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Inaugural Letter

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Dear Reader:

Welcome to the inaugural issue of *Washington and Lee University School of Law's Journal of Energy, Climate, and the Environment* (JECE). On behalf of all of the Student Editors and Writers who worked so diligently leading up to this event, I would like to express our optimism that this publication will contribute greatly to the public discourse on this pressing subject matter.

The JECE is a student-edited periodical whose mission is to engage and educate the legal community, policy-makers, and the general public through our publications and symposia on climate change, energy, and environmental issues affecting local, national, and global communities. Our publication includes articles, notes, case summaries, and legislative summaries from professors, practitioners, and students focused primarily on the areas of law surrounding energy and the climate, including, but not limited to, energy generation, energy usage, and climate impacts. For environmental considerations, JECE publishes solely in an online format.

Our first issue stems largely from JECE's inaugural symposium titled Climate Policy for the Obama Administration. This interdisciplinary symposium, which will be held one month after the Obama Administration took office, assessed the Administration's initial steps on climate change and reflected on the road ahead. Our aim was to not only provide interesting academic discussion, but also to produce a policy assessment that might be useful to those advising the new Administration.

We greatly appreciate the hard work and commitment all of our panelists whose efforts made the symposium a great success. I would like to specifically thank our contributing writers David L. Markell, Robin K. Craig, J.B.Ruhl, Alexandra Khrebtukova, and Nathan F. Sayre for their diligence and commitment to the publication of this issue.

Additionally, we would like to express our gratitude to the administration and faculty of Washington and Lee University and the School of Law for their professional, financial, logistical, and academic support. Finally, we would be remiss if we did not express our strongest appreciation for Professor Hari Osofsky, without whose invaluable support and expert guidance none of this could have happened.

Sincerely,

Christopher M. Hirsch
Editor-in-Chief, 2010-2011
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