formula-based rates for generation and transmission cooperatives, including first nonprofit with incentive adder for RTO membership.

Lead counsel for transmission-owning members of RTOs on integration of variable energy resources and related RTO cost allocation rules.

Defended co-development arrangements in multiparty state proceeding to certificate the Kansas V-Plan for extra high

voltage transmission.

Assisted energy company in receiving approval from the Public Utility Commission of Texas for an application to approve changes stemming from a change in control as a result of a transaction.

Filed a petition on behalf of power company successfully challenging wholesale transmission charges to be imposed on distribution-level wholesale storage companies.

Assisted two separate entities with their efforts to exit the Texas retail electric market as they wound down their regulatory obligations with ERCOT and Public Utility Commission of Texas and transferred their customers to other providers.

Represented power generation company in three Texas Public Utility Commission proceedings involving ERCOT application to obtain authority to enter into a debt securitization financing related to certain costs stemming from Winter Storm Uri.

Successfully assisted in pursuing a change to ERCOT protocols involving changes to the testing of certain behind-the-meter electric generation assets.

Represented energy company as local counsel in a public-private partnership where client acquired a license and operating rights to the on campus electric utility system of a university.