

**Name:** Lee D. Hoffman  
**Title:** Chair  
**Company:** Pullman & Comley, LLC  
**City/State:** Hartford, Connecticut  
**Chapter/Section:** Connecticut Chapter/New England Section  
**Join Date:** 2002

#### **Educational and Professional Credentials**

George Washington University, LL.M., highest honors, 1996  
George Washington University, J.D., 1994  
Tulane University, B.A., 1991

Attorney admitted and licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the State of Connecticut, the United States Supreme Court, the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Second Circuit and the District of Columbia Circuit, and various United States District Courts

#### **Biographical Summary**

Lee D. Hoffman is chair of Pullman & Comley, LLC, and before that was co-chair of the firm's Real Estate, Energy, Environmental and Land Use Department. He focuses his practice on the development of energy projects, assisting clients with complying with environmental regulatory requirements, and the development of projects on contaminated properties. Lee represents clients before state and federal environmental agencies, counseling on environmental compliance issues, assisting with the redevelopment of brownfields to productive use, and advising companies on the ramifications associated with the acquisition or divestiture of assets, regulatory interpretation and conducting facility audits.

His experience also includes representing private power producers, utility companies, municipalities, and lenders in connection with the siting of facilities, transmission lines and pipelines; representing power producers and manufacturers with permitting and compliance issues; financing renewable and traditional power projects and representing parties in connection with the siting and operation of telecommunications facilities. With respect to litigation matters, Lee represents individuals and municipalities in all areas of environmental, energy and regulatory law. His experience includes trial and appellate work in both civil and criminal environmental matters, administrative appeals, utility regulatory enforcement matters, utility rate-making proceedings, toxic torts, representation before administrative agencies and Superfund litigation.

In addition to his work for the A&WMA, Lee's professional activities include serving as the current chair of the Connecticut Business and Industry Association's Energy and Environmental Council, a past chair of both the Environmental and Energy, Public Utility and Communications Law Sections of the Connecticut Bar Association, the secretary of the Brownfields Coalition of the Northeast, an appointed member of the Connecticut General Assembly's Brownfields Working Group, and a member of the Connecticut DEEP's Release-Based Regulation Working Group.

In his community, Lee serves as the secretary for the Town of Windsor's Redevelopment Agency, an active leader in Boy Scout Troop 203, a Justice of the Peace for the Town of Windsor, and the Vice President for Development for the Connecticut Rivers Council of the Boy Scouts of America. He also served as an adjunct professor at the University of Connecticut School of Law for twelve years.

Lee lives with his wife, Carolyn, in Windsor, Connecticut, along with his children, Julia and Michael. When not engaged in the practice of law or otherwise occupied, Lee can be found camping in the hills of the Northeast or trying to convince a fish to bite down briefly on a sharp metal hook.

### **A&WMA Activities and Offices Held**

Lee served as the Vice Chair of the 111th Annual Conference and Exhibition in Hartford, CT in 2018. In addition to that work, Lee served as Division Chair for the Program Administration (EP) Division of the Technical Council from 2011-14 and as Vice Chair immediately prior to that. Lee is currently a member of the board for the Connecticut Chapter, and before that served as a board member of the New England Section.

### **Goals/Vision for the Organization**

The mission of the Association is unassailable – namely, “to assist in the professional development and critical environmental decision-making of our members to benefit society.” The Association accomplishes this task through improving “environmental knowledge and decisions by providing a neutral forum for exchanging information” as its core purpose. These are laudable and commendable goals. The question, however, is how to achieve these goals in the modern age.

The Association has always prided itself in being an apolitical, science-based organization that focuses on the dissemination of knowledge. In the early days of my membership, I can recall having to pack an empty piece of luggage in order to carry home all of the papers that were discussed at every ACE I attended. I rejoiced when the Association converted those to CD-ROMs which made carrying materials home so much simpler. Regardless of the form of information I carried home with me, however, that information served as a reference set for me and my colleagues for years to come. Indeed, the Association was known as the most dependable source of information for environmental regulatory interpretation outside of the agencies themselves. I believe one of the imperatives is to maintain that reputation.

The post-Covid, post-Google world has significantly changed how we obtain and consume our information, and I am gratified that the Association has taken initial steps to keep up with those changes. I recognize that there are more webinars than ever in the Association’s repertoire, and I am pleased to see that the Association’s store allows for the purchase of certain recordings and papers from various programs. The question is how to get the Association’s information into the hands of as many environmental professionals as possible. I believe we need to do more.

While not particularly visionary, I believe that it is incumbent on the board to drive the Association to restore the illustrious reputation it had twenty years ago. There is a great deal of information (and misinformation) competing for the eyeballs of environmental professionals. The Association is a truly non-partisan organization that focuses on the science, not the politics. That should continue to be the benchmark of what we do. I would like to push the Association to be more proactive in reaching out to other organizations and communities so that it once again becomes the “go-to” source for unbiased, peer-reviewed information. Pursuing such a path will ensure that the Association has a robust future and will go a long way to fostering a culture of sustainability.