

W. Michael Seidel

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“I advise my clients in all aspects of public utility regulation within administrative and court litigation.”

Mr. Seidel has engaged in the representation of electric, gas, water, and sewer utilities, as well as pipelines, for over 30 years. He also has represented and advised telecommunication companies, municipalities, independent power producers, and wind generators in connection with corporate, regulatory, and tariff matters. He has in-depth knowledge of the Illinois Public Utilities Act and the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC), and the orders, rules, and regulations, as well as the case law applicable to public utility representation. He has represented parties in contested regulatory litigation and court cases, and has a history of achieving successful outcomes for the Firm’s clients at a reasonable cost. In addition, Mr. Seidel has significant experience with commercial litigation cases in federal and state courts on behalf of financial institutions and business clients.

Business & Corporate

- Energy, Infrastructure, & Utilities
- Financial Institutions
- Business Bankruptcy & Creditors' Rights
- Business Litigation

Representative Matters

- Since the 1980s, served as counsel for Illinois electric, gas, water, and sewer utilities on general revenue requirement rate cases and various ICC initiatives and rulemakings pursuant to the landmark Illinois Customer Choice law.
- Served as counsel in reorganization proceedings, including holding company formation of a major electric and gas utility, its sale to a global energy company, and state regulatory approvals of

acquisitions of utility companies and power plants.

- Counsel on energy matters regarding regulatory issues arising out of a broad range of transactions and activities, certification requirements for competitive electric and gas suppliers, service territory disputes under the Electric Supplier Act, and power plant certification, cancellation, and retirement proceedings.
- Counsel regarding annual reconciliation proceedings for electric, gas, and water and sewer utility automatic adjustment clause tariffs, utility customer complaint proceedings, utility rate design tariff filings, and approvals for service territory additions.
- Served as lead counsel regarding interventions in various ICC rulemakings, including ICC rules of practice, general filing requirements for utility rate increases, right of way acquisitions, customer payment, deposit rules, and appeals of ICC rate and rulemaking orders.
- Counsel on various legislative proposals to support utility related lobbying efforts.

Education

- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, College of Law, 1978
 - J.D.
 - Harno Fellow
- University of Notre Dame, 1975
 - B.A., *summa cum laude*, Economics

Memberships

- Chicago Bar Association
 - Public Utility Law Committee
 - Chair, 1985-1986
 - Vice-chair, 1984-1985

Admissions

- Illinois, 1978

Professional Achievements

- Illinois *Leading Lawyers*, 2010-2021