

Michael Drysdale

Partner

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Minneapolis – 612.340.5652



Michael practices in the areas of environmental law and general litigation, with a focus on environmental and administrative litigation.

Select Experience

- Litigation counsel for coal industry in multiple NEPA and FLPMA challenges to mineral leasing and mine planning actions in Wyoming and Colorado on Forest Service and BLM-administered lands, venued in federal court and the Interior Board of Land Appeals
- Defended agricultural and industrial clients in toxic tort, workplace injury, and property damage litigation, as well as regulatory enforcement proceedings
- Litigated multiple matters involving the dormant Commerce Clause, CERCLA, NEPA, CWA, and state environmental statutory and common law equivalents
- Represented multiple waste industry clients in federal and state permitting and civil actions, to full jury verdict or judgment

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Courts for the Districts of Minnesota and Colorado
- Eighth and Tenth Circuit Courts of Appeal

Accolades

- *Minnesota Monthly*, Top Lawyer in Administrative / Regulatory Law , 2024
- Consistently providing pro bono legal assistance to those in need through Dorsey's Pro Bono program
- MSBA, North Star Lawyer, 2012-2014, 2016-2018, 2020-2022, 2024-2025
- *Minnesota Super Lawyers*®, "Rising Star", 2004

Education

- University of Virginia School of Law (J.D., 1995)
 - Virginia Law Review Editorial Board
- University of Michigan, Institute for Public Policy Studies (M.P.P., 1987)
- University of Michigan (B.A., Political Science, 1987)
 - with distinction

Bar Admissions

- Minnesota

Insights

January 7, 2026

Minnesota PFAS Reporting Update

May 30, 2025

Supreme Court Clarifies and Streamlines NEPA Requirements

February 19, 2025

NEPA Regulations Unravel

May 26, 2023

Supreme Court Limits the Clean Water Act's Reach

December 12, 2022

Tribal Nations Summit Update

November 21, 2022

DIG Magazine - Fourth Quarter 2022

December 16, 2021

Mike Drysdale Comments on EPA's Plan to Remove Lead Pipes

November 5, 2021

Farm Bill & The Environment

February 2, 2021

Dorsey Attorney Mike Drysdale Comments on Keystone XL Pipeline

April 17, 2020

U.S. District Court for Montana Enjoins Key Army Corps of Engineers' General Permit for Energy Infrastructure Projects

August 13, 2019

Dorsey Of Counsel Mike Drysdale Comments on New Rules for Endangered Species Act

June 20, 2018

CEQ Seeks Public Comment on Revisions to NEPA Regulations