

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Federal Energy Bar Association celebrated its Fiftieth Anniversary in 1996, and I am pleased to report that it moves into its second half-century in excellent health.

We continue to provide timely educational programs for our members featuring first-rate speakers at a cost far lower than that offered by private, for-profit programs. In addition to our Midyear Meeting in November and our Annual Meeting in April, we will sponsor several special one-day meetings and co-sponsor programs with the American Bar Association's Section on Natural Resources, Energy, and Environmental Law, the Southern Gas Association, and the New England Gas Association. These include innovative live satellite broadcasts as well as the more traditional programs. The high quality of these programs is made possible by the efforts of our Programs and Meetings Committee, especially its three co-chairs, as well as our other Committees.

In that vein, it is interesting to note that the membership of our fifteen other committees mirrors the changing trends in our energy practice. For example, membership of the Antitrust, International Energy Transactions, and Legislation and Regulatory Reform Committees nearly doubled in the last year, and the Electric Utility Regulation Committee is now twice as large as the Natural Gas Regulation Committee.

The Association also continues to take great pride in the *Energy Law Journal*, and to be especially indebted to its Editor-in-Chief, Bill Mogel, as well as our other members who devote their time to working with the student editors and staff to produce it. We are currently working with the University of Tulsa College of Law to enhance the relationship between these students and our Association to our mutual enrichment.

The Association is undertaking a number of other initiatives this year. They include establishment of a Website on the Internet for the convenience of our members, consideration of how best to manage our cash resources to maximize benefits and minimize costs to our members, and evaluation of our relationship with other bar associations. Finally, we will make continued inquiry into what other offerings would be most valuable to members of the energy bar, with a view toward continuing to attract new members to the Association and broadening our membership.

JENNIFER N. WATERS
PRESIDENT
FEDERAL ENERGY BAR ASSOCIATION