

Vaughn H. Morrison

Partner

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Vaughn represents financing parties, utility companies, and sponsors in the development, construction, financing and operational management of, primarily, renewable energy projects. Having guided many projects through their life cycle, Vaughn offers clients uncommon foresight and acumen.

OVERVIEW

Vaughn's practice is divided into four categories:

- *Project Finance*: Representing financing parties and sponsors in the negotiation and documentation of construction, term, and tax equity financing of energy projects, including through the use of sale-leaseback, partnership flip, and joint venture structures.
- *Project Development*: Representing utility affiliates and sponsors in the development of energy projects, including the negotiation of supply, offtake, EPC, interconnection, O&M, and other project agreements.
- *Project M&A*: Representing utility affiliates and sponsors in the purchase and sale of energy projects, including the negotiation of membership interest purchase agreements and asset purchase agreements, and the management and documentation of construction, take-out, and back leverage financing.
- *Asset Management*: Representing financing party and utility affiliate clients in the management of operating assets, including the preparation of ISDA, NAESB, and EEI trading frameworks, and letters of credit, as well as the establishment and implementation of operational continuity programs.

Vaughn typically serves as the deal lead, managing the transaction process, negotiating key transaction documents, and overseeing the constellation of specialist counsel engaged on projects. In this capacity, he maintains fluency in every aspect of a transaction, ensuring cohesive representation across subject matter.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Represented a utility affiliate in connection with the acquisition of a series of solar generating facilities totaling in excess of 800MW nameplate capacity.
- Represented a financing party in connection with the tax equity financing of a 250MW solar generating facility.
- Represented a financing party in connection with the development, documentation and, ultimately, implementation of a novel operational continuity program across a large fund of operating energy assets.
- Represented a utility affiliate in the development of one of the first utility-scale 80MW energy storage projects in

the U.S.

- Represented a sponsor in connection with construction, term, and partnership flip financing facilities sized in each case in excess of \$200 million.
- Served in the capacity of a secondment to a utility affiliate client for the development of commodity trading forms and the negotiation of same with upward of 25 counterparties.

AWARDS

- *Legal 500 United States* for Energy: Renewable/Alternative Power (2024-2025); Finance: Project Finance (2024-2025)
- *Best Lawyers in America®: Ones to Watch*: Energy Law (2026), Project Finance Law (2026)
- *Law360*: Rising Star award (2021)

TOP AREAS OF FOCUS

- Energy
- Renewable Energy

ALL AREAS OF FOCUS

- Energy
- Energy Storage
- Environmental, Social + Governance (ESG)
- Renewable Energy
- Tariff + Trade Task Force

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

EDUCATION

- New York University School of Law, J.D., 2013, editor-in-chief, *Journal of Intellectual Property and Entertainment Law*
- Denison University, B.A., *cum laude*, 2010

BAR ADMISSIONS

- New York
- Georgia

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Speaker, "Post-Apocalyptic Permitting: The Path Forward for Solar and Wind After the DOI Memo," Troutman Pepper Locke Webinar, August 22, 2025.
- Speaker, "The Rise in Greenwashing Claims," *Energy Law Insights*, March 6, 2024.
- Moderator, "Future of Merchant Power," NPM Events: US Development & Finance Forum 2024, April 9, 2024.
- Moderator, "Tax Equity Transferability Markets, Transactions & Negotiations," Infocast Solar + Wind Financing & Investment Summit, March 12, 2024.

- Moderator, “[Project Finance Fireside Chat](#),” NPM DG Development & Finance Forum 2023, October 11, 2023.
- Speaker, “[Monetizing Opportunities in Energy Storage in a Post-IRA World](#),” *Energy Law Insights*, May 8, 2023.
- Speaker, “[The State of Energy Storage: What You Need to Know](#),” *Energy Law Insights*, May 8, 2023.
- Speaker, “[Offtake Strategies for Today’s World](#),” Infocast’s Projects & Money Conference, January 26, 2023.

PUBLICATIONS

- Co-author, “[FEOC May Expand in Scope and Application for Inflation Reduction Act](#),” *POWER Magazine*, May 1, 2025.
- Co-author, “[Navigating the Solar Industry’s Path Through Tariffs and Growth](#),” *Troutman Pepper Locke*, February 10, 2025.
- Co-author, “[Transferable Inflation Reduction Act \(IRA\) Tax Credits: Considerations for Tax Credit Bridge Lenders](#),” *Secured Lender Magazine*, January/February 2025.

MEDIA COMMENTARY

- Quoted, “[A Surprising Trump Bump for One Big Law Practice: Clean Energy](#),” *Bloomberg Law*, March 13, 2025.
- Featured, “[Rising Star: Troutman Pepper’s Vaughn Morrison](#),” *Law360*, June 24, 2021.