



*Partner*

## CURT R. LEDFORD

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### Areas of Practice

Energy, Environment & Natural Resources; Business Entities & Transactions; Real Estate & Land Use Planning

### Bar Admissions

Nevada

### Education

J.D., The University of Arizona  
James E. Rogers College of Law, 2004

B.A., The University of Arizona  
Eller College of Business, 2001

### Offices

#### LAS VEGAS

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#### RENO

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### PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Curt Ledford's practice is focused on utility, cooperative, administrative, regulatory, corporate and real property law, NERC / WECC reliability, and general environmental matters affecting utilities. Prior to joining McDonald Carano as a Partner in the Energy & Natural Resources Group, Curt served as General Counsel for Valley Electric Association, Inc. (VEA), a Nevada non-profit cooperative utility that provides electric service to members in six counties throughout rural Nevada and California.

During the past decade, Curt has emerged as one of Nevada's most dedicated energy and utility attorneys. He played a critical role in helping VEA fulfill what will likely be remembered as one of the most significant accomplishments in its history. VEA officially became the first out-of-state utility to join the California ISO as a participating transmission owner in 2013, supporting the cooperative's mission to serve as a catalyst for renewable energy development in Nevada.

Curt guided VEA's legal team to make this agreement a reality, leading the effort to negotiate and finalize dozens of associated contracts, agreements and tariffs. Most impressively, he ensured that necessary legal aspects of VEA's transition into the California ISO were correct, compliant, and completed on time. The youngest general counsel in VEA's history, Curt assisted the cooperative's leadership team to transform into an innovative power player in Nevada's utility industry.

Curt also helped VEA develop one of the nation's largest and most successful domestic solar water heating programs; negotiated an electric distribution system conveyance contract with a military base in Nevada, and a long-term power services agreement with a federal enclave located in Nevada; negotiated and finalized the development of an 80 mile 230kV transmission line and a 6 mile 138kV transmission line; and performed permitting and development work for a 15 MW photovoltaic solar facility located in Nye County. Curt also promoted a number of legislative efforts protecting cooperatives and other utilities in Nevada.

Since joining McDonald Carano, Mr. Ledford has guided the permitting of new renewable energy projects; represented lenders in the development and transfer of various energy projects; drafted easements, leases, and other agreements for numerous energy companies; and represented utility customers in proceedings before the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada - including General Rate Cases, Integrated Resource Planning proceedings, investigatory dockets, and other electric and gas proceedings. Mr. Ledford has also represented a client in proceedings before the Arizona Corporation Commission.

Curt is active in a number of professional organizations. He served as a founding member and the current Vice Chair of the Energy, Utilities and Communication Law section of the State Bar of Nevada. Curt also served as the Nevada representative for the Electric Cooperative Bar Association. Currently, Curt serves on the Market Leadership Advisory Board for the U.S. Green Building Council.

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## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

A steadfast supporter of community service and charitable efforts, Curt assisted VEA to form a charitable foundation, and is a longtime volunteer in many community-oriented donation drives and projects. Curt and his family also regularly support the Las Vegas Rescue Mission during the holidays.

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