

Mark L. Burghardt

Partner

burghardt.mark@dorsey.com

Salt Lake City – 801.933.4046



Mark advises clients on oil and gas, mining, pipeline, geothermal, and renewable energy development.

Mark is a partner and serves as the chair of Dorsey's Oil and Gas Industry Group.

Mark has nearly two decades of experience in oil and gas, mining, geothermal, helium, hydrogen, and renewable energy development. He represents clients to acquire, explore, develop, operate, and finance projects.

Mark has extensive experience representing clients in title examination, due diligence, surface and mineral leasing, transactions, financing, and federal, state, local, and tribal permitting and compliance. He frequently represents clients on projects involving some combination of federal, state, private, and Indian lands and routinely advises clients dealing with state agencies, BLM, and BIA.

Mark also represents clients in administrative hearings and litigation related to oil and gas development, mineral rights, operator and owner disputes, quiet title, and condemnation. He frequently works with and appears before various administrative agencies including the Utah Board of Oil, Gas and Mining and IBLA. He counsels and represents pipeline operators and other companies in drafting and negotiating easements, rights-of-way, leases and in exercising eminent domain for roads, pipelines, transmission lines, and other facilities. He has litigated disputes in both federal and state court.

Select Experience

Representative Transactions

- Rendered drilling, division order, financing, and acquisition title opinions for oil and gas projects in Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, and North Dakota

Education

- University of Utah, S. J. Quinney College of Law (Juris Doctorate, 2007)
- Utah State University (Biology Major; Chemistry Minor, 2004)

Bar Admissions

- Alaska
- Utah
- Wyoming

- Issued mining title opinions and reports for exploration, development, and financing throughout the western United States
- Represented client on divestiture of assets in Colorado, Wyoming, Oklahoma, and New Mexico
- Served as lead counsel to purchase of producing oil and gas assets operators in Utah

Professional Affiliations

- Planning Committee Member for the Foundation for Natural Resource and Energy Law (2022 to present)
- Trustee for the Foundation for Natural Resource and Energy Law (2022-2024)
- Developed and Co-Chaired of the Commercial Renewable Energy Project Development Special Institute for Foundation for Natural Resource and Energy Law (2022)
- Member of and have presented at the annual institute and various special institutes for the Foundation for Natural Resource and Energy Law
- Member of AAPL, UAPL, NLA, and DAPL
- Served on the due diligence committee and gave a presentation at the annual meeting of the American Association of Professional Landmen (AAPL)
- Served as President of the Energy, Natural Resources and Environmental Law Section, Chair
- American Bar Association, Environmental, Energy, and Resources, and Oil and Gas Sections, Member
- Federal Bar Association, Member

Accolades

- *Chambers USA*, Natural Resources & Environment, Utah, 2022-2026
- *Utah Business Magazine*, Legal Elite, Energy/Natural Resources, 2020-2021
- *Mountain States Super Lawyers*®, "Rising Star," 2011, 2014-2017

Languages

- English
- Russian

Select Presentations

- Prepared and Spoke on "Mining Leaseholds and Other Interests," Foundation for Natural Resource and Energy Law (2024)
- Mining Leaseholds and Other Interests at the FNREL Mineral Title Examination, Review, and Due Diligence for Oil and Gas and Mining Project (2024)
- Co-Speaker, "Alternatives for Managing Financial Distress in the Oil Patch," Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation Virtual Special Institute (2020)
- UAPL Presentation on common ownership issues
- Moderated the panel and drafted the paper "Communication and Coordination in Title and Due Diligence Projects" for Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation Special Institute in Westminster, CO (2019)
- Title and Due Diligence at the FNREL Oil & Gas Mineral Title Examination Special Institute (2019)
- Due Diligence in Oil & Gas and Mining Transactions at the FNREL Due Diligence in

Oil & Gas and Mining Transactions Special Institute (2018)

- Gave keynote presentation and drafted the paper “The Due Diligence Process and Its Impact on the Deal” at Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation Special Institute on Due Diligence, Westminster, CO (2018)
- Drafted and presented the paper “Not What You Bargained for: Rights Under Federal Oil and Gas Leases” at the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation Annual Institute in Santa Fe, NM (2017)
- Spoke on Operating Agreement Issues at the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Professional Landman, Denver, CO (2017)
- Authored and presented the paper “Communitization Agreements in the 21st Century” at the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation Special Institute on Pooling and Unitization (2015)
- Prepared and presented the “Annual Update” for Energy, Natural Resource & Environmental Law Section of the Utah State Bar (2012, 2013, 2014)
- Presented to and hosted the delegation from the Chinese Ministry of Land Resources on state and federal regulation of oil and gas development (2014)
- Author, “The Granting Clause: The Gift That Keeps on Granting” (2014)

Insights

June 1, 2023

Utah 2023 Legal Elite

June 29, 2021

Mark Burghardt Comments on SCOTUS Pipeline Land Rights Ruling

October 21-23, 2020

Alternatives for Managing Financial Distress in the Oil Patch

June 15, 2020

Dorsey Partner Mark Burghardt Discusses Appalachian Trail Pipeline Ruling

November 20, 2017

Dorsey & Whitney Snags Energy Atty From Holland & Hart

November 16, 2017

People on the Move

November 14, 2017

Veteran litigator joins Dorsey in Beehive State