

**Featuring Speakers From:**

- Altenex LLC
- Boardman & Clark LLP
- Fredrikson & Byron PA
- Geronimo Energy
- Greenberg Traurig LLP
- Minnesota Department of Commerce
- Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
- Minnesota Rural Electric Association
- MISO
- Northern States Power Company
- Sidley Austin LLP
- Stoel Rives LLP
- Westwood Professional Services
- Wind on Wires
- Xcel Energy

*The Ninth Annual Conference on Legal and Business Developments for*

# Renewable Energy in the Midwest

Important new policies, incentives, opportunities  
and challenges

October 3 & 4, 2017

Minneapolis, Minnesota  
U.S. Bank Plaza Building

Live webcast and  
replays available!

**Credits:** 14 WI CLE || 12 MN CLE (pending) || 12 ND CLE (pending)  
12 OR CLE (pending) (call about others)

**Quick when/where:** 8:30 a.m., 200 South Sixth Street

## Renewable Energy in the Midwest Conference

October 3 & 4, 2017 | Minneapolis, Minnesota  
U.S. Bank Plaza Building

**Yes! Please register me:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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For which state(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

**Register my colleague:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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**If you cannot attend in person, check boxes to order:**

- Live Homestudy Webcast       Homestudy Replay  
 Course Materials



8:00 Registration Opens

8:30 Introduction & Overview

Daniel A. Yarano, Esq., Program Co-Chair  
Fredrikson & Byron PA ~ Minneapolis, MN

Alexandra Lipsky Mertens, Esq., Program Co-Chair  
Stoel Rives LLP ~ Seattle, WA

8:45 The Federal Backdrop for Development of Renewable Energy Resources in the Midwest; Issues at the State/ Federal Divide; Other Factors Affecting State Policy Flexibility

Update on developments at DOE, EPA, and the FERC under the Trump administration and in the Congress

Jason A. Johns, Esq.  
Stoel Rives LLP ~ Portland, OR

Federal preemption; dormant commerce clause issues for state procurement policies; appellate litigation update; areas where states will have discretion to pursue policies

Stan Berman, Esq.  
Sidley Austin LLP ~ Seattle, WA

10:15 Break

10:30 The State Backdrop for Energy and Environmental Policy: Demand Drivers for New Renewable Resources in the Midwest and Current Policy Responses

Overview of the issues and processes involved; implications for resource planning

Betsy Engelking, Vice President  
Geronimo Energy ~ Edina, MN

New legislative and regulatory policy developments; pending and recently decided cases at the administrative and appellate court levels

Andrew P. Moratzka, Esq.  
Stoel Rives LLP ~ Minneapolis, MN

12:00 Lunch (on your own)

1:15 State Environmental Protection Priorities: Case Study of Minnesota

Permitting concerns and policies for energy facilities including electric generation and transmission plus oil and natural gas pipelines

John Wachtler, Energy Program Director  
Minnesota Department of Commerce ~ St. Paul, MN

2:00 State Policy Priorities and Current Issues for Renewables Development and Integration into Grid Operations

The broad range of issues including adaptation to disruptive technologies, ratepayer participation in pilot projects, cost recovery for storage; viability and alternatives to net metering, evolution of utility business models, and siting issues

Richard Heinemann, Esq.  
Boardman & Clark LLP ~ Madison, WI

2:45 Break

3:00 Regional Transmission and Coordination of Markets: Opportunities for Centralized Renewables to Take on More Base Load Generation

Potential opportunities arising from the way the timing of intermittent renewable generation varies across the region and between solar and wind

Beth H. Soholt, Executive Director  
Wind on Wires ~ St. Paul, MN

Regional and interregional transmission system planning: MISO's planning for transmission and generation to ensure system reliability, enable market efficiency, and meet state and federal energy policies

Kari Valley, Esq., Senior Corporate Counsel  
MISO ~ Eagan, MN

Pros and cons from a utility resource planning perspective

Philip J. (P.J.) Martin, Director, Resource Planning  
Northern States Power Company ~ Minneapolis, MN

5:00 Continue the Exchange of Ideas: Reception for Faculty and Attendees

Sponsored by Fredrikson Byron PA and Stoel Rives LLP



About the Conference

LAW SEMINARS INTERNATIONAL

What previous attendees have said:

“Fantastic conference; perfect to meet the who’s who of renewable energy in the Midwest.”

