



Luigi A. Cusano, K.C.

PARTNER

A skilled litigator with significant experience in the energy industry, Luigi (Lou) Cusano helps clients navigate complex energy regulatory frameworks across high-stakes matters and disputes, bringing decades of knowledge of Canada's evolving electricity and oil and gas sectors.

CONTACT

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Overview

Lou's practice focuses on administrative, regulatory and environmental law and commercial litigation in the energy sector.

Lou has been involved in the restructuring of Alberta's power industry and has experience in all aspects of both the regulated and the unregulated electricity sectors, including utility rates, cost of capital, market rules, reliability standards, energy price-setting plans, transmission, distribution and generation facilities (both renewable and non-renewable), cogeneration facilities, industrial systems, merchant transmission and generation, market surveillance investigations, and disputes regarding Alberta's legislated Power Purchase Arrangements.

In the oil and gas sector, Lou provides comprehensive regulatory advice across the spectrum of clients' operations, including related to pipelines (greenfield, conversion and tolls and tariffs-related issues), heavy oil/oilsands development, well licensing, off-target penalties, pooling, common processors and carriers, processing facilities, public consultation, facility proliferation, environmental matters, land reclamation, emergency response and surface rights.

Lou's significant litigation experience includes many types of contractual disputes and power and oil and gas facility-related issues. He has appeared before numerous regulatory tribunals, including the Alberta Utilities Commission, Alberta Energy Regulator, the Natural Resources Conservation Board, Alberta Environmental Appeal Board, British Columbia Utilities Commission, Canadian Energy Regulator and the Alberta Securities Commission, as well as before all levels of Alberta courts and in mediations and arbitrations.



He's one of the top regulatory lawyers in Alberta.

—CHAMBERS GLOBAL, 2021

Recognition and Awards

2016-2026	<i>Chambers Canada</i> —Leading lawyer in energy: power (regulatory)
2014-2024	<i>Chambers Global</i> —Leading lawyer in energy: power (regulatory)
2023-2026	<i>The Legal 500</i> —Leading partner in energy and natural resources: power, and environment
2022, 2026	<i>Best Lawyers in Canada</i> —Lawyer of the Year in Energy Regulatory Law (Calgary)
2008-2026	<i>Best Lawyers in Canada</i> —Leading lawyer in corporate and commercial litigation and energy regulatory law
2022-2026	<i>Lexpert/American Lawyer's Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada</i> —Leading lawyer in electricity
2012-2026	<i>The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory</i> —Leading lawyer in energy: electricity and energy: oil & gas
2016-2022	<i>Who's Who Legal</i> — Global and National leading lawyer in energy and oil & gas

Insights

Seven takeaways investors should know about the Western Canadian renewables market

Renewable investment flow into Western Canada remains strong due to its unique opportunities for investors and project proponents. Find out why.

[A carbon and crude compromise: Canada-Alberta agreement on oil pipeline, pathways and carbon pricing](#)

[Powering Canada Strong: Canada launches National Electricity Strategy for consultation](#)

[Canada proposes reforms to accelerate trade and transport projects](#)

[Canada proposes major reforms to project approval regime](#)

[Rethinking Canada's energy landscape: Q&A with Torys' National Energy Regulatory Practice](#)

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News

83% of Torys' Canadian partners are recognized in *Chambers Canada* 2027

Congratulations to our ranked lawyers and practice groups on earning industry-leading recognition, including 19 Band 1 rankings.

[Best Lawyers recognizes 177 Torys lawyers in its 2027 guide](#)

[Chambers Canada ranks 81% of Torys' Canadian partners in its 2026 guide](#)

[176 Torys lawyers recognized in the 2026 Best Lawyers guide](#)

[81% of Torys' Canadian partners ranked by Chambers Canada](#)

[179 Torys lawyers recognized in the 2025 Best Lawyers guide](#)

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Professional Involvement

Lou has been an instructor in civil procedure, advocacy and trial preparation for the Law Society of Alberta Bar Admission course. He was a member of the Law Society of Alberta Civil Practice Advisory Committee and the Sub-Committee on Discovery Reform, and has lectured on behalf of the Legal Education Society of Alberta. He is also a member of the Organizing Committee for the Energy Regulatory Forum. Lou received his Queen's Counsel designation in 2020 and was elected a Benchers of the Law Society of Alberta effective February 2021.

Lou is a former member of the boards of directors of the Calgary Immigrant Aid Society, Theatre Calgary and the Glenlake Hockey Club. He was the president of the Elbow Park Minor Hockey Association and has coached minor hockey for a number of years.

Education and Bar Admissions

Education

LLB, 1986

University of Calgary

Bar Admissions

Alberta, 1987