



**Colette Honorable**

FERC Commissioner

The energy sector is a constantly evolving industry, and the present is certainly no exception. In fact, this may be the most dynamic time in the energy sector in recent history, given the influx of U.S. natural gas, new technologies, and a host of new regulations across the globe. In the U.S., federal regulators are finalizing rules reducing carbon emissions from power plants. Mexico is ushering in dramatic reforms to open up its energy markets. EU governments are pursuing strong carbon control goals and energy efficiency targets. And in Paris later this year, the world will come together for continued discussions on a global treaty to combat climate change. What does this mean for the energy regulator? Globally, regulators are addressing environmental regulation, reliability, competition, gas/electric harmonization, fuel sustainability and diversity, and consumer empowerment. All of these innovations and policies will likely result in a more efficient system, which some in the industry fear could cut into their bottom line. What tools will economic regulators need to use in order to balance existing and new environmental and sustainability goals with their traditional focus on safe, reliable, affordable and environmentally responsible energy?