

Professional Experience

Ater Wynne LLP, Portland, Oregon, Senior Counsel, 2015 to present, Partner, 1990 to 2015, Associate, 1987 to 1990

Bonneville Power Administration, Attorney, Office of General Counsel, 1986 to 1987

Bonneville Power Administration, Trial Attorney, appointed as Special Assistant to the U.S. Justice Department, Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch, Portland, Oregon, 1984 to 1986

Education

Northwestern School of Law of Lewis & Clark College, J.D., 1982
University of Oregon, B.S.

Admitted to Practice

Oregon
Alaska
Washington
U.S. District Court, Oregon
U.S. District Court, Western Washington
U.S. District Court, Alaska

Professional Activities

Oregon State Bar, Environmental and Natural Resources Law Section
Oregon State Bar, Sustainable Future Section
American Bar Association, Natural Resources Section
Commissioner of first City of Portland Energy and Environment Commission



Claudia K. Powers

Senior Counsel
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Claudia Powers is an environmental and energy lawyer who chairs the Environmental Practice Group at Ater Wynne. Her clients include, among others, international chemical, steel pipe and industrial gases corporations, light and heavy industries, municipalities, electric power producing companies, and a regional water resource management facility that produces fertilizer from waste water.

Claudia is listed in *Chambers USA* and *Best Lawyers in America* for her expertise in Environmental Law. Her background and experience in energy, sustainability, and environmental law makes her one of the most sought after attorneys for complicated superfund, natural resources, and contaminated property redevelopment projects. Currently, she is working on the redevelopment of industrial property inside the Portland, Oregon Urban Growth Boundary, a project involving public and private cooperation with the Oregon Business Development Department's Brownfields Program and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. She is also working with public and private parties to redevelop former mill and plywood sites in Southern Oregon and Central Washington.

She is the lead environmental attorney for an international steel pipe manufacturer, assisting the company in acquisitions, cleanup and sales of industrial property as well as regulatory permitting and compliance matters. Claudia is also a skilled negotiator with broad problem-solving experience. She negotiated one of the state's first pre-purchaser agreements for the transfer and cleanup of contaminated property. She has negotiated a variety of transactions and complex liability allocation agreements. She headed the environmental strategy team in one of the region's most unusual bankruptcy cases involving environmental liability. She has worked extensively with local, state, and federal regulators to successful effect for over 30 years.

Representative Matters

Represents industrial clients in waterfront property cleanup and redevelopment related to historical and ongoing releases of hazardous substances at state and federal superfund sites.

Represents clients in the Lower Duwamish Waterway Superfund Site.

Chaired the Potentially Liable Party group for one of the first state and federal superfund sites in Oregon.

Serves as environmental counsel to industrial clients on source control matters to identify and, if necessary mitigate or eliminate sources of contamination by riparian property owners.

Represented clients in federal superfund sites in five states, including negotiations with Indian Tribes for natural and cultural resources analyses.

Environmental counsel to an inner-city private property owner of a former manufacturing facility on an impaired waterway. Investigated historical impacts from plant operations, secured financing from a state agency, and negotiated a consent judgment.

Represents clients in property transactions, including cleanups under various state voluntary cleanup programs that arise from due diligence reviews.

Served as lead environmental counsel to the second largest utility in Alaska to bring a clean coal project out of warm layup. Conducted negotiations with myriad state and federal agencies and state and national environmental groups, negotiated a consent decree with the US Department of Justice on behalf of the US Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") in six months.

Represents clients regarding state and federal Clean Water Act compliance in a number of states.

Successfully defended Clean Water Act Citizen Suit challenges for clients in Oregon, Washington and Texas.

Represents clients in initiating and conducting environmental audits under both federal and state audit privileges.

Served as lead environmental counsel for a client in all aspects of the acquisition and operation of a 100 year old shipyard.

Served as lead environmental counsel on a \$90 million pulp and paper mill upgrade and recycling project, and development of a co-generation facility to convert manufacturing steam into electrical power to operate the facility.

Representative Presentations

Environmental Audits, *The Oregon Deskbook on Environmental and Natural Resources Law*

Brownfields: Redeveloping Contaminated Lands, *The Oregon Insider*

Asbestos. *The Oregon Deskbook on Environmental and Natural Resources Law*

Brownfields Effects on Waterfront Redevelopment from the Intersection of Endangered Species Act and Contaminated Sediments, *Law Seminar International Conference on Brownfields & Smart Growth in the Pacific Northwest*

Environmental Law in Oregon, *Oregon Legal Guide for International Business*

Understanding Contaminated Harbor and River Sediment – Analysis and Interpretation, *University of Wisconsin Seminar, in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality*