

# Erika Garcia

Associate

**Practices:** Environmental Law; Public & Regulatory Law; Energy Law; Energy Regulatory

Erika Garcia is a member of Winstead's Environmental Law and Public & Regulatory Law Practice Groups. Erika centers her practice on administrative and regulatory litigation with an emphasis on matters relating to electric utilities.

Prior to joining Winstead, she served as Staff attorney for The Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) where she focused on public interest matters related to the regulation of electric, telecommunications and water. Erika has participated in contested administrative proceedings before the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) and the PUCT, including but not limited to electric, water, and sewer utility rate cases, Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) proceedings, and utility sales and transfers.

In addition to utility matters, Erika has experience representing industrial and business clients in environmental permitting matters before the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

## Representative Experience

- Represented electric utilities in rate cases before the PUCT and New Mexico Public Regulation Commission
- Represented PUCT Staff in numerous contested electric, water, and sewer utility rate cases before SOAH and the PUCT
- Represented PUCT Staff in multiple proceedings to amend electric utility CCNs for transmission and generation facilities in Texas before SOAH and the PUCT
- Represented PUCT Staff in a proceeding to approve an electric utility's interconnection with the Electric Reliability Council of Texas
- Represented PUCT Staff in electric and water utility sale, transfer, merger proceedings
- Represented PUCT Staff in numerous proceedings to grant, amend or revoke CCNs for water and sewer utilities
- Represented PUCT Staff in consumer complaint proceedings
- Worked on rulemaking proceedings to revise the PUCT's substantive rules

## Professional & Community Service

- State Bar of Texas, Administrative and Public Law Section and Public Utility Law Section
- Austin Bar Association, Administrative Law Section, All-Day CLE Co-Chair (2019-2020)
- Association of Women in Energy
- Austin Young Lawyers Association
- Gulf Coast Power Association
- Seedling Foundation, Mentor



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### Education

University of Tennessee College of Law  
– J.D., 2014  
– *cum laude*  
– *The Tennessee Journal of Race, Gender, and Social Justice*, Member

Williams College  
– B.A., Political Science, 2011

- Meals on Wheels

## Awards & Recognition

- Public Utility Commission Excellence Award, 2017
- *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch*, Woodward/White, Inc., 2021

## Admissions

- Texas, 2014
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas