

Danielle

Partner

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Danielle Varnell has extensive experience in energy M&A including with respect to both development stage and operating projects, portfolio acquisitions and divestitures, and complex multi-party joint ventures. In addition to her experience with fossil generation assets and onshore wind and solar assets, Danielle has significant experience in carbon capture and sequestration, battery storage and offshore wind.

Danielle also has extensive experience on all aspect of energy and infrastructure project development, including the negotiation and drafting of build transfer agreements, EPC contracts, operation and maintenance agreements, construction management agreements, asset management agreements, shared facilities agreements, build out agreements and equipment procurement and supply agreements (including gas and wind turbines, modules and transformers), as well as numerous other project development agreements.

She speaks and writes extensively on issues of import in the energy sector, including both onshore and offshore wind, financing solutions for renewable energy projects and solar and storage development.

Ms. Varnell is currently recommended by *Chambers USA* in Projects: Power & Renewables – Transactional (2021-2024) and Offshore Energy (2023-2024), *The Legal 500 United States* in Energy: Renewable/Alternative Power (2017-2018, 2022-2023), Energy Transactions: Electric Power (2017-2019, 2021, 2023; Leading Lawyer, 2023) and Project Finance (2021). In addition, she was named “Energy, Natural Resources & Mining Lawyer of the Year” at the 2021 Women in Business Law America Awards and a “South Trailblazer” for 2022 by *The American Lawyer*.

Industries

[Energy](#)

[Infrastructure](#)

Practices

[Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage](#)

[Corporate & Securities](#)

[Environmental, Social & Governance \(ESG\)](#)

[Infrastructure Development](#)

[Power](#)

[Renewable Energy](#)

[Solar](#)

[Wind](#)

[Mergers & Acquisitions](#)

[Energy Storage](#)

Credentials

Education

- Wake Forest University, J.D., 1997, *cum laude*, *Order of the Coif*
- Sam Houston State University, B.A., 1993, *magna cum laude*

Bar Admissions

- District of Columbia

Chambers Global

- Projects: Power & Renewables (Transactional), 2022 – 2024

Chambers USA

- Nationwide Projects: Power & Renewables (Transactional), 2021 – 2024
- Nationwide Offshore Energy, 2023 – 2024

The Legal 500 United States

- Energy: Renewable/Alternative Power, 2017 – 2018, 2022 – 2024 (Leading Lawyer, 2024)
- Energy Transactions: Electric Power, 2017 – 2018, 2021, 2023 – 2024 (Leading Lawyer, 2023 – 2024)
- Project Finance, 2021

Delinian Limited

- *IFLR1000 Financial & Corporate and M&A Guide*, Project Development: Energy, 2023 – 2024

Women in Business Law Americas Awards

- Energy, Natural Resources & Mining Lawyer of the Year, 2021

ALM Media Properties, LLC

- *The American Lawyer*, South Trailblazers, 2022
- *National Law Journal*, Energy & Environmental Trailblazers, 2018

Lawdragon Inc.

- *Lawdragon 500 Leading Dealmakers in America*, Energy M&A, 2024 – 2025
- *Lawdragon 500 Leading US Energy Lawyers*, Energy Transactions, 2024

Resources

A Bright Spot in the Solar Market: Commerce Rejects Anonymous Petitions Requesting Anti-Circumvention Investigation and Tariffs

Update

Commerce Unveils Preliminary Findings of Solar Tariff Probe

Update

Publications & Speeches

- "New Trends & Challenges in Development," Infocast Solar + Wind Finance & Investment Summit, March 17, 2025.