



Caroline E. Lee

Associate

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Caroline E. Lee has a multifaceted environmental practice, with extensive experience in the areas of regulatory compliance, environmental matters concerning corporate and real estate transactions, land use, government enforcement actions, and environmental and product liability litigation, with a particular interest in water law. Caroline has represented clients in a range of industries, including real estate, commercial and solar development, industrial, chemical, and agricultural sectors, corporate successors, and other landholders, advising under federal, state, and local environmental, water, and natural resource laws.

In particular, Caroline has experience advising clients on matters regarding emerging contaminants, including PFAS; regulatory enforcement; investigation, remediation, and management of Superfund and other historically contaminated sites; vapor intrusion risk mitigation; water supply and rights issues including under California's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act; managing environmental diligence; negotiating and drafting a wide variety of contracts in corporate and real estate transactions; environmental, health, and safety and product compliance advising; environmental, social, and governance advising; and obtaining permits, entitlements, and other project approvals. She works on behalf of clients regularly interfacing with local, state, and federal environmental agencies. Her litigation experience includes administrative law, petitions for writ of mandate, and civil litigation, with involvement in all facets of motion practice, fact and expert witness development, as well as trial.

- Litigation, Arbitration and Investigations
- Environment, Health and Safety
- Projects, Energy and Infrastructure
- International Trade, Regulatory and Government Affairs
- Real Estate

- Real Estate
- Energy and Natural Resources
- Industrials
- Consumer Goods, Food and Retail
- Hospitality and Leisure

- Represented major commercial developer in complex, contentious, and high-profile project involving the investigation and remediation of hazardous and radioactive contamination.
- Provided counsel to major oil company in cutting-edge carbon capture and sequestration project under California's Low Carbon Fuel Standard.

- Represented professional sports client on brownfield redevelopment for new stadium.
- Advised private and public clients on water supply and quality issues, including advising under SGMA, California's historic legislation to manage groundwater, prior to and during its implementation.
- Defended litigation challenging projects under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and other state, federal, and local planning and environmental statutes and regulations.
- Defended global chemical manufacturer in lengthy and high-profile jury trial.
- Defended enforcement actions and complex civil lawsuits under CERCLA, RCRA, and state-equivalents.

CREDENTIALS

Admissions

- California

Recognitions

- Law Clerk, Hon. Edward Chen, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California.
- Law Clerk, White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), Washington, D.C.

Education

- J.D., University of California, Berkeley, School of Law 2013
- B.A., University of California at Santa Cruz
with honors

Memberships

- Board Member, Bar Association of San Francisco, Justice and Diversity Center

INSIGHTS

Publications

Understanding California's South Coast AQMD Warehouse Indirect Source Rule – key points for warehouse owners, operators and tenants

30 June 2021

Implementing the rule may prove challenging to owners, operators and tenants of warehouse facilities.

NEWS

DLA Piper advises BASF in the sale of its Kankakee, Illinois, manufacturing site and certain associated business divisions to One Rock Capital Partners

22 December 2020

DLA Piper represented BASF Corporation in the sale of its manufacturing site in Kankakee, Illinois, and the associated businesses of

vegetable-oil-based raw material sterols and natural vitamin E, anionic surfactants and esters produced there to an affiliate of One Rock Capital Partners, LLC, a US-based private equity firm.
