

Vince Murchison – FULL BIO

In 1992, Vince Murchison began his legal career with Jenkins & Gilchrist in Dallas where he practiced in the areas of upstream exploration and production and energy-related environmental law. During the next two decades Vince worked with some of the top firms in the profession, including Baker & McKenzie, Patton Boggs, and SNR Denton. In 2012, Vince decided to hang up his own shingle and open the Murchison Law Firm.

Vince's environmental experience converged with the energy practice in the one-of-a-kind representation of Longhorn Pipeline. That 16-year representation involved asset due diligence, system acquisition, project development, permitting and authorizations, construction contracting, operational contracting, contract management, dispute resolution and, most importantly, navigating the most contentious and most thorough pipeline NEPA process of its time. Longhorn broke new ground in the realm of pipeline risk assessment, risk management and integrity management. Vince was the legal advisor with intimate knowledge of the system, its history, its risks and potential consequences, and the mitigation plan that propelled the project forward. Vince also was integral to implementation of the mitigation plan, whether based in the system integrity program, procedures, analysis of system and operating data, monitoring or achieving compliance, and demonstrating compliance to PHMSA, EPA, and CEQ.

Vince's practice has historically concentrated in the pipeline industry, representing clients from gathering system startups to the integrated majors and MLPs. That work encompasses regulatory matters, including compliance, jurisdictional analysis, and enforcement; project development, including permitting and authorizations; transactional matters, including system purchases and sales; operational matters, including day-to-day advice and contracting; environmental matters related to pipeline operations; and dispute resolution.

His exposure to the day-to-day business of the pipeline industry has given Vince a deep understanding of the technical aspects of issues such as metallurgy, corrosion management, in-line inspection, outside force damage, integrity assessment, hydraulics, design, construction, operations, leak detection, risk assessment, and system integrity management. Vince also has experience in scour and erosion management, incident investigation, root cause analysis, facility response planning, public awareness, damage prevention, community liaison, hydrology, geology, hydrogeology, historic preservation, and threatened and endangered species protection.

Vince's interest in pipelining and his dedication to the industry are reflected in his associated work for industry trade associations. An original member of the API/LEPA Performance Excellence Team, Vince continues to advise that panel, as well as pitching in on the Pipeline Safety Act reauthorizations since 2006. In addition, Vince participates in development of LEPA/API Leadership Safety Initiatives and contributes to industry commentary on various rulemaking initiatives. He frequently speaks at the API Pipeline Conference, the LEPA Annual Business Conference, NACE/AMPP, bar associations from Dallas to the ABA, and to other interested and aligned groups.

Organizations

- American Bar Association--National Resources, Energy and Environment and Environmental Law Section
- State Bar of Texas--Environmental Law and Natural Resources Law Sections
- Dallas Bar Association--Energy Law and Environmental Law Sections

Education

- School of Law, University of Texas, 1991, J.D.
- Texas A&M University, 1985, B.B.A. Finance, cum laude and B.B.A. Accounting, cum laude