

## Hilary Tompkins

Partner

Washington, D.C.

### Biography

Hilary C. Tompkins has expansive experience in natural resources and environmental law at the highest levels of government. Most recently, she served in the presidentially appointed, Senate-confirmed position of Solicitor for the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) – the agency responsible for the management and conservation of public lands, natural and wildlife resource programs, and the trustee for Native American tribes.

In that role, she led over 300 attorneys in 16 offices nationwide and acquired significant experience in onshore and offshore energy development (conventional and renewable), the administration of federal water projects, conservation and wildlife legal requirements, and public land law.

Hilary oversaw litigation in support of Interior decisions, including cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, and issued landmark legal opinions. Her accomplishments include development of legal reforms following Deepwater Horizon, the successful defense of the first renewables on public lands, and resolving complex disputes involving multi-stakeholder projects under the Endangered Species Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and the National Historic Preservation Act, among other statutes. Interior clients included the



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### Practices

Environment and Natural Resources

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### Industries

Energy and Natural Resources

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### Areas of focus

Environmental Litigation

Land Use and Project Development

Natural Resource Management

Rulemaking and Legislative  
Advocacy

Power: Renewable Power

Water

Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, and the Bureau of Reclamation.

Hilary is also a leader in federal Indian law, where she led the historic settlement of the largest class action lawsuit in U.S. history – the Cobell tribal trust litigation. She is well-versed in Indian gaming, treaty rights, tribal trust land, water rights, and tribal sovereign immunity. Hilary also has experience advancing economic development projects in Indian country.

Before serving as DOI Solicitor, Hilary was counsel to New Mexico's governor, acting as his chief legal adviser on all matters from appointment of judges and interpretation of constitutional authority to enactment of legislative initiatives. She was also a special assistant U.S. attorney in the Eastern District of New York. Hilary began her legal career as an honors program trial attorney in the Environment and Natural Resources Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, where she handled civil prosecutions in environmental cases nationwide. Hilary is an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation.

## Awards and rankings

- Environment: Litigation, *Legal 500 US*, 2019

## Latest thinking and events

- Hogan Lovells Publications
  - Podcast: Ivan's D.C. Update
- Hogan Lovells Publications
  - The Clean Water Act "WOTUS" Rule: A long and winding river
- Hogan Lovells Publications
  - CEQ's NEPA regulatory overhaul: highlights and predictions *Client Alert*
- Media Mention

Native Americans

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## Education and admissions

### Education

Honorary Degree, Doctor of Humane Letters, Dartmouth College, 2019

J.D., Stanford Law School, 1996

B.A., Dartmouth College, 1990

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## Memberships

Member, Board of Directors, Environmental Law Institute

Fellow, American College of Environmental Lawyers

Member, Policy Advisory Committee, National Tribal Air Association

Member, Tribal Advisory Board, The National Judicial College

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## Bar admissions and qualifications

District of Columbia

New Mexico

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## Court admissions

U.S. District Court, District of New Mexico

U.S. Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit

U.S. District Court, District of Columbia

- Native American Cases to Watch in 2020 *Law360*
- Media Mention
  - Renewables embraced by Standing Rock, other tribes *E&E News*
- Media Mention
  - Biggest Native American Rulings From the 2nd Half of 2019 *Law360*

U.S. Supreme Court

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