

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This year, the board of directors of the Energy Bar Association approved a 2013-2015 Strategic Plan. Several months in the making, the new Strategic Plan will guide the Board as it continually seeks to anticipate and meet member needs and to provide value to Association members. In developing the strategic plan, the Board examined foundational principles of the Association. We examined and reconfirmed EBA's Core Purpose ("why we exist"): to promote professional excellence in the practice of energy law. We also reconfirmed EBA's mission statement ("who we are, what we do, and how we do it"): promoting the professional excellence and ethical integrity of its members in the practice, administration, and development of energy laws, regulations, and policies. But we then expanded EBA's mission statement by specifying that we pursue our mission through *superior educational programming; networking opportunities; and access to information resources.*

The Board will work with the Association's seven regional chapters and twenty-one subject matter committees to implement this Strategic Plan. The Board plans to revisit the plan regularly to make adjustments as the energy industry and the Association continues to evolve and as member needs change in ways not now anticipated. I invite you to visit EBA's website (www.ebanet.org) for an overview of the new Strategic Plan. For a lengthier version that describes specific goals that the Board set for itself, please contact the EBA office.

Since 1980, the *Energy Law Journal* has provided great value to the Association's members and has been integral to the Association's efforts to achieve its core purpose and fulfill its mission. The *Journal* provides in-depth analyses on current, salient issues affecting members and their clients and businesses and provides a forum for the exploration and understanding of new, cutting edge issues. Published committee reports serve as a resource to members desiring an overview of recent legal developments and important decisions and trends. The *Journal* also gives student authors the opportunity to publish energy-related articles. The *Journal* is free to EBA members and is available either on-line or in hard copy.

The Spring 2013 issue continues the trend of providing meaningful value with excellent articles that address electromagnetic threats to national power grids, the United States Army's renewable energy initiative, nuclear waste policy, regulatory issues when transferring public utility assets or equity interests in public utilities, and energy sector crimes. This issue also brings you two new student submissions and a host of updates from EBA's committees.

With deep gratitude to the contributing authors and the *Journal's* editors who work tirelessly to bring you each issue, I invite you to turn the pages of this edition of the *Energy Law Journal* and truly appreciate the value the *Journal* provides year after year.

Respectfully yours,

Susan A. Olenchuk