

Energy and utilities companies: discovery management services

Energy and utilities companies face a variety of legal challenges, from environmental lawsuits to evolving government regulations. Investigation and litigation creates electronic discovery requests that can impact the entire organization, and involve hundreds of custodians and data sources across multiple locations.

Product liability, toxic torts and government investigations

Product liability and mass toxic tort litigation is an ongoing difficulty in the energy industry, and companies are also under increasing scrutiny to comply with environmental, financial and business practice regulations. Litigation in these matters can lead to a complicated discovery process, often involving multiple and varied venues, numerous custodians and widely-distributed data which consumes significant legal and IT resources. As the industry continues to expand and the resulting volume of litigation grows, companies must find ways to limit costs and increase the efficacy of the discovery process.

Electronically stored information across the organization

Energy industry consolidation through mergers and acquisitions, as well as global production and supply chains, has created a complex data management environment. Discoverable electronically stored information (ESI) can live in a variety of applications and proprietary information systems distributed across the enterprise and in diverse geographical locations. Creating effective policies and procedures for data retention, collection and preservation is vital in preparing a strong defense for current and future matters.

Addressing energy and utilities litigation

As the demand for energy grows and companies continue to globalize and expand their operations, managing ESI and assessing internal processes to prepare for and respond to discovery requests can be challenging. Fios helps energy and utilities companies effectively plan and manage the e-discovery process with robust litigation readiness and litigation response services. Our expert guides

Case study sidebar: preparing for future litigation

A major, publicly traded utilities company hired Fios to assess its ability to respond to future electronic discovery production requests. The company sought to determine the effectiveness of its internal collection and preservation processes and tools, and its readiness to comply with more stringent Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (FCRP) governing e-discovery. Fios evaluated the company's discovery process capabilities, working not just with the legal team, but also with IT, records management and subject matter experts in various parts of the organization. This analysis enabled Fios to provide the company with a detailed discovery readiness plan that included both short- and long-term recommendations to address current weaknesses in their process, as well as FCRP-compliant document retention and litigation hold policies.

Energy and utilities companies: discovery management services (continued)

tailor a clear, consistent process and technical infrastructure to manage all aspects of e-discovery, with specific expertise in meeting energy and utilities legal teams' need for efficiency, consistency and repeatability. Fios has the capacity and throughput to process enormous volumes of data quickly, putting time on our clients' side. We also offer active matter consulting in all areas related to e-discovery—from identifying, preserving and collecting data to production, processing and review.

Preparing for e-discovery

Fios brings a seasoned perspective to e-discovery readiness. Our experienced consultants deliver customized assessment, planning and implementation services, which are based on the people, processes and technologies required for mitigating risks, improving efficiencies and reducing e-discovery costs. Over thousands of complex cases, we've helped clients transform downstream vulnerabilities into strategic advantages through rigorous e-discovery preparation. As a result, clients are able to leverage the strategic advantages of readiness and position themselves for demonstrating defensible, good faith e-discovery with opposing parties, the government and the courts.

Responding to e-discovery

Fios guides clients through all phases of electronic discovery—from identification, preservation and collection through processing, review and production. We offer the most robust review services, data processing capacity, advanced technology, project management support and reporting capabilities for successfully managing the complexities of e-discovery. Fios' services can be customized to meet the demands and technical requirements of any complex e-discovery matter.

Fios, Inc.
921 SW Washington Street
8th Floor
Portland, Oregon 97205
(503) 265-0700
(877) 700-3467 Toll Free
www.fiosinc.com

About Fios, Inc.

For over a decade, Fios has helped corporations and their outside counsel reduce risk, control costs and gain management control over the entire spectrum of e-discovery. We are dedicated exclusively to delivering comprehensive services and expert guidance that transform the burdensome nature of electronic discovery into a streamlined, legally defensible business process.

