

D. Kirk

Partner

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Kirk Morgan focuses his practice on advising oil and gas pipelines on the commercial and regulatory issues that are central to their business. He is regularly called upon by pipeline clients regarding new infrastructure projects, including greenfield pipelines and expansion projects. In this role, Kirk leads clients through the process of preparing open season materials, negotiating and drafting precedent and transportation agreements, and preparing tariffs. Kirk also works closely with clients to obtain regulatory approvals required for new pipeline infrastructure, services, and rates. He routinely represents pipeline clients in administrative litigation before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, including rate cases and complaint proceedings. Kirk represents not only interstate pipelines, but also gatherers, intrastate pipelines, and Hinshaws. Kirk advises numerous natural gas intrastate pipelines on the nuances and requirements associated with Section 311 of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978.

Kirk has extensive experience navigating complex energy issues, but clients can count on him to make things understandable and be commercially minded. According to *Chambers USA*, clients comment that Kirk's "work ethic is unquestionable and his work product is impeccable" (2021), that he is "one of the best in the business; he's instrumental to our success" (2020), "at the cutting edge of regulatory issues in the oil and gas space; his mastery of this area helps us successfully navigate sometimes rough waters" (2019), and how he "has a deep understating of the regulator with whom we interact; he has been instrumental in guiding our transactions in a way that satisfies our commercial needs while complying with sometimes arcane regulatory requirements" (2018).

Industries

[Energy](#)

[Infrastructure](#)

Practices

[Energy Regulatory](#)

[Internal Investigations](#)

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[Litigation](#)

[Oil & Gas](#)

[Midstream Transactions](#)

[Energy Commodities & Trading](#)

[Energy Regulatory Compliance
& Enforcement](#)

[Oil & Gas Regulatory](#)

[Hydrogen](#)

Credentials

Education

- Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law, J.D., 1998, *magna cum laude*
- Catholic University of America, B.A., 1998, *summa cum laude*

Bar Admissions

- District of Columbia
- Maryland

Chambers Global

- Energy: Oil & Gas (Regulatory & Litigation), 2020 – 2024

Chambers USA

- Nationwide Energy: Oil & Gas (Regulatory & Litigation), 2010 – 2024

The Legal 500 United States

- Energy Regulation: Oil and Gas, 2017 – 2020, 2023 – 2024 (Leading Lawyer, 2023 – 2024)
- Energy: Regulation, 2012 – 2016
- Energy Litigation: Oil and Gas, 2019

Delinian Limited

- *IFLR1000 Financial & Corporate and M&A Guide*, 2018 – 2024

BL Rankings

- *Best Lawyers*, Energy Law, 2018 – 2025
- *Best Lawyers*, Oil and Gas Law, 2018 – 2025
- Washington, DC Lawyer of the Year, Oil and Gas Law, 2023

Lawdragon Inc.

- *Lawdragon 500 Leading US Energy Lawyers*, Energy Regulation, 2024

Resources

Bracewell's Oil & Gas Regulatory Group 2020 Top 10 Highlights

Video

No Longer a Lightweight: Promising Paths Forward for Hydrogen-Related Energy

Video

Senate Considers FERC's Role in Hydrogen Pipeline Development

Update

Publications & Speeches

- "Pipeline Development: Best Practices," LEPA 2024 Annual Business Conference, September 2024.
- "Pipelines and Affiliates," LEPA 2023 Annual Business Conference, September 2023.
- "Understanding Federal Agency Actions: Rulemakings, Guidance, and Other Authority," LEPA 2022 Annual Business Conference, September 2022.
- Chair, Platts Annual Pipeline Development and Expansion Conference, 2013-2016.
- "Reasonable Rates of Return Benefits Pipelines and Shippers Alike," *Pipelines & Gas Journal*, October 2016.
- "Court Decision Could Change Tax Burden on Pipeline MLPs," *Midstream Business*, July 2016.
- "Another Bite at the Apple: Renegotiating Rates with Distressed Shippers," *Pipelines & Gas Journal*, July 2016.
- "Handling Change Management," *Midstream Business*, February 2016.
- "Credit Challenges to Project Development," *Midstream Business*, July 2015.