

Viktoria De Las Casas

Associate

Richmond

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OVERVIEW

Viktoria is an environmental and natural resources attorney with experience in regulatory compliance, permitting, due diligence, enforcement, and litigation matters. She focuses her practice on advising clients on all aspects of compliance with the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA), and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). Viktoria works with real estate developers, wind, solar, and transmission line operators, and other businesses on wildlife issues that come up during federal and state permitting. She also has experience with the Federal Aviation Administration regulations that relate to siting of wind farms and other renewable and development projects. In addition, Viktoria is a member of the firm's State Energy Regulation practice where she represents clients before the Virginia State Corporation Commission and Maryland Public Service Commission. Over the years Viktoria has also developed proficiency in advising clients how to address environmental justice requirements that arise in permitting, litigation, and other contexts. She has also been assisting clients in developing company-wide strategies for compliance with various reporting obligations, for example, EPA's TSCA PFAS reporting rule.

Her client base includes electric utilities, wind farm operators, solar and community solar developers, other renewable energy companies, land developers, manufacturers, health care companies, agricultural businesses, and other private and public companies.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Assisted a wind farm operator with negotiating an incidental take permit and habitat conservation plan for federally listed bat species.
- Assisted a wind farm with developing a permitting strategy for protected Bald and Golden Eagles.
- Assisted solar and other renewable energy projects with environmental due diligence, focusing on compliance with the ESA.
- Represented a utility in obtaining Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity from Virginia State Corporation Commission to construct and rebuild electric transmission lines.
- Represented a developer of community solar farm in obtaining a Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity before the Maryland Public Service Commission.
- Assisted clients with developing strategies to address environmental justice-related aspects of their proposed projects during permitting and responding to environmental justice-related comments.

- Assisted a manufacturing facility in developing compliance strategy to report PFAS per TSCA and EPCRA requirements.
- Served as the lead associate in bringing a high-profile citizen suit under CAA, RCRA, and state nuisance law on behalf of a municipality.
- Defended a challenge to a solid waste permit.
- Represented agricultural companies and municipalities in appeals of Virginia-issued environmental permits.
- Assisted with defending multiple federal permit appeals in federal circuit court on behalf of an interstate natural gas pipeline developer.

AWARDS

- *Best Lawyers in America®: Ones to Watch: Environmental Law (2023-2026), Natural Resources Law (2021-2026)*

TOP AREAS OF FOCUS

- Environmental + Natural Resources
- Environmental Justice
- Renewable Energy
- State Energy Regulation

ALL AREAS OF FOCUS

- Environmental + Natural Resources
- Environmental Due Diligence
- Environmental Justice
- Renewable Energy
- State Energy Regulation
- Virginia State Corporation Commission

PROFESSIONAL/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Pro Bono ambassador – Richmond office
- Chair, Environmental and Energy Law Section, Richmond Bar Association (2021-2022)
- Pro Bono attorney, Landlord/Tenant Law, Central Virginia Legal Aid Society
- Lecturer, Legal writing in English, American Common Law Center at Kyiv T. Shevchenko University, 2016-2017

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Legal fellow, Center for Biological Diversity, 2015-2016

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

EDUCATION

- University of Richmond School of Law, J.D., *magna cum laude*; *McNeill Honor Law Society*; *Order of the Coif*,

2015, *University of Richmond Law Review*, staff member; board member and semi-finalist, Moot Court; executive officer and semi-finalist, Client Counseling and Negotiation Competition

- Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Specialist of Law, *with honors*, 2008
- Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, LL.B., *with honors*, 2007

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Virginia
- District of Columbia

COURT ADMISSIONS

- U.S. District Court, Western District of Virginia
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Virginia

LANGUAGES

- Ukrainian
- Russian

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, “Energy Infrastructure and the Endangered Species Act,” American Bar Association, November 5, 2024.
- Speaker, “Review of Environmental Matters Considered by the 2021 Virginia General Assembly,” Richmond Bar Association, Environmental and Energy Law Section, May 2021.
- Speaker, “Environmental Justice 2020,” Troutman Pepper Webinar Series, August 2020.

