

Energy & Utilities

The energy sector is a critical part of the province's economy, one that has been subject to rapid change. The electricity market continues to evolve and there is an evolution from vertically-integrated electric utilities to an unbundled model for distribution and generation. In this dynamic environment, energy companies rely on expert legal counsel to remain abreast of evolving regulatory requirements and business structures.

WeirFoulds has extensive experience acting for energy developers, utilities, and their owners. We advise clients in the public and private sectors on all aspects of their operations, including distribution and transmission, permitting, mergers and acquisitions, project finance, regulatory compliance and Aboriginal engagement. We also advise utilities and their owners on matters of corporate governance.

We take a multi-disciplinary approach to our energy files, engaging our corporate, commercial, aboriginal, environmental, real estate and litigation experts as necessary to ensure our clients receive the advice they require in a rapidly changing business and regulatory environment.

Renewable Energy

Our team provides a full range of legal services to many of Canada's renewable energy companies. Our Renewable Energy team represents developers, purchasers, contractors, financing entities, power producers, technology and service companies and power transmission and independent power companies in all aspects of the renewable energy industry including power, solar, nuclear, wind, regulatory, biomass, environmental and infrastructure.

WeirFoulds has engaged in all aspect of renewable energy projects, including the development, construction and financing of renewable projects and the negotiation of power purchase, equipment supply, engineering, procurement and construction and operation and maintenance agreements. Our lawyers also have extensive experience and expertise at navigating the regulations and requirements of Ontario's Feed-In-Tariff (FIT) Program and can provide strategic advice while minimizing risks.

Lawyers and professionals in this area



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Areas of Expertise

- Aboriginal law
- Climate change
- Compliance
- Corporate structuring
- Electricity production and transmission
- Energy board hearings
- Energy storage
- Environmental assessments
- Oil and gas exploration, development and transmission
- Policy
- Power purchase agreements
- Project finance
- Rate-setting applications
- Regulatory approvals
- Renewables
- Utilities

Representative Experience

- Frequent appearances as counsel in OEB rate-making and policy proceedings.
- Acted for St Marys Cement in connection with its investment and partnership in Pond Biofuels, which is devoted to the commercialization of technology currently being developed to create clean energy from algae through the use of emissions from the St Marys concrete plants.
- Appearances in the Divisional Court and the Court of Appeal on appeals from decisions of the OEB.
- Acted for Canadian Solar in the design-build, financing and operations of many of its solar generation projects.
- Acted as counsel to the Toronto Hydro in the first application under section 29 of the **Ontario Energy Board Act**.
- Advising the City of Hamilton, and appearing as counsel on its behalf in OEB proceedings, on issues related to ratemaking for street lighting.
- Advising the City of Hamilton on the OEB Mergers, Acquisitions, Amalgamations, and Divestitures (MAAD) application arising from the merger of three GTA area LDCs.

WeirFoulds^{LLP}

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