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Law firm launches environmental, energy group

By: Adina Genn | September 20, 2016 | 0

Uniondale-based Sahn Ward Coschignano has launched an environmental, energy and resources practice group.

Supported by the firm's zoning and land use, and litigation practices, the new group will be led by partners Miriam Villani, Jon Ward and Daniel Braff, as well as an associate, Joseph Bjarnson.

The group was formed in response to a "growing sustainability trend" that prompts policy decisions and regulatory developments surrounding how to meet energy needs.

The new group handles all areas of environmental law at the federal, state, and local levels, covering air quality, development and siting, SEQRA compliance, permitting, hazardous waste, brownfields, wetlands and more.

Villani said current issues "have a significant impact on businesses and organizations as they affect investment decisions, stakeholder interactions, and government regulations."

"These issues present challenges to business owners, entrepreneurs, and municipalities who may not understand the intricacies of environmental law," she added.

Ward said it is critical that developers "understand the impact their projects may have on the environment."

Braff, whose practice concentrates on New York City, said new energy projects in the metropolitan region "that requires discretionary approval will be subject to City Environmental Quality Review [CEQR] regulations," adding that he is working with "business and public utility clients to ensure that our region's energy needs are being met in an environmentally friendly manner."



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