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EDUCATION

Columbia University Law School,
JD, 2005, New York, NY
Stone Scholar, Human Rights
Fellow, Public Service Fellow
*Columbia Journal of Environmental
Law*, Articles Editor
Columbia Law Women's
Association Board Member and Co-
Chair
*Columbia Journal of Gender and
Law*

Rice University, BA, *cum laude*,
2002, Houston, TX

ADMISSIONS

District of Columbia

Rebecca J. Baldwin

Of Counsel

Rebecca's legal experience includes Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), North American Reliability Corporation (NERC), and state utility commission and appellate matters, particularly in the areas of electric reliability and hydropower.

Rebecca has extensive experience at FERC and NERC on the development and approval of electric reliability standards and NERC's procedural rules. Some examples include efforts related to extreme weather and inverter-based resources; the Standards Efficiency Review initiative; the Risk-Based Registration reforms to NERC's Rules of Procedure; and both FERC and NERC proceedings to define the Bulk Electric System. She also works with clients on reliability compliance and reliability-related transactional issues, including, but not limited to, resolving registration issues and developing compliance programs.

In the hydro arena, Rebecca has represented licensees, license applicants, local governments, and community groups in licensing proceedings, license transfers, license compliance, and appellate litigation.

Representative Matters

- Rebecca represented the Transmission Access Policy Study Group (TAPS) before NERC and FERC with respect to NERC's Risk-Based Registration Initiative. This Initiative provided greater clarity with respect to which entities are subject to NERC compliance; it also better aligned NERC's Registry Criteria with reliability risk, such that entities are required to register only if, and to the extent that, they have a material impact on the reliability of the Bulk Electric System. *N. Am. Elec. Reliability Corp.*, 150 FERC ¶ 61,213, *order on compliance filing*, 153 FERC ¶ 61,024 (2015).
- On behalf of TAPS, Rebecca participated extensively before NERC and FERC in the revision of NERC's definition of the Bulk Electric System,

Maryland

United States Courts of Appeals
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Ninth Circuits

United States District Court for the
District of Columbia

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providing greater clarity about the scope of entities' compliance obligations and securing exclusions of some system configurations that are not necessary to grid reliability. *Revision to Electric Reliability Organization Definition of Bulk Electric System*, Order No. 743, 75 Fed. Reg. 72,910 (Nov. 26, 2010), *clarified*, Order No. 743-A, 76 Fed. Reg. 16,263 (Mar. 23, 2011); *Revisions to Electric Reliability Organization Definition of Bulk Electric System and Rules of Procedure*, Order No. 773, 78 Fed. Reg. 804 (January 4, 2013), *clarified*, Order No. 773-A, 78 Fed. Reg. 29,209 (May 17, 2013), *compliance deadline extended*, 143 FERC ¶ 61,231, *clarified*, 144 FERC ¶ 61,174 (2013), *review denied sub nom. New York v. FERC*, 783 F.3d 946 (2d Cir. 2015).

- Rebecca represented the Burlington Electric Department in its acquisition of the Chace Mill hydroelectric project, including litigation under the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act as well as the federal law aspects of the transfer itself. *Winooski One P'ship*, 148 FERC ¶ 62,169 (2014); *City of Burlington*, 145 FERC ¶ 61,121 (2013).
- When FERC denied her client's motion to intervene in a hydroelectric project re-licensing proceeding and refused to look at evidence presented by the client that a far superior project was possible for the same part of the river, Rebecca helped win an appeal vacating FERC's decision to issue a new license to the incumbent licensee. *Green Island Power Auth. v. FERC*, 577 F.3d 148 (2d Cir. 2009).

Practice Focus

Hydropower and electric reliability. FERC and NERC proceedings. NERC registration issues, reliability compliance, hydro licensing and compliance, and appellate litigation.

Noteworthy

Rebecca has been named a "Rising Star" for 2014 and 2015 by Super Lawyers.

Resources

- *Client Alert: Elimination of FERC Form 80 and Revisions to Public Notice and Signage Requirements*, by William S. Huang, Rebecca J. Baldwin, Jeffrey M. Bayne – info@spiegelmcid (January 2019).
- *Client Alert: FERC Seeks Comments on Hydropower Recreation Rule and Draft Water Conveyance Engineering Guidelines*, by Rebecca J. Baldwin, Jeffrey M. Bayne, William S. Huang – info@spiegelmcid (May 2018).
- *CFTC Client Alert: Proposed Amendment to RTO/ISO Exemption*, by Rebecca J. Baldwin, Lisa G. Dowden – info@spiegelmcid (May 2016).
- *Client Alert: CFTC Proposed Guidance on Electric Capacity and Gas Peaking Supply Contracts*, by Rebecca J. Baldwin, Lisa G. Dowden – info@spiegelmcid (April 2016).
- *Client Alert: CFTC Final Rule Eliminates Trade Options Reporting on Form TO*, by Rebecca J. Baldwin, Lisa G. Dowden – info@spiegelmcid (March 2016).
- *Client Alert: CFTC Staff Provides No-Action Relief from March 1, 2016 Deadline for Form TO Reporting for Otherwise Unreported Trade Options*, by Rebecca J. Baldwin, Lisa G. Dowden – info@spiegelmcid (February 2016).
- *Client Alert: CFTC Finalizes Recordkeeping Requirements for Certain Transactions*, by Rebecca J. Baldwin, Lisa G. Dowden – info@spiegelmcid (February 2016).
- *Client Alert: CFTC Finalizes Exemption from Margin Requirements for Uncleared Swaps*, by Rebecca J. Baldwin, Lisa G. Dowden – info@spiegelmcid (January 2016).
- *FERC Gearing Up for Relicensings: Existing Licensees Asked to Choose a Relicensing Process by June 1, 2015*, by Rebecca J. Baldwin, William S. Huang – info@spiegelmcid (May 2015).
- *Risk-Based Registration for NERC Compliance Obligations*, by Rebecca J. Baldwin, Cynthia S. Bogorad – American Public Power Association Legal Seminar (October 2014).

- *Client Alert: FERC Order on Municipal Preference in Hydropower Licensing*, by Rebecca J. Baldwin, William S. Huang – info@spiegelmc (January 2014).
- *Hot Issues in Electric Reliability*, by Rebecca J. Baldwin – American Public Power Association Legal Seminar (October 2013).
- *Client Alert: New Hydropower Legislation*, by Rebecca J. Baldwin, William S. Huang – info@spiegelmc (September 2013).