



John A.D. Vellone

Partner and National Leader, Energy, Resources & Renewables

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[Energy - Oil & Gas](#)

John has a comprehensive energy law practice covering a breadth of corporate, commercial and regulatory issues with a particular focus on Canadian electricity markets and infrastructure revitalization.

He is a Partner and National Leader of Energy, Resources and Renewables Sector, encompassing the [Power](#), [Oil & Gas](#), [Mining](#) and [Forestry](#) sectors. John is also National Leader of the firm's [Environmental, Social & Governance \(ESG\)](#) initiative. His clients include Provincial and Territorial governments, system operators, regulated utilities, developers, investors, and lenders. He provides counsel concerning corporate, commercial and regulatory aspects of the electricity and natural gas industries and power project development for a variety of technologies, including:

- battery storage
- wind
- solar
- hydro-electric
- biomass/biogas
- tidal
- natural gas
- cogeneration (combined heat and power)
- district energy

John represents clients in proceedings before provincial regulatory agencies, primarily the Ontario Energy Board.

John also advises management and boards on ESG matters including corporate governance best practices, sustainability mandates and net-zero initiatives.

Insights & Events

- Author, "ESG at BLG: Lessons learned from inside the ESG journey at Canada's law firm", BLG Article, April 2024
- Author, "Canada's path to net zero: The latest on clean electricity regulations and oil & gas emissions", BLG Article, March 2024
- Editor & Author, "[Power Law: Editorial February 2024 – The rise of utility-scale energy storage technologies](#)," International Bar Association, February 2024
- Author, "Energy planning and energy transition: 5 perspectives on Ontario's clean energy opportunity", BLG Article, February 2024
- Author, "[The expected \(and unexpected\) consequences of the Russo-Ukrainian war on the Canadian power sector](#)," International Bar Association, August 2023
- Editor & Author, "[Power Law Editorial August 2023 - The impact of the Russo-Ukrainian war on the power sector](#)," International Bar Association, August 2023
- Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Trends: Why it's important and what you need to know, BLG Perspective, June 2023
- Author, "Bill C-49: The future of offshore renewable energy projects in Atlantic Canada", BLG Article, June 2023
- Author, "What will Canada's modern slavery legislation mean for public companies in Canada?", BLG Article, January 2023
- Co-Author, "[The future of electricity': a panel of experts considers what lies ahead in Canada, Colombia, Egypt, Germany, Italy and Japan](#)," *Journal of Energy & Natural Resources Law*, August 2022
- Author, "More than marketing How to share your ESG story with investors", BLG Article, June 2022
- Author, "Ontario Ministry of Energy proposes growing hydrogen economy through reduced electricity rates", BLG Article, May 2022
- Author, "SEC proposes new climate change disclosure: changes for Canadian listed issuers", BLG Article, March 2022
- Special Presentation - ESG in the Capital Markets: The Ecosystem, BLG Video, January 2022
- Author, "ESG best practices and lessons learned from the 2021 legal summit", BLG Article, December 2021
- Author, "Net metering regulation in Ontario: Information to start your community net metering project", BLG Article, November 2021
- Author, "Mandatory climate-related disclosure heats up: the CSA seeks comments on national instrument", BLG Article, November 2021
- Author, "Financial services playbook to COP26 and climate finance", BLG Article, October 2021
- Author, "TCFD implementation: the shifting landscape of climate change policy in North America", BLG Article, October 2021
- Author, "Renewable VPPAs and ESG: What you need to know before you buy", BLG Article, August 2021
- Author, "ESG and sustainable finance opportunities in Canada", BLG Article, March 2021

- Author, "Greenhouse gas offset market – the missing piece in Canada's carbon economy – is here", BLG Article, March 2021
- Author, "Where are the Directors in a World in Crisis? ESG and corporate governance best practices", BLG Article, February 2021
- Author, "Proposed changes to Ontario's leave to construct requirements", BLG Article, February 2021
- Trends to watch in 2021 – ESG: from optional to essential, BLG Perspective, January 2021

Beyond Our Walls

Professional Involvement

- Officer (Newsletter Editor), Power Law Committee, International Bar Association, 2023-current
- Chair, Natural Resources and Energy Law Section, Ontario Bar Association, 2022-2023
- Executive (Member-at-Large), National Energy, Environment and Resource Law Section (NEERLS), Canadian Bar Association, 2023-current
- Executive, Natural Resources and Energy Law Section, Ontario Bar Association
- Member, Law Society of Upper Canada

Community Involvement

- Board Member, Association of Power Producers of Ontario

Awards & Recognitions

- Recognized in the 2024 edition of *Chambers Global – The World's Leading Lawyers for Business* (Energy: Power (Regulatory)).
- Recognized in the 2024 edition (and since 2019) of *The Best Lawyers in Canada* (Energy Regulatory Law; Energy Law).
- Recognized in the 2024 edition (and since 2019) of *Chambers Canada - Canada's Leading Lawyers for Business* (Energy - Provincial Regulatory (Nationwide)).
- Recognized in the 2024 edition (and since 2019) of *The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory* (Energy (Electricity); Energy (Oil & Gas)).
- Recognized in the 2023 edition (and since 2022) of *Lexpert Special Edition: Infrastructure*
- Recognized in the 2022 edition (and since 2020) of *The Lexpert®/ROB Special Edition on Canada's Leading Infrastructure Lawyers*.
- Recognized in the 2023 edition (and since 2019) of *Lexpert Special Edition - Canada's Leading Energy Lawyers*
- [Recognized as a 2017 Lexpert® Rising Star.](#)

Bar Admission & Education

- Ontario, 2008
- LLB, Osgoode Hall Law School, 2007
- MBA, Schulich School of Business, 2007
- BA.Sc. (Electrical Engineering), University of Waterloo, 2003



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