
ATTORNEYS of the YEAR

~~~~~ 2015 ~~~~~



## *Environment*

**JOHN C. HUESTON**

*Hueston Hennigan  
Los Angeles*

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**H**ueston led the national team of lawyers at Irell and at Kirkland Ellis that reached a \$5.15 billion settlement for environmental cleanups, the largest ever to be included in a bankruptcy case. Across the country, wood-processing, uranium-mining, and rocket-fuel production companies owned by energy giant Kerr-McGee Corp. left behind devastating environmental damage. Ahead of the company's acquisition by Anadarko Petroleum Corp., executives with both companies tried to evade responsibility for the harm by transferring liabilities to an insolvent shell company. Hueston was appointed by the DOJ as trustee of the Anadarko Litigation Trust. The parties settled after a 34-day trial in the Southern District of New York; Anadarko will fund cleanups in 47 states and provide \$1 billion for the Navajo Nation to contain radioactive contamination from uranium mining.

**STATUS:** The settlement was approved in November.