



GREEN ENERGY INSTITUTE

AT LEWIS & CLARK LAW SCHOOL

March 2018

The Chronicle Magazine Features GEI in Headline Story: Renewable Hope

The Chronicle Magazine, Lewis & Clark's quarterly publication, featured the Green Energy Institute in its 2018 winter edition. "Powers and her team at the Green Energy Institute are only beginning to gear up in the fight for a clean energy future. In just a few short years, the institute has positioned itself as an increasingly influential leader in the renewable energy space on both the regional and national levels... 'You need big brains working on these projects, and that's where Melissa and her team come in,' says Roby Roberts BS '79, vice president of communications and government affairs at EDP Renewables North America and a key organizer with Powers of a major clean energy conference last October at the law school. Within this challenging landscape, the institute is embarking on a particularly ambitious project: the Western Energy Blueprint, a comprehensive strategic plan to guide the western states, and some parts of Canada and Mexico, toward a clean energy future." [Read the full article here](#) and stay tuned for the latest updates on our progress on the Western Clean Energy Blueprint.

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GEI Participates in U.S. Department of Energy's Solar in Your Community Challenge

In early 2017, the U.S. Department of Energy launched the [Solar in Your Community Challenge](#), an initiative focused on increasing access to solar energy in underserved communities. Through the project, GEI is providing community solar developers guidance regarding available economic incentives and identifying legal issues that could affect the projects. So far, GEI has assisted teams working to develop community solar projects in Alabama, Mississippi, Maine, Illinois, and Oregon. "Community solar has so much potential to benefit local communities," says Amelia Schlusser, GEI's staff attorney and lead on the project. "It has been a real privilege to work with groups around the country who are focused on helping their communities through local solar projects."

Save the Date:

Deconstructing Diesel Happy Hour on March 21, 5:00-7:30 PM

According to the Oregonian, pollution from Oregon's diesel emissions causes 460 premature deaths and 145 heart attacks each year, in addition to other serious health ailments that cumulatively cost the state more than \$3 billion annually. In 2011, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) identified diesel emissions as a significant source of toxic and particulate matter pollution in the Portland area. Within the Portland metropolitan area, diesel emissions present disproportionate risks to low-income and minority communities, due to their proximity to highways and transportation corridors such as Interstate 5. While other state initiatives are underway to reduce exposure to toxic pollutants, particulate matter, and other harmful air pollutants from stationary sources, they have yet to tackle exposure to emissions from mobile diesel sources.



In partnership with Neighbors for Clean Air and the Northwest Environmental Defense Center, GEI will be hosting Deconstructing Diesel, a presentation and panel discussion about mobile diesel regulation in Oregon and the Portland metropolitan area. The event will open with presentations from Linda George, PhD, professor of environmental service and management at PSU, and GEI's Executive Director, Professor Melissa Powers, and staff attorney, Amelia Reiver Schlusser. These presentations will be followed by a panel discussion with representatives from local government and an opportunity for an open conversation about how to proceed with advocacy on diesel and air quality in the region. Registration is required in advance, and seating is limited; [reserve your ticket here](#). You can also [follow the event on Facebook!](#)



Charged Debate Blog Sheds Light on Renewables Regulation in the Trump Administration

GEI's legal fellows dig deeper into the administration's latest efforts to undermine growth in the renewable energy sector. Blog posts detail the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's denial of Energy Secretary Perry's proposed rule for coal and nuclear subsidies, as well as Trump's imposed solar tariffs on imported photovoltaic modules and cells. [Read more on our *Charged Debate* blog.](#)

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