

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF'S PAGE

It has been quite an autumn. Wildfires have spread throughout California, people have lost their homes, still others have lost their lives, and many have been without power for days on end. In Washington we have seen the start of an historic Presidential impeachment inquiry, the first World Series championship for the city in more than ninety years, and publication of the latest edition of the Energy Law Journal. My message to the readership – my first as Editor-in-Chief – is of course about the latter.

I have proudly served the Journal as its Executive Editor since 2006, but this is my first edition as the Journal's Editor-in-Chief. Lucky for me, Bob Fleishman, who so ably filled this role as my predecessor, continues to help as my sounding board and informal advisor during the transition. For years before I joined the Journal as its Executive Editor I read many of the articles (and published a few), but did not fully appreciate the broad scope of the work that went into the Journal's production. With Thanksgiving fast approaching, I would like to rectify that by giving special thanks to the many people who make publication possible and by providing our readers with some sense of the work behind the scenes that goes into each edition. I have identified some (but by no means all) of those who make the Journal possible, but I am thankful for the contributions of every one of them. If you have read our homepage, you will see the large number of volunteers involved in the Journal.

Although you might not think of them as volunteers, we could not have a journal without the unpaid work of the authors themselves. Writing a law review article is a considerable commitment of time. And that is just the beginning. By agreeing to write for the Journal authors subject themselves to a rigorous review process that leads up to the publication itself.

Also central to the success of the Journal is the support of the FELJ Board of Directors and its President, Nicholas J. Pascale. The Board protects our editorial independence, all while promoting scholarship, ELJ programming, and raising the funds necessary to make the Journal available for free online to readers around the world.

Our editorial board, headed by Kat Gamache, our new Executive Editor, distinguishes the ELJ from nearly all other law journals. Our articles are not selected by students, but are peer-reviewed like articles appearing in academic publications in other disciplines. We have a wonderful group of practitioner-editors with a wide range of experience in rate regulation, transactional work, environmental and international energy issues who devote their considerable talents to reviewing manuscripts before publication. Their expertise helps ensure that the Journal remains a source of practical scholarship of value to practitioners, regulators, and policy makers. And our Administrative Editor, Nicholas Cicale, keeps us on track to get the publication out on schedule.

Alex Goldberg serves as our Senior Notes Editor. He and the other Note Editors perform an invaluable function – they work closely with the student members of the Journal at the University of Tulsa College of Law to advise them on the notes they hope to publish in the Journal. Their experience as energy practitioners adds an important dimension to the students’ education and experience on the Journal. Our mentors – busy professionals – also work with the Tulsa Law students to provide insights and advice about the practice of energy law.

Each on-line edition of the Journal includes a number of committee reports. These reports are wonderful research tools – they allow practitioners access to accurate and objective descriptions of key procedural and substantive developments in a broad array of energy-related issues. Lois Henry, the Journal’s Senior Reports Editor, has taken on the work of assembling these reports and ensuring their accuracy and has the terrific support, not only of her fellow reports editors, but of the various committees themselves.

For years the Journal has published reviews of noteworthy books covering various aspects of energy law and policy. Many thanks to current EBA President Jonathan Schneider for contributing a number of those reviews over the years and for agreeing to continue serving as Senior Book Review Editor. And thanks also to Tim Lundgren for taking on the role of Book Review Editor.

Even with all the volunteer help from members of the EBA, the Journal’s first Editor-in-Chief, Bill Mogel, discovered early in the Journal’s history that we could not continue to publish without a law school’s assistance. The EBA has collaborated with the University of Tulsa College of Law for over thirty years. The Journal’s current student Editor-in-Chief, Carly Kidner and her fellow editors spend hundreds of hours each semester reviewing, cite checking, and proofreading the articles and assembling all of the pieces for publication. I owe the students and their Faculty Advisor, Professor Robert Butkin, a deep debt of gratitude for the hard work they put into the Journal to make it a success.

You will also note that nearly every edition of the Journal contains one or more In Memoria to reflect on the contributions of members of the Energy Bar who have recently passed away. When you celebrate Thanksgiving this year, be thankful for their contributions and for the many other contributions of those who have helped make the Journal a success.

Respectfully,

Harvey L. Reiter