



## **Luke D. Johnson**

**Policy Director**

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With extensive policy experience in both the executive branch and Congress, Luke Johnson provides sophisticated analysis and strategy in achieving key regulatory and legislative objectives of his energy, natural resource and environmental clients. Luke serves as co-chair of the firm's Energy Environment and Resource Strategies Group, where he utilizes his background as a former senior executive with the Bureau of Land Management, senior trade association leader, and senior policy advisor in the U.S. Senate and U.S. House Natural Resources Committee.

Luke is a former deputy director of policy and programs at the BLM within the Department of the Interior. He previously served as the chief of staff to the BLM Director and the chief of congressional and legislative affairs for the Bureau of Reclamation. During his tenure at BLM, Luke played an instrumental role in the implementation of numerous provisions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, including oil and natural gas permit streamlining. He also provided executive management and oversight in the formulation and revision of numerous policies relating to traditional and renewable forms of energy as well as resource management plans and programmatic agreements between federal and state agencies, NEPA reviews, rights of way and transmission corridors. He oversaw the agency's congressional and public affairs efforts and served as a witness representing the administration in testimony before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee and the House Natural Resources Committee.

Luke previously served as a senior policy advisor to former Senator Robert F. Bennett (R-UT), where he handled comprehensive energy and environmental issues, including in his role as a senior member of the Senate Appropriations Committee and Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. During his time in the Senate, Luke oversaw the successful passage of numerous public land bills, including a successful effort to authorize and appropriate funds for a multi-state endangered species recovery program. Prior to this work in the Senate, Luke served as legislative assistant for then Rep. James V. Hansen (R-UT) and as professional staff on the House Natural Resources Committee, where he was the primary staff member for 19 bills that became public law.

In addition to his tenure in government, Luke also served as vice president of policy and government affairs for the National Ocean Industries Association (NOIA), a national offshore energy trade association. There he led NOIA's efforts in developing and implementing the organization's policy and political affairs engagement strategies. In addition to maintaining key relationships at the federal, state and local levels, he also worked with like-minded organizations to build coalitions in support of the association's objectives.

### **Practices**

Energy & Natural Resources, Endangered Species, Energy, Energy, Environment & Resource Strategies, Mining, Public Lands, Renewable Energy, Water, NEPA/CEQA, Government Relations

### **Representative Matters**

- Represented the Navajo Nation in federal legislation to authorize the Navajo Nation's water settlement with the U.S. and Utah.
- Counsel to a non-profit organization representing consumer-owned electric systems that purchase federal hydropower and resources before Congress and the Administration.
- Successfully helped a hard rock mining company navigate a significant regulatory and potential enforcement action saving the company from a potentially long term project delay.
- Represents a large oil and gas exploration and production company on federal engagement for both onshore and offshore projects.
- Provides federal representation with the administration and Congress for an entity representing consumer-owned electric systems that contract for the delivery of federal hydropower over the federal transmission system of the Western Area Power Administration from the Colorado River Storage Project.
- Represents a large federal water project on navigating right of way issues across public lands.
- Represents a hard rock mining company permitting a large gold mining project on federal land.
- Provides strategic advice and counsel regarding regulatory, permitting and agency approvals for a large, independent oil and gas company pursuing onshore and offshore projects.
- Provides representation and works with a coalition of stakeholders on a large public lands and conservation bill.
- Provides strategic counsel to a gateway municipality in navigating regulatory issues with federal land management agencies.
- Represents one of the largest federal water contractors in the United States to ensure that its members have a long-term dependable supply of water to meet project purposes.
- Provides federal representation to an independent oil and gas company operating on federal lands.
- Provided strategic direction to a major national nonprofit conservation organization regarding a proposed listing of a species under the Endangered Species Act.
- Represents one of the largest recreation software developers on federal and state engagement with the administration and Congress to increase recreation participation on public lands.
- Represents a deep water, independent oil and gas company on offshore related policy and legislation.
- Provides strategic counsel on navigating approvals for an arctic oil and gas development.
- Provides strategic counsel in navigating federal permitting and approvals on behalf of a calcium carbonate mine.
- Provides representation and works with federal stakeholders on various wind opportunities and projects throughout the United States as it relates to the federal government.
- Represent one of the largest federal water contractors in the United States to ensure that its members have a long-term dependable supply of water to meet project purposes.

## **Publications & Presentations**

- 2015 Washington Outlook, *Brownstein Client Alert*, Feb. 2, 2015
- Republicans Won Control of the U.S. Senate—Now What?, *Brownstein Client Alert*, November 6, 2014
- 'Venting And Flaring' Rule May Spur EPA Regs On Methane, Author, *Law360*, April 17, 2014
- Bureau of Land Management to Focus Anew on Venting and Flaring on Federal and Indian Lands, *Brownstein Client Alert*, March 19, 2014
- 2014 Washington Outlook, *Brownstein Client Alert*, January 30, 2014
- Proposed Carbon Rules for New Power Plants: What They Are and What They Mean, *Brownstein Client Alert*, September 20, 2013
- Obama's Climate Change Agenda Revealed, *Brownstein Client Alert*, June 25, 2013

**Education**

- B.S., 1999, Utah State University