Brandon Lobb

Partner

Houston

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Brandon focuses his broad-based energy practice on energy transactions, commercial work, and energy transition. He collaborates with clients to create novel structures for complex regulatory and economic situations.

OVERVIEW

Brandon regularly represents companies in many types of energy transactions, including power purchase agreements from renewable and fossil generation sources, and swaps and forward contracts with respect to energy commodities and derivatives. He handles ISDA master agreements, NAESB, EEI, and other master trading agreements for power, natural gas, and other energy commodities. Brandon has experience in structured energy transactions, whereby parties use assets to satisfy posting requirements under master trading agreements, reserve-based lending facilities, and wholesale supply agreements secured by special purpose entities and accounts receivables.

Brandon represents energy clients in multiple wind, solar, and other renewable power purchase agreements on behalf of buyers and sellers. He assists clients with engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) contracts for the construction of renewable and fossil generation facilities. Brandon has experience in the development of a wholesale portfolio of master trading agreements for municipal utilities. He represents retail energy providers in all aspects of wholesale procurement, retail sales, regulatory issues, and various business operations. Brandon handled all phases in the repowering of a combined-cycle and development of a co-generation power plant. He helped clients in the purchase and sale of district energy facilities, as well as the acquisition of multiple portfolios of wholesale and retail gas and power contracts. As part of his development efforts, Brandon participates in the negotiation of agreements related to construction and operational agreements related to such various energy facilities.

Because of his long-standing experience in project development of hydrocarbon fired power plants, chemical plants, natural gas processing plants, natural gas pipelines, wind, and solar project development, carbon offset transactions, renewable energy certificates, and other non-traditional energy projects, Brandon assists companies in the consideration of how best to transition from non-renewable energy to renewable or carbon neutral energy consumption.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Lead transaction counsel to a clean computing infrastructure company in its structuring and documentation of multiple behind-the-meter transactions in several states to enable the deployment of data centers, crypt-mining,

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and electrolyzers behind-the-meter at wind, gas, and solar generation facilities.

- Structured and developed a suite of agreements for an independent power services platform to design, construct, and operate distributed generation in a remote and power-constrained area to serve load on a behind-the-meter basis.
- Created a novel strategy to sign a Chapter 380 Economic Development Agreement with a city in Texas, so the client may develop a carbon sequestration agreement under land owned by the city.
- Designed strategies and the entity structure needed for a client to commence development of a carbon capture and sequestration project.
- Developed a suite of agreements for the construction of a free stall barn and dedication of manure produced at dairies for transportation by pipeline for use as feedstock in bio-digesters for the production of renewable natural gas.

AWARDS

- *Legal 500 United States*, Recommended Lawyer – Renewable/Alternative Power (2024)
- *Best Lawyers in America*®: Houston Derivatives and Futures Law Lawyer of the Year (2023)
- *Best Lawyers in America*®: Derivatives and Futures Law (2008-2027)

TOP AREAS OF FOCUS

- Energy
- Renewable Energy

ALL AREAS OF FOCUS

- Commercial Contracting
- Corporate
- Data Centers
- Energy
- Energy Construction
- Energy Real Estate Transactions
- Energy Storage
- Energy Transition
- Renewable Energy
- Technology

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

EDUCATION

- The University of Texas School of Law, J.D., 1997
- The University of Texas, L.B.J. School of Public Affairs, M.P.A.F., 1997
- Boston College, B.A., 1993

