

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By the time this edition of the Energy Law Journal (Journal) is published, my term as President of the Energy Bar Association (EBA) will have ended. Having anchored my term to a renewed focus on education and membership, I reflect with pride on all that we accomplished this year. The EBA successfully bolstered its educational programming by featuring forty-six events that collectively reached nearly 2,500 registrants and launched the new EBA OnDemand learning system with a catalog of sixty courses. Membership grew as well, with 1,807 members as of year-end 2023, reflecting an increase of 9% over year-end 2022.

As always, the Journal is critical to furthering the educational efforts of the EBA, and this edition is no exception. To keep EBA members apprised of developments in technology and analytical tools, this edition of the Journal includes two pieces on artificial intelligence (AI). Eugene Lee and Wesley Leeroy's piece, "How AI Tools Can Help Diagnose Market Dynamics and Curb Market Power Abuse as the Nation's Power Supply Transitions to Renewable Resources," describes the authors' AI-driven analysis of the renewable energy transition and its implications for regulation of seller market power. Daniel Slate, Alexandre Parisot, Liang Min, Patrick Panciatici, and Pascal Van Hentenryck's article, "Adoption of Artificial Intelligence by Electric Utilities," explores considerations for responsibly and effectively deploying AI within the electric industry, particularly in light of the potential impacts of AI on energy markets and national security. It assesses both the opportunities and challenges for electric utility use of AI, as well as its role in accelerating renewable deployment.

The two remaining articles in this edition of the Journal also provide thought-provoking scholarship on timely topics. Janice Beecher, Harvey Reiter, and Jeffrey Watkiss's article, "Regulatory Imperative to Ensure Utility Climate Resilience Planning," discusses the tools available to energy regulators to spur utility action on climate resilience and adaptation. These tools include rulemaking powers that can be utilized to institute resilience planning requirements and ratemaking tools for climate resilience and cost recovery. Finally, Robert Fleishman, Emma Hand, Mosby Perrow, and Dr. Diana Hernández's essay, "Energy Insecurity – What Is It, and Why Does It Matter?," explains and explores issues associated with energy insecurity.

I would like to thank the members of the EBA Board of Directors, the Charitable Foundation of the Energy Bar Association Board of Directors, the Foundation of the Energy Law Journal Board of Directors, EBA committee members, EBA staff, and the countless other EBA volunteers, each of whom make the EBA a truly great organization. Finally, I would like to thank the EBA membership for the privilege of serving as your President.

Sincerely,
David Martin Connelly
President, Energy Bar Association