“Topics were timely and ably addressed.”

“Speakers were well informed and engaging.”

“Really enjoyed the program.”

Each year we update this program to focus on new developments and, of course, this year brings us the Trump Administration's dramatic shift from the Obama era promotion of carbon-free renewables to promotion of traditional fossil fuels. As a result, this year we'll have less focus on federal policy and more on state renewables initiatives and the demand drivers behind those initiatives.

A big part of that is the Sustainable Communities Movement as an emerging driver for renewables development. We'll feature a discussion of development trends for solar gardens and other forms of community solar.

The consistent thing that remains is the impact on Midwest electric energy markets and grid operations. You'll hear from key players on ways centralized renewables could take on more of the characteristics of base load generation.

After laying this groundwork, we'll have special addresses by Commissioner Dan Lipschultz of the Minnesota PUC and Christopher Clark from Xcel Energy on policy priorities and business pros and cons for greater utility reliance on renewables.

The program will wrap up with a very practical discussion of essential project development contracts and the challenge of making them work in harmony. We hope you'll join us for what promises to be a very interesting, timely, informative discussion.

~ Program Co-Chairs: Alexandra Lipsky Mertens, Esq. of Stoel Rives LLP and Daniel A. Yarano, Esq. of Fredrikson & Byron PA



8:30 Solar Gardens and Other Forms of Community Solar

Update on who is doing what around the region: Opportunities and challenges

**Darrick Moe, President & CEO**  
Minnesota Rural Electric Association ~ Maple Grove, MN

**Amanda Rome, Esq., Lead Assistant General Counsel**  
Xcel Energy ~ Minneapolis, MN

9:45 Energy Infrastructure Development on Tribal Lands: Lessons from the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL)

The impact on tribal receptivity to energy projects; lessons for approaching Tribes and obtaining Tribal consent; opportunities in Tribal preferences for renewables over fossil fuel projects

**Troy A. Eid, Esq.**  
Greenberg Traurig LLP ~ Denver, CO

10:30 Break

10:45 Special Addresses: Impact of State Policy Priorities and Business Pros and Cons for Greater Utility Reliance on Renewables

Renewables development and integration into grid operations: The broad range of issues including adaptation to disruptive technologies, ratepayer participation in pilot projects, cost recovery for storage; viability of, and alternatives to, net metering

**The Hon. Dan Lipschultz, Esq., Vice-Chair**  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission ~ St. Paul, MN

Supplier perspective on market realities and the current incentives and disincentives for renewables development

**Christopher B. Clark, Esq., President**  
Xcel Energy ~ Minneapolis, MN

12:15 Lunch (on your own)



1:30 Deal Making Workshop: Essential Project Development Contracts and the Challenge of Making Them Work in Harmony

Direct sales to customers: Market opportunities in the region; essential elements and potential pitfalls in a direct sale Power Purchase Agreement (PPA)

**Charlie Daum, Managing Director, Business Development**  
Altenex LLC ~ Minneapolis, MN

Permitting: Current challenges and tips for keeping your contract terms up to date for contracts with permitting specialists

**Eric Hansen, PE, PG, Director, Environmental Services**  
Westwood Professional Services ~ Eden Prairie, MN

Ensuring harmony: Transactional coordination, risk allocation, and financing for project development; special issues for repowering projects

**Erik E. Malinowski, Esq.**  
Fredrikson & Byron PA ~ Minneapolis, MN

3:30 Evaluations and Adjourn

Related Seminars & Webcast Replays:

Electric Power in California	Nov. 2-3, 2017	San Francisco, CA
Electric Power in the Northeast	Sept. 25-26, 2017	Boston, MA
Climate Change and Energy in California	Sept. 11-12, 2017	San Francisco, CA
Energy in the Southwest	Aug. 21-22, 2017	Santa Fe, NM
Oregon's Transition to a Clean Energy Future	Aug. 3-4, 2017	Portland, OR
Tribal Energy in the Southwest	Apr. 3-4, 2017	Albuquerque, NM

See more at [www.lawseminars.com](http://www.lawseminars.com)



Registration & Other Conference Information

To Register:

Call us at: 206-567-4490  
Fax the registration form to us at: 206-567-5058  
Email us at: registrar@lawseminars.com  
Online: www.lawseminars.com  
Mail the registration form on the front page.  
Walk-ins are welcome, subject to space availability.  
Registration is complete when we receive payment or agree to later payment.

