

An Update for Our Clients, Collaborators and Others

It has been a busy first quarter of 2022 in the world of environmental and energy policy and related legal practice and within Barbara J Goldsmith & Company. This newsletter, issued periodically to clients and other partners in industry, government, academia, research and conservation organizations and more, is aimed at updating you and we invite you to contact us if we can help you and/or the persons and entities you service in your work.

RECENT EVENTS AFFECTING OUR CLIENTS

Among the developments we have tracked since the beginning of 2022, all of which have substantial implications for our corporate client base and others:

- **US.** Groundbreaking actions by federal departments/agencies to regulate PFAS/PFOS chemicals, including EPA's proposal to list them as "hazardous substances" under Superfund; SEC's proposal to mandate climate disclosures by public companies; Department of Justice receipt of funding to advance environmental justice and address the impacts of climate change;
- **Europe.** Commission, DG Environment announcement of upcoming Public Consultation concerning the EU Environmental Liability Directive; Commission's Draft Directive to require corporate human rights and environmental reporting;
- **Brazil.** Review by the Brazilian Supreme Court for the first time on challenges against the Government for climate change related issues;
- **Australia.** Legal ruling found the government does not have a duty of care to mitigate climate harm when considering approval of a mine expansion;
- **United Kingdom.** Consultation launched seeking public input on actions to protect people and environment from climate change and biodiversity loss.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars for our Natural Resources Symposium on September 15 – 16, 2022, held jointly with The George Washington University Law School, Environmental Law Institute, and others. Registration will open mid-May and we invite you to consider possible sponsorship of a keynote address or panel by your company or organization. See the Symposium [website](#) for details.

HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR PRACTICE

We are proud to have helped the great majority of Fortune 50 companies since our founding and we continue to service companies in broad ranging sectors that operate in hundreds of different countries. We also have forged partnerships with government in the US and also in the UK and Europe. The bulk of our practice is involved with working with multinational companies and their outside counsel and other experts. We help them plan for and navigate the many challenges -- and opportunities -- attendant to a wide array of environmental and energy issues. The strategies and approaches we recommend -- across the supply chain -- results in better management, better cost control, and numerous benefits accruing to the company in terms of leadership, reputation, and relationships, often at local levels. We are especially well known for our unique and highly specialized work helping companies on matters arising under natural resource damage (NRD) provisions of US laws (Superfund, Oil Pollution Act, others) and the Environmental Liability Directive (ELD) in Europe, and we have been leaders in developing best practice approaches on both sides of the Atlantic (often working with government and other stakeholders).

Some highlights:

- We are helping individual companies and sectors assess potential effects of emerging climate and PFAS policies and regulations and advising on plans forward to maximize best positioning and solutions forward.
- We are developing one of a kind best practice frameworks (working with teams of experts via our Ad-Hoc Industry Natural Resource Management Group program) to define ways to address climate and PFAS issues in the context of natural resource damage cases, as well as coordinating remediation and restoration in appropriate situations.
- We are providing strategic advice, benchmark research and summaries of lessons learned for individual companies to assess potential natural resource liability at specific sites in the US, Europe and around the globe.

INQUIRIES & FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information concerning BJGCO services can be found at www.BJGCO.com or by contacting our President, Barbara J. Goldsmith at bjg@bjgco.com. To join the Ad-Hoc Industry Natural Resource Management Group as a member company or affiliate law or consulting firm, see the Group's [website](#) or contact us at info@nrdonline.org.



ACCESS TO OUR EXPERTISE

We hope this update is of interest and please contact us if we can help your company (or your client). Our key service areas are: analyzing legislative/regulatory impacts; supporting litigation and non-litigation strategy development; defining and refining corporate environment, energy and sustainability objectives; identifying international environmental planning solutions; establishing and building relationships with government and other stakeholders; and more.

We track environmental and energy developments in the US, Europe and worldwide every day. You can benefit from this broad knowledge base and associated experience relative to current and future needs and opportunities. [Sign up](#) today for our weekly updates!