

Environmental

Attorneys

James B. "Jim" Witkin

Services

Air and Water Pollution

Brownfields

Critical Area Regulation

Endangered Species

Forest Conservation

Hazardous Waste

Wetlands

Linowes and Blocher LLP's Environmental Practice Group brings years of experience to the table enabling clients to make educated and informed decisions related to enforcement actions, real property acquisition, land development and regulatory approvals. Our lawyers have in-depth knowledge and understanding of federal, state and local laws and regulations addressing today's environmental and natural resource issues that allows our manufacturing, developer, financing, commercial and individual clients to work through the complex legal framework in order to achieve their goals within budget.

Our multi-disciplinary team of lawyers deal with environmental issues facing our clients in the Mid-Atlantic region, particularly the Chesapeake Bay area. Our lawyers have experience with hazardous waste, brownfields, air and water pollution, wetlands, endangered species, forest conservation, critical area regulation, and the variety of permitting transactional, counseling and, if needed, litigation services relating to these areas.

Business and Real Estate Transactions

Our environmental and natural resources lawyers work collaboratively with our transactional, corporate, tax and bankruptcy lawyers to address and resolve environmental risks, both known and unknown. We apply our broad knowledge and experience to evaluate environmental and natural resource liabilities that may be present or arise during acquisition and disposition of properties or businesses, financings or corporate reorganizations. Where appropriate, our attorneys also help our clients find innovative mitigation solutions to offset environmental impacts that may be associated with development activities. Our lawyers have experience in managing and mitigating transactional risks through close collaboration with engineering, environmental, and insurance professionals.

Our environmental and natural resources lawyers frequently address a variety of substantive issues including:

- Ground and groundwater contamination
- Lead and asbestos, petroleum and other hazardous contamination
- Tidal and nontidal wetlands

Continued

- Aboveground and underground storage tanks
- State and federally listed endangered and threatened species
- Floodplain restrictions
- Tax-advantaged donation of conservation easements recognized under Section 170(h) of the Internal Revenue Code
- Establishing and administering various types of mitigation projects, including “mitigation banks”

Environmental and Natural Resource Litigation

Linowes and Blocher LLP’s lawyers frequently defend clients in state and federal courts and before administrative and agency tribunals involving environmental and natural resource matters. Whether our clients are cited for violating a wastewater discharge or air permit, alleged to have “filled” wetlands, or accused of releasing hazardous waste, our team of lawyers has extensive experience in resolving agency enforcement actions and private party litigation. Our experience includes negotiating administrative consent orders, allocating natural resources rights and representing potentially responsible parties in Superfund actions.

Environmental and Natural Resource Permits, Licenses, and Authorizations

Our team of lawyers has in-depth knowledge of the state and federal regulatory framework for environmental permitting in the Mid-Atlantic region. We also guide clients through the permitting process as well as assist them with developing and implementing programs to assure compliance once they have obtained the desired permit(s). We advise clients on best practices for environmental inspections by regulatory agencies.

- Tidal wetlands authorizations
- Critical area approvals
- Discharge permits required under the Clean Water Act and complementary state programs
- State and local brownfields mitigation and remediation programs

Land Development

Many of our clients look to us for counsel on environmental issues affecting land development and construction in the Mid-Atlantic region. The Environmental Practice Group works on a myriad of issues such as:

- Wetlands
- Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bay Critical Area
- Forest conservation
- Endangered species

Continued

- Stormwater management

News & Speaking Engagements

Witkin Speaks at ABA Environmental Master Class
June 2019