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EDITOR'S PAGE

For almost a year, the California energy crisis has consumed the Nation's and possibly the world's attention. In the short term, I am confident that the "on the ground" problems will be solved and Californians will enjoy, albeit at prices that reflect market conditions, electric and natural gas service without the threat of rolling blackouts or brownouts. From the longer perspective, however, California has called into question the role of restructuring or deregulation in the energy industries. Stated in another way, should the California experience be the impetus for a return to traditional public utility regulation of the electric power and natural gas industries?

The current issue of the *Journal* neither has the answers to these fundamental questions, nor has it provided a salvo of criticism. Instead, what we have done is publish three articles which are thoughtful additions to the ongoing dialogue. It should be added, that these articles do not stand alone, but are a part of a continuum of well researched (and often-cited) writings that have filled the *Journal's* pages since its founding in 1980.

As a final word, I am pleased to report, our 16 years of association with the University of Tulsa Law School, have produced an unexpected dividend. Many of the *Journal's* student editors have entered the field of energy law and achieved both success and prominence in law firms, government, and energy companies. This phenomena is especially gratifying to those of us who have been associated with the publication of the *Journal*.

William A. Mogel Editor-in-Chief

IN MEMORIAM

Stephen L. Grossman, an administrative law judge at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission since the Commission's inception, died on January 7, 2001 at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. He was 65 years old.

When he joined the Commission's Office of Administrative Law Judges in 1975, Judge Grossman had been an ALJ at the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Assistant General Counsel for Regulation of the Department of Transportation. Like all the Commission's judges at that time, he was assigned to help with the heavy burden of numerous natural gas pipeline curtailment cases. He quickly established a reputation for being able to pierce rapidly through the pleadings and arguments, and to get swiftly to the heart of a complex case. As a result, he was successful at achieving many settlements of complex proceedings. He also responded to the participants' need for rapid action on settlements by pioneering the technique of issuing an initial decision, adopting the terms of a mutually agreed settlement, so that when no party filed exceptions, the initial-decision-cum-settlement could take effect within a fixed deadline. See, e.g., Alabama-Tennessee Natural Gas Co., 2 F.E.R.C. ¶ 63,035 (1978), aff'd, 3 F.E.R.C. ¶ 61,027 (1978).

Judge Grossman used his formidable powers of analysis and persuasion to resolve a long-standing dispute over water flows and fishing rights in the Nisqually River in the State of Washington. He presided over the case at the unanimous request of all parties, achieving an uncontested settlement of a convoluted and long-running dispute among Indian tribes, power companies, and environmentalists. His initial decision was accepted by the Commission without change. See Nisqually River Proceeding, 63 F.E.R.C. ¶ 61,026 (1993). Steve Grossman was at his best in important cases involving FERC-licensed hydroelectric projects and was the author of several landmark decisions interpreting the jurisdictional provisions of the Federal Water Power Act. See, e.g., Kennebec Water District, 82 F.E.R.C. 63,004 (1998); City of Centralia, 27 F.E.R.C. ¶ 63,058 (1984), aff'd, 33 F.E.R.C. ¶ 61,221 (1985).

Judge Grossman was active in professional and civic organizations. He taught evidence and trial practice at the National Judicial College and at seminars for state administrative law judges. He served two terms as president of the Federal Administrative Law Judges Conference. Judge Grossman was also a Captain in the U.S. Naval Reserve.

Those who admired his quick, incisive intelligence and his ability to move cases along fairly and expeditiously will miss Steve Grossman.

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