Summer 2009

Front Matter

Natural Resources Journal

Recommended Citation
Available at: https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/nrj/vol49/iss3/1
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO
SCHOOL OF LAW

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Lawyers who function in their profession, whether as private practitioners or public servants, are an integral part of the system by which a democratic society governs itself. If they are to properly discharge the responsibilities of this role, their education for the profession must be broad and intensive. In its breadth, that education must encompass a full understanding of and belief in the democratic respect for individual personality and the democratic processes designed to allow individuals to develop and participate in a free, self-governing society. In its intensification it must impart a high degree of competence in the craftsmanship of the law—in those skills and insights essential to an adequate performance of the lawyer’s function as advocate, judge, legislator, teacher, administrator, or civic leader. Such education neither begins nor ends in the law school, and the School of Law is continually concerned not only with its own curriculum but also with the quality of pre-legal education and with the continuing self-education that should be pursued by all members of the profession. Consequently, students are urged to enter the School with as broad a cultural and educational background as possible. Accordingly, the basic requirement for admission is now a baccalaureate degree from an approved college or university.

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The isolation of scholars in various fields concerned with resources problems continues to be a principal impediment to progress. . . . Resources problems are so complex that traditional lines of approach prove inadequate. . . . Rarely do we find the work of the lawyer and the non-lawyer appearing side by side. . . . The primary function of the [new] Journal is to meet this need. . . .

—from the Foreword of Vol. 1, No. 1, 1961

INTRODUCTION

ARTICLES

Dams and Markets: Rivers and Electric Power in Chile
Carl J. Bauer 583

Indian Treaty Fishing Rights and Habitat Protection: The
Martinez Decision Supplies a Resounding Judicial Reaffirmation
Michael C. Blumm & Jane G. Steadman 653

Water Leasing: Evaluating Temporary Water Rights Transfers in New Mexico Through Experimental Methods
Craig D. Broadbent, David S. Brookshire, Don Coursey & Vince Tidwell 707

From Warranted to Valuable Belief: Local Government, Climate Change, and Giving Up the Pickup to Save Bangladesh
Jerrold A. Long 743

U.S.-Mexico Environmental Treaty Impediments to Tactical Security Infrastructure Along the International Boundary
Stephen P. Mumme & Oscar Ibáñez 801

STUDENT ARTICLES

Oil and Gas Development in the Arctic: Softening of Ice Demands Hardening of International Law
Kristin Noelle Casper 825

Geologic Sequestration of CO2: How EPA’s Proposal Falls Short
Adam Gardner Rankin 883
INDEX—VOLUME 49 943

TITLE INDEX ...................................................... 944
AUTHOR INDEX ................................................... 945
SUBJECT INDEX ................................................... 946
BOOKS REVIEWED ................................................. 951
Natural Resources Journal
Published four times per year by the University of New Mexico School of Law

Vol. 49 Summer-Fall 2009 Nos. 3+4

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