

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to a new decade and the 41<sup>st</sup> volume of the *Energy Law Journal*! As I write this from my home dining room table, the global battle against the COVID-19 pandemic is raging and many of us are required to work entirely from home. We do not know when these restrictions will be lifted, nor do we know what our world will look like after they are (or what our places will be in it). The energy industry has not been spared: oil prices have fallen into negative territory, and electric demand is greatly reduced, stressing the electric markets. We are in an unprecedented time of change, and many aspects of our day-to-day lives have been upended. We are all trying to manage new problems we've never seen in our lifetimes, and we are trying to manage old problems in new ways from our homes.

In these times, it is comforting to know that there are constants on which we can depend. One of these is the *Journal*, which has long been recognized as the premier legal publication dedicated to energy law. This issue of the *Journal* does not disappoint: included in these pages are fascinating articles on a wide array of topics such as the changing role of the consumer advocate from former state consumer advocates Elin Katz and Tim Schneider; the statute of limitations on FPA enforcement actions by Michael Spafford, Daren Stanaway, and Brian Wilmot; and a survey of programs that support carbon capture and utilization by Edward Hirsch and Thomas Foust. This issue also provides energy sector reports from EBA committees memorializing key developments in Finance & Transactions, Compliance & Enforcement, Legislative Practice, and Renewable Energy. In addition, this issue offers a first-ever contribution from EBA's new Canadian Chapter, providing a survey of 2019 Canadian energy law and policy developments.

The *Journal* would not be possible without the significant contributions of many people. Chief among them are the Editor-in-Chief Harvey Reiter, Executive Editor Caileen Gamache, and Administrative Editor Nicholas Cicale. They are supported by the tireless efforts of numerous volunteer editors and student editors from the University of Tulsa College of Law. Finally, the *Journal* is sustained by the financial stewardship of the Foundation of the Energy Law Journal, this year led by President Molly Suda. I thank everyone for all their hard work!

As Michelle Obama said, "you should never view your challenges as a disadvantage. . . . [Y]our experience facing and overcoming adversity is actually one of your biggest advantages."<sup>1</sup> This principle applies equally to

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1. First Lady Michelle Obama, Remarks by the First Lady at City College of New York Commencement (June 3, 2016) (transcript available at <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/the-press-office/2016/06/03/remarks-first-lady-city-college-new-york-commencement>).

EBA in 2020. I look forward to this year of challenges and the personal and professional growth we will achieve because of it.

And now, settle into your couch and get ready for some thought-provoking material as you turn these pages!

Thank you,

*/s/ Jane E. Rueger*

Jane E. Rueger

President, Energy Bar Association