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FROM THE SPECIAL EDITOR

New Jersey and the Environment: Looking Forward

The last issue of *New Jersey Lawyer* magazine dedicated to environmental law was published nearly eight years ago. This issue presents a ripe opportunity to reflect on the growth of the practice and the critical environmental issues affecting New Jersey citizens since that time. There has been a significant shift and focus on climate change, sustainability, and environmental justice, as well as sweeping developments regarding emerging contaminants and natural resource damage claims that affect many stakeholders. This issue explores these and other key topics that impact not only environmental practitioners, but all members of the Bar.



We are honored to have a deep bench of state leaders and lawyers who have contributed to this issue. New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Shawn M. LaTourette opens the issue with a discussion regarding “The Urgency of New Jersey’s Climate Reality.” The issue concludes with insightful commentary from state Sen. Bob Smith, Dr. Joseph Gurrentz, and Dr. Celia Smits titled “Navigating the Winds of Change: New Jersey’s Winding Path Toward Clean Air and a Stable Climate.”

Between these thoughtful bookends are articles from colleagues across the state, including a discussion of greenwashing claims (by Melissa A. Clarke and Andrea A. Lipuma); the growth of offshore aquaculture (by Zachary A. Klein); state guidance encouraging the implementation of green, sustainable and resilient remediation techniques (by Andrew T. Alessandro); natural resource damages enforcement efforts (by Vinita Banthia, Matt Conley and Dan Farino); due diligence discussion (by David Restaino); and broadening PFAS regulation and legislation (by Dawn Monsen Lamparello, B. David Naidu, and Emily M. Poniatowski).

We thank the contributors to this magazine for their dedication and insight and are confident this issue will be a useful reference guide to New Jersey practitioners for years to come. ■



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