



Audra Hartmann

Professional Experience

Audra Hartmann joined Smith, Watts & Hartmann as a Partner in July 2015. The firm specializes in energy and transportation issues, acting as a strategic advisor on environmental, financial, political and community processes and issues related to the implementation of energy and transportation programs.

Ms. Hartmann brings a wealth of political and policy expertise to the field of government relations, having worked in and with state and local governments for the last 20 years. In her current role, Ms. Hartmann provides strategic advice and advocacy on a variety of energy and water projects. She represents private energy developers, large industrial energy consumers, manufacturers, private developers of hydrogen fueling stations, and transmission-related entities before the legislative, executive and regulatory branches of the California State Government.

Prior to joining Smith, Watts & Hartmann, Ms. Hartmann was the owner and CEO of Hartmann Strategies Group. She provided advice, strategy and advocacy to clients on legislative and regulatory issues in California.

Prior to that, Ms. Hartmann worked internally for several large energy corporations where she helped them navigate the state's energy crisis; played a major role in the enactment of California's 33% Renewable Portfolio Standards program; was instrumental in the passage of key tax benefits legislation for renewable energy; and represented their legislative and regulatory interests on a variety of energy, tax, greenhouse gas emissions, and water quality issues in several Western states, including California, Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico and Wyoming. Additionally, Ms. Hartmann worked on siting and land use issues with state and local government officials in California and Arizona.

Before starting her career in the private sector, Ms. Hartmann held key staff positions in the California State Senate and was appointed by former Governor Pete Wilson to serve as Legislative Liaison to the California Public Utilities Commission, where she worked on energy and telecommunications issues.

Ms. Hartmann attended the University of Southern California (USC) and majored in public administration. She was admitted to USC under the Resident Honor Program, a program that allows high school students to enter college a year early. She holds the rank of first degree black belt (Jo Kyo Nim) in Kuk Sool Won, a Korean martial art, and is studying to attain the rank of second degree black belt.