

## Donald J. Sipe

Of Counsel

Don practices with the firm's Energy and Telecommunications Group in Portland, applying his expertise to helping energy and utilities clients navigate the changing terrain of overlapping state and federal jurisdiction in the electricity and gas markets. He has served two terms as the Chair of the New England Power Pool and served for over a decade as the Vice Chair of NEPOOL for the end use sector. He represented the first, and for a time, the only End Use Participant in NEPOOL prior to the creation of the sector. His work focuses on the design, economics and function of organized ("day two") electricity markets, representing clients such as the American Forest & Paper Association, State industrial and trade groups, Demand Response providers and others before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Stakeholder bodies in RTOs and State Commissions.

Prior to joining Preti Flaherty, he worked for eight years as a staff attorney with the Maine Public Utilities Commission, a unique experience that afforded him an insider's understanding of complex utilities issues from consumer, corporate and governmental points of view. While at the commission, he played a significant role in the development of the "Commissioner's Draft Report on Restructuring the Electric Industry in Maine."

His primary responsibilities at the commission included natural gas issues, electric utility regulation, special rate-contract litigation, rate design and antitrust matters relevant to electric rate restructuring. He also served as an advocate and advisor in water utility regulation.

He is co-author of an article, published in 1995 in *Public Utilities Fortnightly*, titled "Guidelines for Granting Industrial 'Distress' Rate Discounts." Don is listed in Woodward/White's *The Best Lawyers in America* and also in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*.

He is a 1989 graduate of the University of Maine School of Law, from which he graduated fifth in a class of fifty-three. As a law student, he received several American Jurisprudence Awards in criminal procedure and antitrust while working full time as a gymnastics coach.

He earned his undergraduate degree in philosophy and English in 1985 at Central Washington University, from which he graduated *summa cum laude*.

A Maine native, he lives with his wife in Windham, Maine.

### Practice Areas

- Cleantech & Renewable Energy
- Climate Strategy
- Energy & Telecommunications
- Offshore & Onshore Wind Power



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## Education

- University of Maine School of Law (J.D., 1989)
- Central Washington State University (B.A., 1985)

## Admissions

- Maine

## Honors & Awards

- Listed in Woodward/White's *The Best Lawyers in America*
- Listed in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*

## Publications

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**Defining the Product: Market Theory for an Essential Service and the Proper Role of Demand Response**