

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF'S MESSAGE

“With this Journal, the Federal Energy Bar Association inaugurates a new publication with the potential for becoming a significant legal periodical in the field of energy law.” - Thomas J. Brosnan, President, Federal Energy Bar Association, Vol. 1, No. 1, Energy Law Journal

With these words, President Brosnan launched in 1980 the first issue of the Energy Law Journal, and further announced that the energy bar association had the resources to produce a continuing flow of scholarly and provocative articles.

How true.

The Journal now has approximately 3,000 subscribers in the United States and fourteen countries. When Tom Brosnan, Bill Mogel and other luminaries of the energy bar began to publish the Journal, it is doubtful they could foresee how it would blossom into such a preeminent source of knowledge for energy practitioners in the United States and across the world.

I am honored to serve as your Editor-in-Chief as we publish Volume 30, No. 1. On a personal note, I vividly remember clutching the inaugural issue in my hands when serving, at the beginning of my career, at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. That dog-eared volume sits proudly in my collection of valuable resource materials.

Tom Brosnan also declared, “Certainly, there is no lack of subject matter; it grows almost exponentially.”

Yes, indeed.

For the first few years of its publication, the Journal spilt enough ink to fill about 400-500 pages annually. Over the years, the amount of material published rose somewhat steadily. In the last three or so years, it has exploded to roughly 700-800 pages annually.

It is also interesting to view, through the prism of time, how the Journal's focus has changed over the last thirty years. Of the five articles in the inaugural volume, three pertained to natural gas, one concerned interlocking directorates and electric utility regulation, and one addressed hydroelectric licensing. It contained ten committee reports; half discussed natural gas matters. The antitrust, tax, environment, FPA, and coal conversion committees also submitted reports.

As the energy industries changed, so did the Journal. It now addresses vastly more diverse and complex subjects. Articles on climate change, energy infrastructure, renewable and clean energy, and international energy issues course through the Journal's veins—in electronic and hard copy—providing valuable insights to energy practitioners. But despite these changes, we continue to remain true to our mission of publishing legal, policy and economic materials of lasting interest with significant research value on topics dealing with the energy industries.

Bob Fleishman