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Texas

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Summit chair, Infocast PowerUp Data Centers – Investment Summit, October 27-29, 2026.
- Moderator, "Perspectives on Data Center and Grid Infrastructure M&A and Deal Trends," *Infocast PowerUp Data Center – Infrastructure Summit 2026*, July 16, 2026.
- Speaker, "Rewriting the Rules: 2026 Data Center Contracting & Risk Allocation for AI-Driven Facilities," Troutman Pepper Locke Webinar Series: Navigating the Data Center Boom: Rethinking Contracts, Risk, and Regulatory Strategy for 2026 and Beyond, March 31, 2026.
- Speaker, "The Growth of Data Centers and Impact on Power Markets," 2025 Global Power Markets Conference, April 16, 2025.
- Speaker, "Latest Developments in Energy Hedge and PPA Agreements," UT Law CLE 18th Annual Renewable Energy Law Institute, February 1, 2023.
- Speaker, "Commercial Incentives and Challenges for Renewables and the Energy Transition," Locke Lord Implementing the Inflation Reduction Act Webinar Series, November 9, 2022.
- Speaker, "Considerations for Carbon Storage Agreements," TexasBarCLE 40th Annual Advanced Oil, Gas & Energy Resources Law Course, October 12-13, 2022.
- Speaker, "Solar Supply Chain and Force Majeure Issues," Locke Lord Webinar, January 24, 2022.
- Speaker, "Carbon Capture's Overlap With Water Midstream Spells Opportunity," Oilfield Water Connection 3rd Annual Oilfield Water Industry Update, October 15, 2021.
- Speaker, "The Energy Transition for 'Old Energy'," Locke Lord Energy Transition Webinar Series, March 24, 2021.

PUBLICATIONS

- Co-author, "Governor Abbott Directs TCEQ to Halt All Data Center Permits Pending ERCOT/TWDB Audits," *Troutman Pepper Locke*, September 22, 2026.
- Author, "Why AI Data Centres Are Turning to Off-grid Gas Solutions," *Enlit World*, August 24, 2026.
- Co-author, "Texas Hits Pause on Data Center Grid Connections Amid Growing Oversight Push," *Troutman Pepper Locke*, August 4, 2026.
- Contributor, "Off-Grid Data Centers: A Potential Power Solution For AI," *Troutman Pepper Locke*, March 17, 2026. Republished in *Yahoo*, October 22, 2026.
- Co-author, "Well, Well: Outlook for CCUS Projects in Texas Improves as EPA Proposes to Delegate Permitting Authority and the Texas Supreme Court Clarifies Pore Space Ownership," *Troutman Pepper Locke*, June 24, 2025.

MEDIA COMMENTARY

- Cited, "AI Data Centers Don't Have To Be Hyperscale. New Designs Could Ease Community Costs." *Forbes*, October 22, 2026.
- Cited, "Texas Data Center Backlash Is Deserved, Governor Abbott Says as Permit Freeze Bites," *NewsAnyway*, September 30, 2026.
- Cited, "How Texas's Data Centre Freeze Puts 20% of US Pipeline at Risk," *Discovery Alert*, September 28, 2026.
- Cited, "Abbott's Permit Freeze Reaches Data Centers That Build Their Own Power, Including a 5-Gigawatt Panhandle Plan," *The Texas Dispatch*, September 23, 2026.

- Quoted, “Texas ‘AI Epicentre’ Pauses Data Center Connections as ERCOT Queue Tops 1,800 Projects and 474GW,” *International Business Times*, August 12, 2026.
- Quoted, “Data Center Backlash Widens as Texas Freezes 474 GW Grid Queue,” *Natural Gas Intelligence*, August 12, 2026.
- Quoted, “Texas Audit Could Delay 49.8 GW of Data Center Load, Cost Projects Up to $15 Billion, BNEF Warns ,” *Power Magazine*, August 6, 2026.
- Quoted, “NRG Nears 1.2-GW Hyperscaler Deal Amid Texas Data Center Pause,” *Utility Dive*, August 6, 2026.
- Quoted, “Texas’ 474GW Data Centre Ramp up in Doubt as Governor Pumps the Brakes,” *Recharge News*, August 5, 2026.
- Quoted, “Facing an Estimated 474 GW of Interconnection Requests, Texas Hits Pause on Data Centers,” *Utility Dive*, August 5, 2026.