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Press Release

Akerman Names Chris Zentz Co-Chair of Renewable Energy and Electric Power Practice

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Energy transactions and FERC regulatory partner co-leads the practice with Josh DeBottis

Akerman is pleased to announce that partner Chris Zentz has been named Co-Chair of the firm's Renewable Energy and Electric Power Practice. He will lead the practice alongside Co-Chair Josh DeBottis.

Chris represents energy clients in offtake and development transactions, as well as on regulatory issues. His transactional work centers on negotiating financeable development contracts and wholesale power agreements, including power purchase, electric storage, transmission service, interconnection, and offtake agreements, as well as handling due diligence and the federal and state approvals those projects require. His regulatory practice before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) spans market-based rate authorizations, Federal Power Act Section 203 approvals, Open Access Transmission Tariff compliance, rate cases, generator interconnection, and transmission planning.

"The energy market is being reshaped by demand we have not seen in a generation," said Scott Meyers, Chairman and CEO of Akerman. "The clients

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Scott A. Meyers
Christopher D. Zentz

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meeting that demand need counsel who can close the deal and clear the regulatory path at the same time. Chris is exceptional at both, and his leadership will serve our clients well as the sector continues to grow."

"Our clients are navigating an energy market in which demand for new generation, storage, and transmission is creating significant opportunities and complex challenges," said Chris. "Serving them effectively requires an understanding of both the commercial arrangements that make projects possible and the regulatory framework in which they operate. Josh and I are excited to lead a team that offers both."

Chris joined Akerman in 2025 as a partner in the firm's Corporate Practice Group. Before entering private practice, he worked in-house, which informs his practical, business-focused approach to client matters.

Akerman's Renewable Energy and Electric Power Practice advises developers, utilities, lenders, and investors across the project lifecycle, from development and finance through regulatory compliance and operations. The practice works closely with the firm's Energy and Infrastructure Sector Team.

About Akerman
Founded in 1920, Akerman is an Am Law 100 firm recognized by Vault among the nation's most prestigious law firms. The firm has more than 700 lawyers and business professionals throughout the United States.