Editor’s Introduction

Welcome to the Third Edition of Volume Eight of the Oil and Gas, Natural Resources, and Energy Journal (ONE-J). This Edition contains three captivating articles as well as a collection of case summaries. The articles drill into well-collision liability, subsequent license renewals by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the evolution of international resource development contracts. Additionally, the case summaries, written by our Journal’s enterprising candidates, capture the year’s developments of energy law throughout state and federal courts across the country.

The first article, Navigating Accountability in Swamped Fields: Why Texas Needs Uniform Regulation for Well Collision Liability sheds light on the unredressed liabilities associated with below-ground operations in brownfields and drilling hotbeds alike and offers a framework for liability mitigation and recovery.

The second article, Life After Sixty: Subsequent License Renewals and Criticisms of NRC Licensing plans ahead and prepares legal argumentation for nuclear facilities’ subsequent licensures in light of both historical and novel obstacles.

The third article, Evolving Trends in Production Sharing Agreements & Cost Recovery Systems provides a practitioner’s compendium for oil and gas contracts in Angola, Brazil, Indonesia, Ghana, Malaysia, Kazakhstan, Guyana, and Trinidad and Tobago. The article, written by regional scholars, contextualizes contracts within each country’s current objectives and historical resource development.

Finally, this Edition closes with case summaries that reflect recent decisions on upstream and midstream oil and gas issues, renewable energy, environmental regulations, and other energy-focused topics across the United States.

It has been a landmark year. I am thankful for each author, editor, and ONE-J candidate for their work on this Volume. In particular, I am grateful to our Submissions Editor, Ms. Amandeep Kaur, and our Managing Editor, Ms. Meghan Brobst, both of whom embody responsible leadership and unequivocal resolve. Furthermore, I owe my deepest thanks to Mr. Michael Waters. He is the architect of each publication; his poise and patience remain the cornerstone of ONE-J’s voice.

Here, at the end of my tenure as Editor-in-Chief, I am buried in gratitude for the brilliance of this Journal’s editors, candidates, and authors. Leading the Oil and Gas, Natural Resources, and Energy Journal has been an utmost privilege. I will not soon forget the honor of laboring shoulder-to-shoulder alongside our hard-nosed, bright scholars; we have faced hardship and seen
each other through. I look forward to watching the success of our incoming Editor-in-Chief, Ms. Kelsey Lauerman, and her editorial board. Thank you, reader, for sharing this year with us. Here’s to what comes next.

As always,

Hank Herren
Editor-in-Chief
Navigating Accountability in Swamped Fields: Why Texas Needs Uniform Regulation for Well Collision Liability

*Iliana Martinez* 531

Life After Sixty: Subsequent License Renewals and Criticisms of N.R.C. Licensing

*Cameron Tarry Hughes* 571

Evolving Trends in Production Sharing Agreements & Cost Recovery Systems

*Eduardo G. Pereira, Reg Fowler, Thomas Stephens, Alicia Elias-Roberts, André Lemos, Wan Mohd Zulhafiz Wan Zahari, Reyhan Kamil & Nurzhan Kakimov* 603

Recent Case Decisions 693