



George W. Watson, III

Partner

gwatson@rc.com

Providence — 401.709.3351

Hartford — 860.275.8233

George W. Watson, III focuses his practice on energy, telecommunications, and utilities law. He handles a range of environmental, real estate, and land use concerns and is a member of our firm's Environmental, Energy + Telecommunications group.

Facility Siting

George assists clients with the siting and permitting of energy, utility, and other infrastructure projects. He represents natural gas and electricity providers, and helps them secure permitting and approvals for installation of new transmission and distribution facilities. George also handles permitting and approvals for telecommunication facilities and renewable energy sites. He regularly appears before zoning and planning boards for municipalities throughout Rhode Island and before the Rhode Island Energy Facility Siting Board.

Environmental Land Use Restrictions

His practice includes drafting and negotiating environmental land use restrictions in connection with the remediation of contaminated properties. George has successfully negotiated complex environmental land use restrictions with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection on behalf of clients.

Real Estate Transactions

George represents clients in the acquisition, development, and disposition of commercial real property. He has represented a variety of clients, including developers, retailers, and academic institutions. He negotiates purchase and sale agreements, and conducts all due diligence related to zoning, title, and financing issues. His work in this area is often related to facility siting, as he handles property acquisitions, leasing, and easement rights that are needed for utility, telecommunication, and renewable energy projects.

Services

- Environmental, Energy + Telecommunications
- Brownfields + Redevelopment
- Coastal Resources + Sea Level Rise
- Telecommunications
- Land Use
- Land Use Litigation
- Regulatory Counseling

- Administrative Appeals
- Development Permitting
- Energy - Competitive Markets
- Environmental Compliance + Permitting
- Religious Land Use + Institutionalized Persons Act
- Property Rights + Eminent Domain
- Renewable + Alternative Energy
- Energy - Project Development

Education

- Northeastern University School of Law (Juris Doctor)
- Williams College (Bachelors)
 - B.A., Sociology and Political Science

Admissions

- Commonwealth of Massachusetts
- State of Connecticut
- State of Rhode Island
- State of Vermont

Recognitions

Recognized as a 2024 Leader in the Law by *Rhode Island Lawyers Weekly*

Selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*® in the area of Energy Regulatory Law since 2021

Leadership + Memberships

American Bar Association

Executive Committee of the Infrastructure and Regulated Industries Section

Connecticut Bar Association

Rhode Island Bar Association

Environmental Section

Rhode Island Bar Foundation

Fellow

American Association of Blacks in Energy

Grow Smart RI

Board of Directors

New England Legal Foundation

Rhode Island Advisory Council

Southside Community Land Trust

Member, Board of Directors

Puckihuddle Preschool

Member, Board of Directors (2011 - 2018)