

Cole Lempke

Associate

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414.297.5162



Cole Lempke advises clients on a broad spectrum of environmental matters at the local, state and federal levels, including regulatory counseling, permitting, and litigation. His experience spans the power, industrial, and energy distribution sectors, where he helps navigate complex compliance obligations under environmental regulations.

Before joining Foley, Cole was an environmental associate in the Austin office of an internationally recognized law firm. He represented clients in groundwater production and wastewater discharge permitting, including through contested case hearings. Cole also advised clients on Clean Air Act matters, ranging from compliance strategies to rulemaking challenges. He regularly presented to client coalitions on emerging regulatory developments affecting the natural gas industry and wildlife conservation.

During law school, Cole served as a legal clinic student with the Environmental Advocacy Center at the Northwestern Law Bluhm Legal Clinic.

Representative Experience

- Represented private developer in securing groundwater production permits to support development of its 33,000-acre mixed-use property*
- Advised power generators on compliance obligations under, and represented them in litigation challenging, Clean Air Act greenhouse gas emissions standards for power plants*
- Represented plaintiff coalitions in challenges to energy codes disfavoring natural gas throughout the country*
- Represented energy company in acquisition of pore space easement for underground storage of carbon dioxide*

**Matters handled prior to joining Foley.*

Presentations and Publications

- Speaker, “Case Law Update,” Texas Water Association Annual Convention (March 6, 2025)
- Speaker, “Water Supply – Challenges and Opportunities,” Baker Botts 38th Annual Environmental, Safety & Incident Response Seminar (February 20, 2025)

Pro Bono

Cole has partnered with a nonprofit immigration advocacy group to represent individuals before the Board of Immigration Appeals and to draft comments on several federal rulemakings.

Sectors

- [Energy & Infrastructure](#)
- [Manufacturing](#)

Practice Areas

- [Corporate](#)
- [Environmental](#)

Education

- Northwestern Pritzker School of Law (J.D., magna cum laude, 2022)
 - Order of the Coif
 - Membership Editor, *Northwestern University Law Review*
- University of Nebraska-Lincoln (B.S., highest distinction, 2019)
 - English/language arts secondary education

Admissions

- Wisconsin
- Texas