

# Oil and Gas, Natural Resources, and Energy Journal

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## Editor's Introduction

Mason W. Smith

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# ONE J

*Oil and Gas, Natural Resources,  
and Energy Journal*

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## Editor's Introduction

Welcome to the fourth issue of Volume 3 of the University of Oklahoma College of Law's *Oil and Gas, Natural Resources, and Energy Journal* ("ONE J"). In this issue, we are pleased to publish the articles of three emerging scholars on oil and gas law and policy. These individuals—who have notable experience as both practitioners and academics—made presentations at the inaugural ONE J Symposium last spring and have generously permitted the Journal to publish their latest work. Today's issue also features summaries of recent cases that are relevant to the energy industry.

Professor Christopher S. Kulander is a Professor of Law and the Director of the Harry L. Reed Oil & Gas Law Institute at South Texas College of Law Houston. Professor Kulander earned a bachelor's degree in geology and master's degree in geophysics from Wright State University before obtaining a Ph.D. in geophysics (petroleum seismology) from Texas A&M University. After work with the United States Geological Survey as a geophysicist, he attended law school at the University of Oklahoma College of Law, where he graduated with distinction. He then practiced oil and gas law in Midland and Houston before joining the South Texas College of Law Houston Faculty in 2014. His article, *European Energy Security, American LNG, and the Global Natural Gas Marketplace*, argues that Europe's energy security must be enhanced to provide political and economic security to the region. Professor Kulander urges American politicians and producers to closely monitor Europe's evolving energy situation and formulate a fluid response. He also predicts that, in any event, North American LNG will flow to Europe in rising quantities for the foreseeable future.

Professor Tara K. Righetti is an Associate Professor of Law at the University of Wyoming College of Law and is the Director of the AAPL accredited program in Professional Land Management at the University of Wyoming School of Energy Resources. Professor Righetti received her bachelor's degree and law degree from the University of Colorado at Boulder. Before entering academia in 2014, Professor Righetti served as chief executive officer and general counsel of a privately-owned upstream oil and gas company, overseeing operations in six states and on the outer-continental shelf. Her article, *Siting Carbon Dioxide Pipelines*, assesses the adequacy of current regulatory frameworks for siting CO<sub>2</sub> pipelines. Professor Righetti urges states to consider a public-goods approach to pipeline siting and eminent domain; in her view, doing so will encourage

infrastructure development that can be integrated into a broader pipeline network to facilitate carbon capture, utilization, and storage.

Professor Alex Ritchie is the Executive Director of the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation and on leave from the University of New Mexico School of Law where he is an Associate Professor of Law and the Leon Karelitz Chair in Oil and Gas Law. Professor Ritchie received his bachelor's degrees from Georgetown University and his law degree from the University of Virginia School of Law. Before entering academia in 2012, he served as a senior corporate counsel for a major oil company and before that was a partner at a large law firm in Denver, where he focused on the intersection of natural resources and corporate law matters. His article, *A Reexamination and Reformulation of the Habendum Clause Paying Quantities Standard under Oil and Gas Leases*, analyzes the historical paying-quantities standard in the habendum clause of the oil and gas lease. Professor Ritchie argues that courts have placed undue focus on the mathematical first prong of the test and recommends that they reformulate the standard by removing the first prong while incorporating clearer aspects of the test from past and present cases.

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