

Sectors

Electric Vehicle Infrastructure

Akerman's Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (EVI) Team provides its clients, including businesses, municipalities, and universities, with the multidisciplinary legal services needed for the coming transportation transformation for automated, connected, and electric vehicles. Spurred by technological innovation, the transportation industry is undergoing dramatic changes, including development and deployment of self-driving, electric, and connected vehicles. These unprecedented changes will affect much of the surface transportation industry, including vehicle manufacturers and equipment suppliers, high-technology companies, passenger and freight transportation services, and auto battery development, manufacture, use, and disposal. New vehicles, services, and business models will also catalyze change and create opportunities in a broad swath of other industries and sectors, including technology hardware and software developers; manufacturers and suppliers; auto, property, and casualty insurance; real estate and land use; electric power generation and charging infrastructure; telecommunications; and banking.

Wider deployment and use of automated, connected and electric vehicles will increasingly raise unique legal issues and challenges to be addressed by companies that make, sell, and use such vehicles and technology. Governments around the world are considering new laws and regulations to address vehicles, functions, and services not addressed by existing regulation. Businesses developing, manufacturing, selling, or using new vehicle

Connect With Us



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Our Team

Related Work

Data Centers and
Digital Infrastructure
Energy and
Infrastructure
Oil & Gas: Downstream
and Petrochemical
Oil & Gas:
Environmental
Oil & Gas: Midstream
Oil & Gas: Upstream
Power Generation,
Petrochemical, and
Process Construction
Project Finance and
Development
Renewable Energy and
Electric Power
Telecommunications,
Fiber, and Wireless
Facilities Infrastructure

technologies will be required to address both existing legal and regulatory barriers and new and evolving laws and regulations in order to manage legal risks and take advantage of new opportunities. Our EVI team is well equipped to assist businesses in anticipating, understanding, and meeting those legal challenges and to help them to thrive in new and uncertain legal environments.

Akerman's EVI team can advise on the full range of business and legal issues arising in connection with innovative vehicles. The group is a multi-disciplined, integrated team that combines knowledge and experience from many practices to provide coordinated and complementary services in areas listed below.

What We Do

We provide broad legal services covering the connected, automated, electric and self-driving vehicle legal and regulatory ecosystems, including:

Energy and Environmental

- State and federal regulation of EV charging infrastructure and sales of energy to EV end-use customers
- Utility rate design and ratemaking for EV charging
- Development and commercial site host and marketing arrangements for network charging station owners and operators
- Purchasing and supply chain interactions with electric utilities
- Development tax incentives and legislative affairs

Project Finance and Project Operations

- Corporate finance and investment management electric vehicle and charging infrastructure
- Infrastructure finance

- Structured transactions and transactional finance
- Public-private partnerships
- E-commerce and digital transactions
- Vehicle-to-everything and smart city infrastructure
- Environmental counseling and litigation
- Insurance
- Labor and employment

Intellectual Property

- State and federal regulation of EV charging infrastructure and sales of energy to EV end-use customers
- Trademark and copyright registration, license and contract agreements, and transactional due diligence
- IP litigation and patent prosecution
- Mechanical, electrical, hardware, and software technology counseling
- Data privacy and cybersecurity for networks and vehicles

Corporate, Technology Transactions, and Tax

- Cross-border corporate and product acquisitions, divestitures, carve-outs, and joint ventures
- Master framework agreements, master services agreements, and infrastructure and technology agreements
- Service outsourcing and product development and manufacturing
- Financings for automotive technology startups
- Tax issues for EV purchases, infrastructure development, or procurement of various environmental credits

Regulatory

- Regulation of self-driving, connected, and electric vehicles and their operations, including regulatory development, strategies, compliance, and enforcement
- Government relations and counseling
- Federal and state commission policy and proceeding advocacy
- Utility tariff management and contract drafting and negotiations

Litigation and Antitrust

- Disputes related to product development, technology, and intellectual property
- Litigation relating to green marketing, distributions, warranties, and product liability