



## Cristina Mulcahy

Of Counsel

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**Cris guides clients operating in New Mexico through complex environmental matters, specializing in water rights, water quality, and hazardous waste issues.**

### PRACTICES

Environmental  
Water Resources  
Environmental Transactions

### INDUSTRIES

Energy and Resources  
Mining

### EDUCATION

Texas Tech University School of Law,  
J.D., 2014  
*cum laude*  
Top 20%  
*Administrative Law Journal*, Editor

William Smith College, B.A., 2008  
*cum laude*  
Three-time NCAA All-Academic  
American

### BAR ADMISSIONS

New Mexico  
Texas

Cris has represented energy companies, municipalities, and private parties before local government authorities, state and federal agencies, and state and federal district courts on water rights matters and water-related environmental matters. She has extensive experience helping clients navigate regulatory, permitting, and administrative challenges involving water rights, water quality, and hazardous waste. Cris regularly advises multiple industry sectors on federal rulemaking, regulatory requirements, and developments under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), the Clean Water Act (CWA), and other comprehensive environmental statutory schemes. Cris also helps clients anticipate requirements and respond to allegations concerning nuanced compliance issues for projects bordering or crossing tribal lands, including tribal consultation requirements and the National Historic Preservation Act.

Prior to joining Holland & Hart, Cris served as Environment, Safety, and Health Counsel for Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) spearheading litigation, compliance, and permitting on RCRA issues as well as matters related to LANL's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination (NPDES) Permit that covers 11 mission-critical industrial and sanitary wastewater outfalls.

### EXPERIENCE

#### Water Rights

- General stream adjudications (consent order and *inter se*)
- Water supply plans
- Water rights transactions
- Administrative proceedings

#### Environmental

Cris has experience with various environmental laws and regulations, including:

- RCRA permitting and compliance
- NPDES permitting and compliance
- Clean Water Act

- Safe Drinking Water Act
- NEPA
- New Mexico Water Quality Act
- New Mexico Hazardous Waste Act

## PUBLICATIONS

"New Mexico Environment Department Seeks Comments on Proposed Produced Water Rules That Limit Nearly All Re-Use," *Oil and Gas Legal Update*, November 6, 2023

## SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

"Water Energy Nexus," Panelist, *Building an Advanced Energy Ecosystem in New Mexico, NM Women's Lead*, September 23, 2024

"Water Rights in New Mexico," *National Business Institute (NBI)*, Webinar, July 23, 2024

"From Waste to Valuable Resource?: Updates on Produced Water Regulation in New Mexico and Texas and Implications from Whiting Petroleum on Gathering Agreements in Bankruptcy," *Institute for Energy Law CLE*, June 1, 2021

"Where Oil and Water Mix: Produced Water Regulation, Treatment, and Re-Use in New Mexico and Texas," *Hydrology in Water Law Conference 2020*, Santa Fe, NM, August 16, 2020

## RECOGNITION

- *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America*, Natural Resources Litigation, 2021
- Southwest Super Lawyers® Rising Stars, Natural Resources Litigation, 2018-2021
- Mayor of the City of Albuquerque Good Samaritan Award, September 2016

## PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

- Institute for Energy Law, Inaugural Leadership Academy, Member, 2018
- City of Santa Fe, City Audit Committee, Vice-Chair, 2019-2023
- Oliver Seth American Inn of Court
  - Board Member, 2022-present
  - Member, 2019-present