



## Christopher M. Marelich Associate

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### Practice Areas

Air Quality & Climate Change | CEQA / NEPA | Energy | Energy Project Development | Environmental Enforcement Defense | Environmental Remediation & Due Diligence | Environmental/Toxics Litigation | Infrastructure | Pipelines & Terminals | Proposition 65 | Public Utility Regulation

Christopher Marelich is committed to helping clients navigate California's complex energy and environmental regulatory landscape.

Chris' current practice has a particular focus on proceedings and rulemaking before the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and the California Energy Commission (CEC). Chris leverages his passion for [energy law](#) and his prior experience as a law clerk for the California Public Utilities Commission's Legal Division to assist clients with a wide range of issues. Chris also advises clients on matters pertaining to the [California Environmental Quality Act \(CEQA\)](#), the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), and California Proposition 65.

During law school, Chris served as the Alumni Relations Chair and a Notes & Comments Editor for the University of Washington Law Review and also worked as a Hazelton Research Fellow. In addition, Chris' gained extensive experience as a mediator for both a non-profit focused on dispute resolution and the University of Washington, School of Law's Mediation Clinic.

Chris regularly contributes to [CEQA Chronicles](#), a firm blog that provides up-to-date information and analysis on key developments in environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act.

## Professional & Community Service

- Power Association of Northern California, 2024
- Conference of California Public Utility Counsel, 2024
- Asian/Pacific Bar Association of Sacramento, 2024
- Sacramento County Bar Association, Environmental Section, 2024
- *University of Washington Law Review*, Alumni Relations Chair and Notes & Comments Editor
- King County Dispute Resolution Center, Mediator

- University of Washington School of Law Mediation Clinic, Mediator

## Education

- J.D., University of Washington School of Law, 2023
- B.A., University of California at Irvine, 2020

## Publications

- *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Finalizes Recommended Aquatic Life Criteria and Benchmarks for PFAS*, California Water Law & Policy Reporter, Volume 35, Number 3, December 2024
- *California Public Utilities Commission Tags the Department of Water Resources to Procure up to 10.6 Gigawatts of Clean Energy*, California Water Law & Policy Reporter, Volume 34, Number 11, August/September 2024
- *California Public Utilities Commission Establishes its Senate Bill 884 Expedited Undergrounding Program for Power Lines*, California Land Use Law & Policy Reporter, Volume 33, Number 7, April 2024
- *California Public Utilities Commission Extends Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant Operations Until 2030*, California Land Use Law & Policy Reporter, Volume 33, Number 4, January 2024

## Legal Alerts

- *The CAISO Maps Out Transmission Additions Needed to Connect 165 GW of New Resources by 2045*, August 5, 2024
- *EPA's Final Rule Enhances Risk Evaluations Process For Scrutiny of TSCA Chemicals*, July 3, 2024
- *CAISO Proposes Transmission Links to North Coast Offshore Wind Resources*, April 3, 2024
- *Department of Transportation Announces \$426.7 Million Grant to Develop Deepwater Port and Marine Terminal in Humboldt Bay*, January 29, 2024
- *Supreme Court of California Rejects Class Action Suit Against PG&E for its 2019 Blackouts*, November 20, 2023
- *Newly Signed SB 286 Streamlines and Clarifies Permitting Process for Offshore Wind*, October 19, 2023

## Blogs

- *Project's Completion Did Not Moot CEQA Claim*, June 21, 2024
- *Court Upholds Master Plan EIR's Climate Change Analysis that Used Sector and Region-Specific Data to Develop a Threshold of Significance*, December 20, 2023
- *Third Circuit Makes Clear That Lead Agencies and Responsible Agencies Alike Must Make Findings Under CEQA*, September 20, 2022