WILLIAM (BILL) WESTERFIELD, III

OF COUNSEL

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LANGUAGES:
English

Bill Westerfield brings nearly two decades of experience guiding California's energy and electricity sectors through complex regulatory, policy, and commercial challenges.

William (Bill) Westerfield is Of Counsel in the Land Use and Environmental Law Practice Group, with nearly two decades focused on California's energy and electricity sectors. He pairs strategic vision with practical results, guiding clients through complex regulatory, policy, and commercial landscapes.

Bill's experience spans the public and private sectors. He spent 11 years as Senior Attorney with the Sacramento Municipal Utility District, three years as Senior Counsel to the California Energy Commission, and eight years as a Trial Attorney in the U.S. Department of Justice's Environment and Natural Resources Division. He also led regulatory compliance efforts at Tetra Tech EMI, managing a $265 million Navy installation restoration project and negotiating cleanup goals with state agencies.

He co-founded Pacific Fleet Charging, LLC, helping accelerate the adoption of commercial electric vehicles across California. His work covers electric vehicle charging networks, utility-scale renewable projects, power purchase agreements, natural gas procurement, CPUC rate cases, nuclear fuel permitting, and policies advancing energy storage, greenhouse gas reduction, and renewable energy.

Bill has represented utilities, entrepreneurs, and public agencies in proceedings on renewable portfolio standards, California Solar Initiative standards, and the Low Carbon Fuel Standard. At SMUD, he authored legislative and regulatory language to implement California's climate laws, setting the utility on course for zero carbon emissions by 2030—one of the most ambitious targets in the state.

His notable matters include the precedent-setting *United States v. Miami Drum* CERCLA case, SMUD's sale and repurchase of the Solano III wind farm, and reconfiguring gas transportation rights on PG&E's transmission backbone after the San Bruno tragedy. Known for his easygoing style and adaptability, Bill meets clients where they

EDUCATION

University of Texas School of Law, JD, 1981

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, BA, Independent Studies, 1978

ADMISSIONS

California, 2000 – Bar No. 207923

PRACTICE AREAS

Land Use & Environmental

Energy, Utilities & Renewables

are—whether that means navigating a policy fight, closing a complex deal, or crafting a compliance strategy for emerging technologies.

He serves as an Advisor to the Executive Committee of the California State Bar's Environmental Law Section and has been active on non-profit boards supporting both professional and community causes.

HONORS & AWARDS

- "Big Bang" Competition Energy Prize (Business plan to finance EV fleet charging by school districts) – *UC Davis Institute of Innovation and Entrepreneurship* (Los Angeles, CA, 2020)
- Emerging Leaders Program – *Western Energy Institute Business Acumen* (2014)
- Power Done Right Award (Ingenuity) – *Solano 3 Wind Farm Sale* (2013)
- Power Done Right Award (Ingenuity) – *AB 32 Implementation* (2012)
- Building Leadership Talent Step-Up Award (2011)
- Community Service Power Done Right Award – *Foster Youth* (2011)

PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

- The State Bar of California, Member
- The State Bar of California, Environmental Law Section, Executive Committee Advisor
- National Energy Bar Association's Renewable Energy Committee, Former Co-Chair

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- **Private Practice** – Represented investor-owned utilities before the CPUC and other California agencies in proceedings involving general rate cases, energy cost adjustments, energy efficiency and low-income assistance compliance, resource adequacy requirements, RPS compliance, transmission line permitting, and solar energy policy development. Represented the Western Electricity Coordinating Council in launching the Western Renewable Energy Generation Information System (WREGIS), serving as principal author of account holder agreements.
- **Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD)** – Managed complex litigation securing full recovery of spent nuclear fuel storage costs: $53 million (2014), $22.5 million (2015), and $28.87 million (2017). Negotiated power purchase agreements for solar (11 MW), wind (128 MW), geothermal (120 MW), and biomass (7,000 MMBtu/day)

resources. Led negotiations with PG&E to resolve disputed gas transmission rights valued at over $10 million and served as lead counsel for SMUD's successful intervention in PG&E's 2014 gas transmission rate case, valued at $2 million annually. Secured favorable treatment of renewable energy carryover valued at $10–$20 million. Negotiated agreements supporting R&D into energy efficiency, demand response, electric vehicles, and micro-grids. Developed and advocated for electric vehicle charging station deployment and policies to expand EV adoption, including the Low Carbon Fuel Standard, before CARB, CEC, and CPUC. Advocated for pragmatic carbon reduction policies before state agencies.

- **California Energy Commission (CEC)** – Represented CEC staff in CEQA power plant siting cases, state court, and administrative proceedings. Drafted the WREGIS charter and secured its adoption by the WECC Board. Advised staff on early development of California's RPS program.
- **Tetra Tech EMI** – Supported a $265 million U.S. Navy installation restoration contract (CLEAN, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Southwest Division), providing legal counsel on remedial investigations, feasibility studies, remedial action plans, and records of decision. Negotiated with state agencies on cleanup goals and compliance requirements.
- **U.S. Department of Justice – Environment and Natural Resources Division** – Prosecuted environmental enforcement litigation on behalf of the EPA and other federal agencies, recovering over $10 million in fines and injunctive relief. Served as lead counsel in CERCLA cases, including *United States v. Miami Drum* (S.D. Fla. 1986), Clean Air Act cases such as *United States v. Mobil Chemical Company* (E.D. Cal. 1988), and Clean Water Act matters, including *United States v. Ketchikan Pulp* (Alaska 1994) and *United States v. Simpson Paper Company and Louisiana-Pacific Corporation* (N.D. Cal. 1989). Tried bench and jury cases, including *United States v. Allied Corporation* (N.D. Cal. 1990) and *United States v. Trident Seafoods* (W.D. Wash. 1993).