



Christina M. Puhnaty

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Area of Emphasis

Christina Puhnaty is an associate in the Environmental Group of Babst Calland. She assists clients with matters encompassing a broad range of environmental issues, including those related to state and federal permitting, regulatory compliance, and environmental litigation.

Ms. Puhnaty devotes a significant portion of her practice to advising clients on compliance matters arising under the Clean Air Act and related state programs regulating air emissions. She manages air permitting matters and appeals and represents clients in connection with federal and state enforcement actions. Ms. Puhnaty has assisted companies with the disclosure of regulatory violations to state and federal agencies and has counseled clients in negotiations with the U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. EPA, and various state agencies. She also has experience guiding clients through OSHA Process Safety Management (PSM), EPA Risk Management Program (RMP), and California Accidental Release Prevention (CalARP) facility audits, as well as representing clients in EPA RMP enforcement actions and providing related compliance support.

Ms. Puhnaty's practice also involves counseling clients on a variety of federal and state regulatory issues related to both coal and noncoal mining operations.

Background

Ms. Puhnaty graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 2017, earning a B.S. in Chemistry. Before attending law school, she worked as an analytical chemist for PPG Industries in the microscopy and physical chemistry laboratories at its global Coatings Innovation Center in Allison Park, PA.

In 2021, Ms. Puhnaty graduated from the University of Wisconsin Law School. While at UW Law, she served as a Senior Managing Editor for the *University of Wisconsin Law Review* and was a recipient of the Gwynette E. Smalley Law Review Prize for special contributions. Ms. Puhnaty was also the president of UW Law's Environmental Law Society and served as a research assistant for then-Professor Linda S. Greene. During law school, she worked as a law clerk for the Environmental Protection Agency's Region 5 office, the Wisconsin Department of Justice's Environmental Protection Unit, and the United States Department of Justice's Environment and Natural Resources Division.

Memberships and Affiliations

Ms. Puhnaty is admitted to practice law in Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. She is a member of the State Bar of Wisconsin, Allegheny County Bar Association (ACBA), American Bar Association's Section on Environment, Energy, and Resources (SEER), and Women's Energy Network. She serves as a co-chair of the SEER Special Committee on Sponsorships and as a member of the ACBA Environment and Energy Law Section Council. Ms. Puhnaty also serves as a co-chair of the Women's Initiative Committee at Babst Calland.

Ms. Puhnaty received a 2026 *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America* recognition for Environmental Law.

Publications/Presentations

Co-Author, "EPA Proposal Aims to Clarify Scope of Construction Activities Allowed Prior to Issuance of NSR Permit," Babst Calland *Environmental Alert*, May 20, 2026.

Co-Author, “PAPUC Announces Increase in Act 13 Impact Fees,” FNREL’s *Mineral and Energy Law Newsletter*, Vol. 43, No. 1 (2026).

Co-Author, “Pennsylvania EQB Accepts Three Oil and Gas Rulemaking Petitions for Further Study,” FNREL’s *Mineral and Energy Law Newsletter*, Vol. 43, No. 1 (2026).

Co-Author, “PADEP Publishes Draft Updated Erosion and Sediment Control Policy,” FNREL’s *Mineral and Energy Law Newsletter*, Vol. 43, No. 1 (2026).

Co-Author, “PADEP Publishes Renewal of General NPDES Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Mining Activities,” FNREL’s *Mineral and Energy Law Newsletter*, Vol. 43, No. 1 (2026).

Co-Author, “PADEP Issues Final Revised Environmental Justice Policy,” FNREL’s *Mineral and Energy Law Newsletter*, Vol. 43, No. 1 (2026).

Co-Author, “House Bill 416 Expedites Permitting Procedures, Enhances PAPUC Oversight, and Repeals RGGI,” FNREL’s *Mineral and Energy Law Newsletter*, Vol. 43, No. 1 (2026).

Co-Author, “New EPA Webpage Compiles Clean Air Act Resources for Data Center & AI Projects,” The PIOGA Press, February 2026.

Co-Author, “In a Significant Step Towards Deregulation, EPA Repeals 2009 Endangerment Finding and Federal Greenhouse Gas Standards for Vehicles and Engines,” Babst Calland *Environmental Alert*, February 16, 2026.

Presenter, “Implementation of Pennsylvania’s Existing Source Rule,” PIOGATech – Air Quality Training, December 17, 2025.

Co-Author, “New EPA Webpage Compiles Clean Air Act Resources for Data Center & AI Projects,” Babst Calland *Firm Alert*, December 12, 2025.

Co-Author, “FERC Approves Plan to Allow PJM to Recover Payments to Power Plant from Consumers,” FNREL’s *Mineral and Energy Law Newsletter*, Vol. 42, No. 4 (2025).

Co-Author, “PADEP Announces Permit Backlog Reduction of 98% and Broadens Eligibility of SPEED Program for Permit Review,” FNREL’s *Mineral and Energy Law Newsletter*, Vol. 42, No. 4 (2025).

Co-Author, “Reissuance of NPDES General Permit for Stormwater Associated with Mining Activities,” FNREL’s *Mineral and Energy Law Newsletter*, Vol. 42, No. 4 (2025).

Co-Author, “EPA Extends Certain Compliance Deadlines for Oil and Natural Gas Clean Air Act Requirements,” The PIOGA Press, September 2025.

Co-Author, “EPA Extends Certain Compliance Deadlines for Oil and Natural Gas Clean Air Act Requirements,” *GO-WV News*, September 2025.

Co-Author, “Pennsylvania’s Supreme Court Hears Arguments in Pennsylvania RGGI Litigation,” FNREL’s *Mineral and Energy Law Newsletter*, Vol. 42, No. 3 (2025).

Co-Author, “Legislature Introduces Six Bills to Implement Governor Shapiro’s Lightning Plan,” FNREL’s *Mineral and Energy Law Newsletter*, Vol. 42, No. 3 (2025).

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