

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is my distinct pleasure, as President of the Energy Bar Association (EBA), to pen this address to readers of the *Energy Law Journal*. EBA is the preeminent association of energy attorneys, energy professionals, and students in the United States, with reach into Canada, Mexico, and beyond. When I took office in May, I announced my intent to continue focusing efforts on the goals EBA members told us were important to them in our 2017 strategic planning process: 1) enhancing the value provided to EBA's geographically diverse membership; 2) optimizing how EBA's members join and maintain their membership; 3) enhancing EBA programming content value and accessibility; and 4) expanding EBA participation and leadership opportunities. I am proud to report that we have taken significant steps to further these goals by: conducting Chapter leadership training and information exchange sessions with Chapter boards; developing a more user friendly EBA website; adding additional programs to our easily accessible online CLE library; and launching the online "Career Center" including a new volunteer opportunity section of the job board. I am indebted to the EBA Board, Chapter and Committee leaders, our affiliated foundations, the Foundation of the Energy Law Journal (FELJ) and Charitable Foundation of the Energy Bar Association (CFEBA), and other member volunteers for their efforts in furthering these initiatives. More work is yet to be done, and I remain enthusiastic in leading efforts to continue to enhance the benefits and value of EBA membership.

Since its creation in 1980, the *Energy Law Journal* itself has provided significant value to EBA members by publishing legal, policy, and economic articles and other materials of lasting interest on subjects relevant to the energy industry. Each issue of the *Journal* addresses matters of timely import to energy law practitioners, energy professionals, and students. This issue is no exception. In Volume 39, Number 2, we present articles on blockchain, FERC's deference to electric utility consolidation, decarbonization, resilience, WTO rules and renewables, the relationship between zero-emission credits and state subsidies, energy storage, and gas pipeline siting jurisdiction. This edition also includes reports from EBA committees on developments over the past year, including the FERC Practice Committee, the Natural Gas Committee, the Oil and Liquids Committee, the State Commission Practice Committee, the Environmental Regulation Committee, and the System Reliability, Planning, and Security Committee, as well as the Electricity - Power Generation and Marketing Subcommittee. Finally, student notes included in this edition address off-site horizontal drilling and mining on native lands, and a book review discusses Joseph P. Tomain's *Clean Power Politics*. Together with FELJ President Linda L. Walsh and CFEBA President Donna M. Byrne, I wish to extend a heartfelt "Thank You" to all of our authors, the Editorial Board, and the University of Tulsa Student Editors for another exceptional edition of the *Journal*.

If you value the timely information and scholarship that the *Energy Law Journal* provides, I invite you to consider making a tax-deductible donation to the FELJ, to further its mission of providing the financial support needed to continue publication for many years to come.

Respectfully,  
Matt Rudolphi

