

Whit

Partner

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Whit Swift advises industrial companies on air quality matters, such as state and federal new source review permitting and Title V operating permit matters. In connection with that permitting work, he has represented applicants in contested permit matters before the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and the Texas State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH).

In addition to permitting work, Whit assists major manufacturing, energy, chemical and petrochemical companies with compliance issues related to the Clean Air Act (CAA). His CAA compliance work includes auditing, compliance counseling, and enforcement defense work under state and federal programs, including the federal Risk Management Plan (RMP) program, federal regulatory requirements governing sources of hazardous air pollutants (National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP), release reporting, and State Implementation Plan (SIP) rules regulating point sources.

Industries

[Energy](#)

Practices

[Environment, Lands and](#)

[Resources](#)

[Incident Prevention & Response](#)

[Litigation](#)

[Environmental Litigation](#)

[Environmental Litigation &](#)

[Enforcement Defense](#)

[Environmental Permitting &](#)

[Regulation](#)

Credentials

Education

- Tulane University, J.D., 1996, *Order of the Coif*

Bar Admissions

- Texas

Chambers USA

- Texas Environment, 2015 – 2024

The Legal 500 United States

- Environment: Litigation, 2016
- Environment: Regulatory, 2016, 2023 – 2024

BL Rankings

- *Best Lawyers*, Environmental Law, 2016 – 2025
- *Best Lawyers*, Litigation – Environmental, 2021 – 2025
- *Best Lawyers*, Energy Law, 2023 – 2025
- Austin Lawyer of the Year, Energy Law, 2024

Lawdragon Inc.

- *Lawdragon Green 500*: Leaders in Environmental Law Air Quality, 2024

The University of Texas School of Law

- *Order of the Coif*

Resources

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality: What's New and What to Expect

Podcast

Methane Rule Changes Add Complexity for Oil and Gas Cos.

Article

TCEQ Accepting Comments on Proposed Changes to Penalty Policy

Blog Post

Here We Go Again: EPA's Proposed Changes to the RMP Program

Video

The Methane Rule: What's Going On?

Video

The Administration's Environmental Justice Focus

Video

Environmental Justice Under the Biden Administration

Video

The Next Four Years: What Will the Clean Air Act Bring?

Video

TCEQ Accepting Comments on Proposed Changes to Penalty Policy

Video

This Month's Topic: Texas Title V and Permits by Rule

Video

A Strategic Approach to Emissions Credits With Anew's Kyle Breeze

Podcast

EPA Announces Forthcoming Regulations to Curb Methane Emissions from Oil and Gas Sources

Update

Congressional Review Act Resolution Changes both Scope and Effect of EPA's Methane Rule

Update

EPA Proposes Changes to Risk Management Plan Rules

Update

Environmental Essentials Webinar Series – Permitting and Environmental Justice: What's Next?

Video

Environmental Essentials Webinar Series – Texas Air Permitting Round-Up

Video

Round Three: EPA's Latest Changes to the RMP Program – Initial Insights on Next Steps

Video

Compliance With a Few of EPA's New RMP Program Changes Is Required Starting in May 2024

Update

Publications & Speeches

- "EPA's Methane Emissions Reduction Agenda and the Challenging Regulatory and Policy Road Ahead," American Gas Association's 47th Annual Legal Forum, July 21, 2024.
- Co-presenter, "Environmental Law's Not Dead Yet: Optics Versus Reality in the New Administration's Regulatory Reform Project," Association of Corporate Counsel South/Central Texas Chapter, July 12, 2017.
- "Chapter 5: Air Quality," *Texas Environmental Law*, Thomson Reuters Texas Practice Series, 2015-2016.
- "Implementation of the 2015 Ozone NAAQS," *Houston-Galveston Area Council Regional Air Quality Planning Advisory Committee*, November 17, 2016.
- "Agency-Related Ethics Issues," *26th Annual Texas Environmental Superconference*, Austin, Texas, August 7-8, 2014.
- "Greenhouse Gas Permitting Process: Legal Perspective," *Texas Chemical Council/Association of Chemical Industry of Texas*, June 5, 2013.
- "Regulating Greenhouse Gases: The Endangerment Finding, the Triggering Rule, the Tailoring Rule, and the Proposed New Source Performance Standards for Power Plants," *University of Texas School of Law Power Plant Conference*, February 1, 2013.