

**Virginia S. Albrecht**  
Hunton & Williams

Ms Albrecht's practice focuses exclusively on environmental law and administrative law—in particular, the Clean Water Act (CWA) wetlands program, the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other federal regulatory programs that affect the use of land. Experience in permit negotiation, litigation of policy issues, lobbying Congress and the Administration, enforcement defense, and compliance counseling. Representative clients include development companies, agricultural and mining companies, state and local agencies, and trade associations. Extensive experience with federal environmental agencies both in Washington and in district and regional offices.

Relevant Experience

Lead counsel in landmark wetlands cases, including *National Mining Association v. Corps of Engineers* (invalidating the “Tulloch Rule,” which illegally claimed authority to regulate excavation and land-clearing activities in wetlands) and *Hoffman v. EPA*, a Seventh Circuit case requiring the federal government to demonstrate an interstate commerce nexus in order to assert CWA jurisdiction over a wetland.

Lead counsel for intervenors in gaining dismissal of environmental lawsuit alleging that the Corps and FWS violated the ESA in connection with permit decisions affecting areas claimed to be habitat for endangered Florida panther.

Lead counsel for industry coalition filing amicus briefs to implement the Supreme Court’s decision in *Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County v. Corps of Engineers*, 121 S. Ct. 675 (January 9, 2001) (“SWANCC”).

Have assisted applicants in obtaining wetlands permits and related endangered species approvals and in documenting NEPA compliance for major development projects in over 25 states.