PUBLICATIONS

- Co-author, “Spin Doctor: Court Strikes Down Wind Permitting Freeze As Illegal,” *Troutman Pepper Locke*, December 10, 2025.
- Co-author, “Groundhog Day: Proposed Revisions to ESA Regulations (Mostly) Reinstate the 2019 Rules,” *Troutman Pepper Locke*, November 24, 2025.
- Co-author, “Groundhog Day: Proposed Revisions to ESA Regulations (Mostly) Reinstate the 2019 Rules,” *Environmental Law and Policy Monitor*, November 21, 2025. Republished in *E-Outlook – The Environmental & Natural Resources Section of the Oregon State Bar’s Newsletter*, December 2025.
- Co-author, “Illegal Eagles: DOI Sinks Its Talons Even Deeper Into Wind Energy,” *Troutman Pepper Locke*, August 6, 2025.
- Co-author, “Renewables in the Crosshairs: DOI and DOT Announce Numerous New Anti-Wind and Solar Orders and Policies,” *Troutman Pepper Locke*, August 4, 2025.
- Co-author, “Déjà vu? FWS Solicits Feedback to Update Section 10(a) of the ESA,” *Troutman Pepper Locke*, June 11, 2025.
- Co-author, “One-Track Mind: Unanimous SCOTUS Decision on Rail Line Approval Further Narrows Scope of NEPA,” *Troutman Pepper Locke*, May 30, 2025.
- Co-author, “Twin Killings: Executive Orders Put Existing Energy Regulations in the Crosshairs,” *Troutman*

Pepper Locke, April 10, 2025

- Co-author, [Secretary of the Interior Burgum Fuels A Surge of Day One Energy Orders](#), *Troutman Pepper Locke*, February 5, 2025.
- Co-author, [First Day Presidential Directives May Have Broad Implications for Wind Industry](#), *Troutman Pepper Locke*, January 22, 2025.
- Co-author, [Final ESA Rules Include Fundamental Shift in RPMs](#), *Environmental Law and Policy Monitor*, April 2, 2024.
- Co-author, [FWS Prepares for Tricolored Bat Listing With New Guidance](#), *Environmental Law and Policy Monitor*, April 2, 2024.
- Co-author, [Changes to Eagle Take Permitting Finalized by Fish and Wildlife Service](#), *Environmental Law and Policy Monitor*, February 29, 2024.
- Co-author, [Louisiana v. EPA: A Turning Point for Title VI and Environmental Justice?](#), *Environmental Law and Policy Monitor*, February 12, 2024.
- Co-author, [Fish and Wildlife Service Revises Its Mitigation Policies](#), *Environmental Law and Policy Monitor*, May 26, 2023.
- Co-author, [New Jersey Moves Forward with Implementation of First-of-Its-Kind Environmental Justice Statute](#), *Environmental Law and Policy Monitor*, May 2, 2023.
- Co-author, [President Biden Signs Executive Order on Environmental Justice](#), *Environmental Law and Policy Monitor*, May 2, 2023.
- Co-author, [Fish and Wildlife Service Proposes to List Tricolored Bat as Endangered](#), *Environmental Law and Policy Monitor*, September 14, 2022.
- Co-author, [Environmental Groups Target Texas Air Permitting Program on Environmental Justice Grounds](#), *Environmental Law and Policy Monitor*, July 13, 2022.
- Co-author, [Trump ESA Rules Vacated](#), *Environmental Law and Policy Monitor*, July 6, 2022.
- Co-author, [State Laws Provide New Pathways for Environmental Justice Claims](#), American Bar Association's *Natural Resources & Environment*, Summer 2021.
- Co-author, [Private Civil Rights Suits Not Enough for Enviro Justice](#), *Law360*, January 4, 2021.
- Co-author, [Despite New Attacks, Citizen Suits Are Constitutional](#), *Law360*, August 28, 2020.
- "Diverse Attorneys for Diverse Environment," *Natural Resources & Environment*, Winter 2017.
- "Reforming Ukrainian Laws to Protect Environment in the Wake of Conflicts," *Special Committee for Young Lawyers Newsletter*, ABA Section of Environment, Energy and Resources, 2016.
- "Ukraine's Energy Crisis May Invite Hydraulic Fracturing and Regulatory Uncertainty," 47 No. 1 *ABA Trends*, September/October 2015.