

Trevor Alexander

Lead, Energy Practice

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Overview

Trevor Alexander advises infrastructure investors, electric and gas utilities, independent power producers, pipeline companies and industrial customers on all aspects of energy regulation, procurement and policy. His practice spans traditional and renewable energy, natural gas and electric distribution, and emerging infrastructure related to powered land and data center development.

A trusted advocate, Trevor has represented public utilities, institutional investors and Fortune 500 companies in complex proceedings involving rate cases, mergers, compliance, siting, tariff design and construction of large-scale energy facilities.

Trevor's work includes securing regulatory approvals for multibillion-dollar rate cases, electric security plans and mergers, defending clients in high-stakes commercial disputes, and obtaining favorable rate and return decisions for utilities. His experience includes securing favorable regulatory decisions involving billions of dollars in new investment, creation of new riders ensuring timely recovery of those investments, and successfully representing regulated utilities before the Ohio Supreme Court. He also regularly counsels clients on energy procurement, tariff interpretation, and solar and renewable power purchase agreements.

Trevor also plays a key role in Benesch's Powered Land & Data Centers practice, focusing on the energy and regulatory dimensions of data center development. He advises developers, investors and utilities on utility service negotiations, energy procurement agreements, and regulatory approvals necessary to secure long-term power capacity for hyperscale and energy-intensive operations.

Recognized by Chambers USA as a “Leading Lawyer” in Energy & Natural Resources and named Best Lawyers® “Lawyer of the Year” in Energy Regulatory Law in 2024, Trevor is consistently ranked among the nation’s top practitioners. He has been listed in The Best Lawyers in America® for both Commercial Litigation and Energy Regulatory Law since 2021.

Representative Matters

- Represented AEP Ohio in obtaining PUCO approval to install behind-the-meter fuel cell generation assets at Amazon and Cologix data centers, the first approval permitting an Ohio utility to install behind-the-meter generation at a customer’s location. Successfully defended the approval on appeal, which was voluntarily dismissed before oral argument at the Ohio Supreme Court.
- Obtained a unanimous victory before the Ohio Supreme Court on behalf of three investor-owned utilities, upholding the recovery of $115 million in prudently incurred costs associated with a coal-fired generation facility.
- Represented a data center developer in the negotiation and execution of a multibillion-dollar powered land and data center development transaction, including the construction and installation of an on-site 500 MW natural gas generation facility.
- Represented a natural gas utility in defeating a $15 million foreclosure action brought by three counties arising from alleged pre-sale tax liabilities tied to a pipeline acquired from a receiver free and clear of prior obligations. After extensive briefing and oral argument, the Cuyahoga County Court ruled in the utility’s favor, and the Eighth Appellate District affirmed, rejecting the counties’ notice and property classification arguments. The decision established new Ohio precedent regarding the classification of natural gas pipelines as personal property and the impact of public utility tax liens on pipeline sales.
- Representing industrial customer in construction of $4 billion facility with regard to all energy related issues, including Power Siting, negotiation with utilities, and procurement of the commodity.
- Representing a gas utility seeking PUCO approval for the sale of its parent company.
- Obtaining PUCO approval for an “alternative rate” which allowed immediate recovery of an investment into an intrastate gas pipeline even though its former owner failed to keep many of the records justifying the rate base of that asset.
- Trying case to verdict in favor of anaerobic digestor qualified as a “public utility” exempt from township zoning authority.

Credentials

EDUCATION

- The Ohio State University, Moritz College of Law, 2006, J.D., *cum laude*
  - Associate Editor, *The Ohio State Journal of Dispute Resolution*
- Capital University, 2003, B.A., *summa cum laude*

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

- Ohio
- Illinois

Memberships

- Member, Ohio State Bar Association
- Member, Columbus Bar Association
- Trustee, Capital University Football Alumni Association (2008-2009)

Awards & Recognition

- Named, 2026 Lawdragon 500 Global Leaders in Energy
- Listed, *Chambers USA Leading Lawyers*, Energy & Natural Resources, 2024-2026
- Named, Best Lawyers®, Energy/Regulatory Law, Lawyer of the Year, 2024
- Named, Ohio Super Lawyer, 2026
- *Benchmark Litigation's* "40 & Under Hot List," Energy and Utilities Law (2017-2020)
- *Benchmark Litigation's* "Top Litigator Under 40," a subset of the "40 & Under Hot List" (2018-2019)
- Listed, *The Best Lawyers in America®*, Commercial Litigation; Energy Regulatory Law, 2021-2027
- Ohio Super Lawyers, Ohio Rising Stars (2020)
- *Martindale-Hubbell*, AV Preeminent peer review rated

News & Insights

- D.C. Circuit Rejects DOE's Use of Emergency Authority to Prevent Coal Plant Retirement
  November 4, 2026 | Client Alerts & Insights
- Benesch Energy Lead Trevor Alexander Named to 2026 Lawdragon 500 Global Leaders in Energy List
  September 10, 2026 | Press Releases

- 126 Benesch Attorneys Recognized in 2027 Best Lawyers® Rankings
  August 20, 2026 | Press Releases
- Benesch Secures Unanimous Ohio Supreme Court Victory for Leading Utilities in Complex Regulatory Appeal
  July 1, 2026 | Press Releases
- Benesch Recognized as Leading Law Firm by Chambers USA 2026 with Record Growth in National and Regional Rankings
  June 4, 2026 | Press Releases
- 48 Benesch Attorneys Selected to 2026 Ohio Super Lawyers and Rising Stars
  January 27, 2026 | Press Releases
- 129 Benesch Attorneys Recognized in 2026 Best Lawyers® Rankings
  August 21, 2025 | Press Releases
- Benesch Recognized in Chambers USA 2025 with Record Growth in National and Regional Rankings
  June 4, 2025 | Press Releases
- 132 Benesch Attorneys Recognized in 2025 Best Lawyers® Rankings
  August 14, 2024 | Press Releases
- 40 Benesch Attorneys and 15 Practices Recognized by Chambers USA 2024, One Attorney Ranked Globally
  June 6, 2024 | Press Releases

Speaking & Events

PAST EVENTS

- Will Government Regulation Kill AI?: Developments in State and Federal Regulation of Data Centers | Trevor Alexander
  May 14, 2026 | Speaking Engagement
- Energy Terms and Concepts | Trevor Alexander
  February 11, 2025 | Speaking Engagement