Holland & Hart



PRACTICES

Environmental Litigation
Energy Consumers, Developers, and Public Utilities
Water Resources
Environmental Transactions

INDUSTRIES

Energy and Resources
Mining
Conventional Power
Renewable Energy and Storage
Data Centers

EDUCATION

University of California, Davis, J.D., 2000
UC. Davis Law Review , Executive Editor

University of Nevada, B.A., 1996

BAR ADMISSIONS

Nevada

Laura Granier

Partner

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Laura delivers pragmatic counsel to help mining, energy, and natural resources clients navigate litigation and regulatory challenges.

Laura's clients, including large energy users, mining companies, and water owners, benefit from her extensive litigation and regulatory experience, and her experience as Vice President and U.S. General Counsel for a large utility provider. Laura led the legal team that successfully defended the federal and state authorizations for development of the largest known lithium deposit in the world at Thacker Pass.

Regulatory Practice
Laura represents clients before numerous regulatory agencies including the Bureau of Land Management, United States Forest Service, Public Utilities Commission of Nevada, the Nevada Division of Water Resources, and the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection. She has served as lead counsel in numerous regulatory proceedings including general rate cases, integrated resource planning and on complex water, resource and environmental agency issues. Laura also assists clients through the permitting process for projects on public and forest system lands.

Agency Litigation & Judicial Review
Laura has served as lead counsel in numerous court cases involving agency decisions and rule-making managing large client groups and complex issues. She has frequently and successfully handled cases involving key industry issues, complex matters and high stakes litigation. Laura also has successful defended agency decisions authorizing resource projects on public lands.

Water Rights & Government Affairs
Laura also works closely with clients in the areas of municipal law and government affairs, water rights acquisitions and permitting, and related policy issues.

EXPERIENCE

- Environmental permitting
- Mining and natural resources
- Public utilities and energy
- Water rights and policy
- Land use and governmental affairs
- Agency litigation and judicial review

CLIENT RESULTS

Represented the American Mining and Exploration Association before the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia and the D.C. Court of Appeals in *Earthworks et al. vs. U.S. Department of the Interior et al.*. The case represented a significant victory for the mining industry and pre-discovery rights under the Mining Law.

Successfully defended the federal and state authorizations for Thacker Pass prevailing at the State Environmental Commission, the United States District Court, and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals on extensive and wide ranging challenges on the permitting authorizations.

Prevailed in defeating requested injunctive relief to stop exploration for critical minerals on Forest System lands in Arizona under a plan authorized with proper and efficient use of a categorical exclusion.

Before joining Holland & Hart, some of Laura's cases included:

- Successfully challenged Bureau of Land Management's Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment for Greater Sage Grouse in Nevada on behalf of multiple Nevada counties and several private entities. US District Court – District of Nevada found the BLM violated NEPA and remanded, requiring the BLM to prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement.
- Successfully handled several issues of first impression involving mineral resources in Nevada including a 2011 case ruling a state tax imposed on mining claims unconstitutional as well as cases involving complex land tenure issues.
- Successfully defended one of the largest qui tam actions brought in Nevada challenging the constitutionality of an initial public offering.

PUBLICATIONS

"GAO Mining Claim Reports Point to Paperwork Fixes, Not a Change in Course for Domestic Mining," *Mining Law Update*, November 24, 2026

"Nevada's Opportunity: Growth by Design in 2027," *Nevada Policy Update*, November 17, 2026

"ACHP Votes to Amend Section 106 Regulations for the First Time in Over Two Decades," *Environmental Law Update*, July 30, 2026

"Will NEPA Reform Actually Work This Time?," *40 Natural Resources & Environment 3*, Winter 2026

"SCOTUS Reins In NEPA: A Game-Changer for Infrastructure Development," *Holland & Hart NEPA Update*, June 3, 2025

"Kavanaugh Urges NEPA ‘Course Correction.' Courts Should Listen.," *Bloomberg Law*, June 3, 2025

"*Marin Audubon* Should Not Upend the NEPA Process," *Holland & Hart*

NEPA Update, November 14, 2024

"Renewables Need More Domestic Production of Minerals," *POWER Magazine*, Co-Author, March 1, 2023

"Water Rights: Reconciling Priorities Under the Public Trust and Prior Appropriation Doctrines," *36 Natural Resources & Environment 3*, Co-Author, Winter 2022

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

"Accelerating America's Mineral Security: Policy Solutions for Public Land Development," *American Exploration and Mining Association annual convention, Sparks, NV*, December 10, 2025

"Effective Measures & New Ideas to Shorten Permitting Timelines for Mineral Exploration & Development," Moderator, *SME New York Section Conference*, New York, New York, May 21, 2025

RECOGNITION

- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Water Law, 2023, 2025-2027; Mining Law, 2025-2027; Litigation - Environmental, 2026, 2027
- *Lawdragon*, 500 Leading Energy Lawyers, 2023-2025; 500 Global Leaders in Energy, 2026
- *Chambers USA*, Environment, 2018-2022; 2024-2026
- Reno Tahoe Young Professionals Network in conjunction with the *Reno Gazette-Journal*, 20 Under 40 Award, Recipient, 2007
- *Nevada Business Magazine*, Top Rank Attorneys, 2024
- *Nevada Business Magazine, Legal Elite, Top 35 Attorneys in Northern Nevada*, 2011
- *AV Preeminent® Peer Review Rating™ from Martindale-Hubbell®*

PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

- The Foundation for Natural Resources and Energy Law, Trustees Council
- Northern Nevada Women Lawyers Association, Member and Past President
- Nevada Public Education Foundation, Past Chair of the Board
- American Bar Association, Member
- State Bar of Nevada, Member
- Young Lawyers Section Executive Council, Past Chair
- Continuing Legal Education (CLE), Publications Committee, Past Member
- Washoe County Bar Association, Member
- Mountain States Legal Foundation, Board of Litigation, Past Member

- American Inns of Court, Former Barrister