

Joanne Rotondi

Partner

Washington, D.C.

Biography

As a partner in our Transportation and Environment practices, Joanne Rotondi focuses her practice on regulatory compliance, litigation, and environmental permitting.

Joanne guides clients through obtaining critical regulatory approvals such as vehicle and engine certifications and on-board diagnostic approvals, as well as complex permitting processes for large development projects, including liquefied natural gas terminals and deep-water ports, and has a talent for coordinating legal, expert, and client teams to achieve success.

With a deep understanding of the technical issues involved, she advises large automotive manufacturers and suppliers on emissions, fuel economy, and greenhouse gas issues at state and federal levels, in-use compliance and reporting requirements, and related policy and rulemaking efforts. She brings vast knowledge of every aspect of Clean Air Act mobile source regulation, as well as the Clean Water Act, National Environmental Policy Act, and endangered species matters, and taps into that knowledge for a wide range of clients including vehicle and heavy duty engine manufacturers. Her work includes obtaining critical approvals from both the U.S. EPA and California Air Resources Board for new motor vehicles and engines, and leading the team's efforts to provide business critical advice on the first ever export LNG deep-water port in the Gulf of Mexico.



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Practices

Environment and Natural Resources
Transportation

Industries

Automotive and Mobility
Energy and Natural Resources
Transportation and Logistics

Areas of focus

Automotive Regulatory
Clean Water Act
Clean Air
Environmental Litigation
Land Use and Project Development

Joanne serves on the EPA's Mobile Source Technical Review Subcommittee of the Clean Air Act Advisory Committee. This subcommittee includes industry, academic, public interest, and government representatives providing advice, counsel, and recommendations on the scientific and technical aspects of programs related to mobile source air pollution and motor fuels. The MSTRS workgroups address a wide range of issues and research areas, such as emissions modeling, air toxics, innovative and incentive-based transportation policies, on-board diagnostics, heavy-duty engines, and reformulated gasoline.

Representative experience

Assisting leading global automobile manufacturers in obtaining critical approvals from both the U.S. EPA and California ARB for new motor vehicles and engines.

As leading environmental counsel, guiding the federal and state permitting efforts for a natural gas deep-water port in the Gulf of Mexico.

On behalf of a large poultry producer, helped win a district court decision overturning an EPA enforcement order under the Clean Water Act and successfully upheld the decision on appeal.

Counsels three proposed LNG export facilities in the Gulf of Mexico, particularly focusing on NEPA, NPDES, and wetlands issues.

Advises large automobile manufacturers and suppliers on mobile source emissions and fuel economy issues, including GHG credit opportunities and rulemakings by the U.S. EPA and NHTSA.

Helped to secure an unprecedented decision invalidating an Endangered Species Act listing decision for major oil and gas producers.

Assisting light and heavy duty vehicle and engine makers with preparation and review of certification application materials.

Advising leading automaker on EPA and CARB

Natural Resource Management

Oil and Gas: Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)

Permit Negotiations and Appeals

Rulemaking and Legislative Advocacy

Education and admissions

Education

J.D., Duke University School of Law, cum laude, 2000

M.A. Environmental and Resource Economics, Duke University, 2000

B.S., Cornell University, 1996

Memberships

ABA Sustainable Development, Ecosystems, and Climate Change Committee

EPA Mobile Source Technical Review Subcommittee of the Clean Air Act Advisory Committee

Bar admissions and qualifications

District of Columbia

New York

Court admissions

U.S. Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit

emissions-related reporting obligations, including auditing client practices and recommending compliance improvements.

U.S. District Court, District of Columbia

Awards and rankings

- Environment (District of Columbia), Rank 5, *Chambers USA*, 2021
- Environment: Litigation, *Legal 500 US*, 2018-2019
- Transport: Rail and Road (Regulation), *Legal 500 US*, 2019

Latest thinking and events

- News
 - CES 2024: AI, Sustainability, Inclusivity and Living Technology
- News
 - U.S. EPA and DOT finalize new maximum civil penalties for environmental and transportation-related violations
- News
 - MOVE Sectors Newsletter | December 2023
- News
 - TSA revises rail cybersecurity directives for passenger and freight railroads
- News
 - MOVE Sectors DEI Newsletter | October 2023
- Events
 - MOVE America 2023