

## CALL FOR PROPOSALS

### University of San Diego Climate & Energy Law Symposium Proposals due: June 15, 2015

On Friday, November 6, 2015, the University of San Diego School of Law will host its Seventh Annual Climate & Energy Law Symposium. With this **Call for Proposals**, you are invited to submit a title and abstract of an article that you can present at the Symposium and publish in the Seventh Volume of the [SAN DIEGO JOURNAL OF CLIMATE & ENERGY LAW](#). If we select your proposal, the University will pay for all travel expenses to and from the Symposium. Also, you must submit your completed article to the Journal's editors by the date of the Symposium (November 6, 2015) for consideration in the Seventh Volume.

The theme of our 2015 Climate & Energy Law Symposium is **"California to Paris: Linking Energy and Climate Policy at the Subnational, National, and International Levels."** In the 17<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP-17, 2011), governments agreed to "develop a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all Parties," for adoption at COP-21 in December 2015 in Paris, France. In the absence of comprehensive federal action in the U.S., the Obama administration has relied on executive authority to advance climate policy, including U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposed Clean Power Plan regulations, which attempts to link discrete state policies. If adopted, these regulations could spur action in many states that have not already acted to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the electricity sector. Similarly, the role of linking discrete subnational and national policies at the international level is a topic of current discussion as it may allow consistency with the United Nations Convention's principle of "common but differentiated responsibility".

At the University of San Diego's Seventh Annual Climate & Energy Law Symposium, academic and policy experts will analyze and assess three aspects of this complex issue.

- **U.S. EPA's Clean Power Plan and State Responses** – The proposed Clean Power Plan regulations would provide a framework for states to develop greenhouse gas reduction policies in the form of a State Implementation Plan, at least for the electricity sector. Several legal questions have arisen in response, including dormant commerce clause considerations, the relationship between a federal plan implemented between the EPA and state regulation of electricity to regulate, and the limits of executive action.
- **U.S. EPA's Clean Power Plan as a Framework for International Action** – Can the Clean Power Plan and other climate related executive actions serve as an example of the type of linkages that could be attractive for a protocol or other legal instrument at COP 21? Could a similar framework be a mechanism for bilateral or multilateral agreements between countries? Is it possible for the Obama Administration to pursue an Executive Agreement that would not need Senate ratification?
- **Subnational Participation in International Climate Agreements** – Several states already have comprehensive policies to reduce emissions. What is the role of subnational entities such as states or provinces in international agreements? What meaningful bilateral agreements could states enter into? Are protocols in place to permit and facilitate subnational participation in international climate discussions?

All article proposals related to these broad issues in climate and energy law are welcome. It is not necessary for an article to focus specifically on California law and policy. If you are interested in participating, please submit the following materials to Elizabeth Bhappu at [ebhappu@sandiego.edu](mailto:ebhappu@sandiego.edu).

- (1) The proposed title of your article and a brief 300 word abstract;
- (2) Your CV; and,
- (3) Written acknowledgement that you will attend the Symposium on Friday, November 6, 2015, and submit a complete draft of your article to the *SAN DIEGO JOURNAL OF CLIMATE & ENERGY LAW* by that same date.

The University of San Diego Climate & Energy Law Symposium is co-hosted by the [Energy Policy Initiatives Center \(EPIC\)](#) and the [SAN DIEGO JOURNAL OF CLIMATE & ENERGY LAW](#).

**Please submit your proposal by Friday, June 15, 2015. We look forward to hearing from you!**