

Caitlin M. Sarpal

Associate

Raleigh
+1.919.831.7047

Caitlin.Sarpal@klgates.com

OVERVIEW

Caitlin Sarpal is an associate in the firm's Environment and Energy practice. Previously, she served as a summer associate for two summers with the firm. Prior to joining the firm, Caitlin held roles with the Environment and Natural Resources Division (ENRD) of the United States Department of Justice (DOJ), a vertically integrated renewable energy company, nationally recognized environmental law and policy NGOs, and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Caitlin assists a broad range of clients on the environmental aspects of project development, transactions, and government enforcement matters. Caitlin counsels on environmental due diligence for domestic and cross-border mergers and acquisitions as well as assisting companies with climate disclosure reporting and regulatory compliance. For her work on matters in these cutting-edge and evolving areas, Caitlin is active in monitoring and working on novel issues arising under environmental law relating to renewable energy, the regulation of emerging contaminants and PFAS, environmental justice (EJ) considerations, and environmental, social, and governance (ESG). Caitlin represents clients in matters involving the Clean Water Act (CWA) and corresponding state laws in litigation, government enforcement, permitting, and compliance. She additionally aids clients with matters involving the Endangered Species Act (ESA), brownfields, land use, air quality, and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), among other areas of environmental law.

Caitlin serves as editor of the firm's *Carbon Quarterly* publication, which tracks key developments in carbon regulation and markets, and she serves on the EJ Task Force. Caitlin co-leads the Associates Committee for the firm's Raleigh office, and she is committed to diversity and inclusion, serving on the Raleigh Opportunity and Inclusion committee and Women in the Profession committee. Caitlin also actively participates in pro bono matters, with a focus on environmental, land use, government enforcement, endangered species, UK environmental law, and Indigenous/American Indian Law matters.

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Environmental Law Institute
  - Member, 2017-Present
  - Emerging Leaders Initiative Founder and Co-Chair, 2019-2021

- D.C. Environment and Energy Associations
  - Co-Chair, 2019-2021
  - Founding Member, 2018-2021
- Plant Based Products Council, Advisory Committee, 2019-2021

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Panelist, “Stay the Course-Celebrating Wins, Navigating Challenges, and Finding Meaning Along the Way,” Wake Forest University School of Law, Virtual, 26 March 2026
- Emcee, “Charting the Path Forward for ESG Disclosure,” North Carolina Journal of International Law Annual Symposium, Chapel Hill, NC, 5 April 2024
- Speaker, “Toxic Beauty Products and Environmental Justice,” People Places Planet Podcast, Virtual, 21 August 2021
- Moderator, “Basics of Land Use Law,” Environmental Law Institute Seminar, Virtual, 29 June 2021
- Panelist, “Coding Justice,” Washington Council of Lawyers Webinar, Virtual, 26 October 2020
- Moderator, “Innovative Solutions to Fast Fashion Challenges,” Environmental Law Institute Webinar, Virtual, 10 June 2020
- Moderator, “Breaking News: Brexit & Environmental Law,” Environmental Law Institute Webinar, Virtual, 3 February 2020
- Moderator, “Pro Bono Efforts to Address Climate Change,” Washington Council of Lawyers Webinar, Virtual, 25 October 2019
- Faculty Panelist, “Agriculture and the Environment,” Environmental Law Institute's Fifteenth Annual Western Boot Camp on Environmental Law, San Francisco, CA, 26-28 March 2019
- Moderator, “New Management Standards for Hazardous Waste Pharmaceuticals and Nicotine,” Food and Drug Law Institute Webinar, Virtual, 6 March 2019
- Speaker, “Community Engagement & Participation in Renewable Energy Projects,” Columbia Law School's Sabin Center for Climate Change Law's Basics of Renewable Energy Finance Conference, New York City, NY, 21 September 2018
- Moderator, “The Impact of Recent Ocean Management Decisions of the Trump Administration,” Environmental Law Institute Webinar, Virtual, 24 July 2018

EDUCATION

- J.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Law, 2024 *(North Carolina Journal of International Law Executive Editorial Board)*

- M.Phil., University of Cambridge, 2017 *Environmental Policy*
- B.A., Sewanee: The University of the South, 2016 *magna cum laude*

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of North Carolina
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina
- United States District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina
- United States District Court for the Western District of North Carolina

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- 11 September 2026, Carbon Quarterly–Volume 14
- 31 August 2026, Environmental Justice Update
- 26 June 2026, California's Landmark Textile Recycling Law With Looming 1 July 2026 Deadline
- 26 January 2026, Carbon Quarterly–Volume 13
- 2 December 2025 , Environmental Justice Update
- 4 November 2025, Sharing Is Daring: Shared Services Agreements and Operator Liability
- 6 October 2025, Carbon Quarterly–Volume 12
- 29 August 2025, Companies Must Prepare for Complying With California's Climate Disclosure Laws Even Though California Air Resources Board Regulations Are Not Final
- 30 June 2025, EPA Plans Reset of GHG and Mercury Rules for Power Plants
- 6 May 2025, Carbon Quarterly–Volume 11
- 5 May 2025, Environmental Justice Update
- 4 February 2025, Trump Administration Rolling Back Consideration of Environmental Justice in Federal Decision-Making

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- “Green Deal or No Deal? How An Anti-Greenwashing Law Could Combat Harmful Practices in the EU,” North Carolina Journal of International Law Report, 30 January 2023
- “SEC & ESG: Climate Disclosures on the Horizon,” University of North Carolina School of Law's Center for Climate, Energy, Environment & Economics Student-Authored Paper, February 2022

- "The U.K. Environment Bill: A Pending Opportunity for Significant Environmental Governance," Environmental Law Institute's Vibrant Environment Blog, 7 July 2021

NEWS & EVENTS

- 25 August 2026, K&L Gates Advises Compass Group Equity Partners on Acquisition of Koma Precision
- 7 November 2025, K&L Gates Advises Carousel Capital on Recapitalization of CraneWorks

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Environment and Energy

INDUSTRIES

- Corporate Sustainability
- Energy
- Energy Storage and Distributed Resources
- Renewables

EMERGING ISSUES

- ESG - Sustainability and Responsible Business