

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to this edition of the *Energy Law Journal*. For over thirty years, the *Journal* has been a preeminent publication on energy law and policy. This edition continues the tradition of providing thoughtful and provocative analysis of current energy issues. Included in this issue of the *Journal* are articles questioning whether distributed generation is the “death spiral” for utilities, raising the need for structural due process reforms in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission’s enforcement process, and suggesting adaptations for regulatory approaches to the challenges of regional transmission development in the post-Order No. 1000 world. For those following the development of renewable energy and alternative fuels, there are articles on carbon tax, innovation, renewable energy, and international trade; and a comparative analysis of a new prescription for electric cars. There is also an informative article on the ABA Task Force Report on the future of legal education. For additional updates and analysis on current issues and trends, the *Journal* also includes reports from the EBA’s twenty-one subject matter committees. On behalf of the EBA Board and Staff, I thank Bob Fleishman for his longstanding commitment to the excellence of the *Journal* as its Editor-in-Chief. Thanks also to the *Journal’s* Editorial Board and the dedicated students at the University of Tulsa College of Law who serve as Student Editors of the *Journal*. The unparalleled reputation of the *Journal* as a reliable source of scholarly articles is a testament to their commitment.

The *Journal* is one of many benefits of membership in the Energy Bar Association. The EBA is in the midst of implementing its Strategic Plan, which focuses on four goals: educational programming, networking, information resources, and membership growth. Over the past year, we have undertaken a number of initiatives with the singular focus of providing superior quality and service to the membership. Our efforts have included redesigned websites for the Association, the Foundation of the Energy Law Journal, and the Charitable Foundation of the Energy Bar Association; our first-ever primer program on electricity and electric rate regulation; the launch of an EBA Book Club; and substantive programming and networking events on nearly a weekly basis. None of these happens without the significant contribution of our volunteers to whom we owe a debt of gratitude. Nor could the Association function as effortlessly as it may seem to many of us without the leadership and exceptional service provided by the EBA Executive Director and Staff. I thank each for their continued commitment to the Association.

We recently concluded the 2014 Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. Our Programs and Meetings Committee did an exceptional job implementing the suggestions from our membership for topics at this meeting. The meeting began with a keynote address by Ambassador R. James Woolsey, followed by sessions including *The Energy Industry 2025, Rise of the You-tility?; Politics and the Pace of U.S. Energy Infrastructure; and Current Issues in Energy Trading: The Regulation of Physical Commodity Traders*. Our luncheon speakers were Frank Sesno, internationally recognized journalist and director of the School of Media and Public Affairs at the George Washington University, and Patrick McCormick, Republican Chief Counsel to the Senate Energy and Natural

Resources Committee. The first day concluded with the Foundation of the Energy Law Journal reception honoring the FERC Administrative Law Judges. On the second day of the meeting, programs were held including *Gas-Electric Coordination: Where are we Now?* and the *U.S. Environmental Regulatory Update*. We concluded with dinner on April 9, with entertainment provided by the Capitol Steps.

As I close this term as President of the Association, I am thankful for the opportunity and humbled by the significant work of all who contribute to the Association's success. Dedicating my time to the Association has been a highlight of my career and a source of personal gratification. I encourage each of you to get involved in the Association, the Foundation of the Energy Law Journal, or the Charitable Foundation of the EBA. I can attest that you will be better for the experience.

Sincerely,

Adrienne E. Clair