**Tuition:** Regular tuition for in person or webcast attendance for this program is \$1145 with a group rate of \$860 each for two or more registrants from the same firm. For government employees and Tribal members, we offer a special rate of \$765. For students, people in their job for less than a year, and public interest NGO's, our rate is \$572.50. All rates include admission to all seminar sessions, food and beverages at breaks, and all course materials. Materials will be available for download and review a few days before the seminar. Make checks payable to Law Seminars International. Financial aid is available to those who qualify. Contact our office for more information.

**Substitution & Cancellation:** You may substitute another person at any time. We will refund tuition, less a \$50 cancellation fee, if we receive your cancellation by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 27, 2017. After that time, we will credit your tuition toward attendance at another program or the purchase of a webcast or audio replay.

**Seminar Location:** The conference will be held at the U.S. Bank Plaza Building at 200 South Sixth Street in Minneapolis, MN 55402. Call the nearby Westin hotel directly at (888) 627-8343 for room reservations at the special negotiated rate of \$199 and mention that you are attending a Law Seminars International

conference. Reservations at this rate must be received by Monday September 4, 2017. Rooms are on a first come, first served basis.

**Continuing Education Credits:** Live credits: This program qualifies for 14 WI CLE credits; 12 CLE credits are pending for MN, ND, and OR. Upon request, we will apply for, or help you apply for, CLE credits in other states and other types of credits.

**Time Shift Your Content:** Webcast and audio replays, with course materials, are available for \$1145. The course materials alone are available for \$100. Replays will be available within two weeks after the seminar or from the date we receive payment.

**Faculty: Renewable Energy in the Midwest Conference**

**Alexandra Lipsky Mertens**, *Program Co-Chair*, is a partner at Stoel Rives LLP. She focuses on energy finance matters, advising energy developers on the acquisition, development, financing, and sale of energy projects.

**Daniel A. Yarano**, *Program Co-Chair*, is Co-Chair of the Energy Practice Group and chair of the Renewable Energy Group at Fredrikson & Byron PA. In the renewable energy market, he focuses on the wind, solar and biomass energy sectors and energy transmission.

**Christopher B. Clark**, *Special Address* is President of Xcel Energy - Minnesota, South Dakota, and North Dakota. Previously, he was Regional Vice President of Rates and Regulatory Affairs - Minnesota. Prior to joining Xcel Energy, he worked as an in-house attorney for Alliant Energy.

**The Hon. Dan Lipschultz**, *Special Address*, Vice-Chair of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, was in private practice before being appointed to the commission. Before that, he served as Assistant General Counsel for a telecommunications carrier and as lead counsel in the Minnesota Attorney General's Residential Small Business Utilities Division and in the Public Utilities Division representing the Commission.

**Stan Berman** is a partner at Sidley Austin LLP where he represents electric utilities and other electric industry participants in complex high-stakes litigation and appeals at FERC, state regulatory commissions, and in the courts. Previously, he was the Assistant General Counsel in charge of the Office of Hydroelectric and Electric Litigation at the FERC.

**Charlie Daum** is Managing Director for Business Development at Altenex LLC. Previously, he was a founding member of Geronimo Energy, a leading wind and solar developer. He has worked in many areas of the energy business, specializing in origination, PPA structuring, M&A and all aspects of project development.

**Troy A. Eid** co-chairs the American Indian Law Practice Group at Greenberg Traurig LLP focusing

on environmental enforcement, and energy and natural resource development. He formerly served as United States Attorney for the District of Colorado.

**Betsy Engelking** joined Geronimo Energy as Vice President in January 2012 and currently leads the Company's policy efforts. Previously, she was Director of Resource Planning for Xcel Energy, where she developed and implemented long-range power supply plans. She has also held positions with Great River Energy and the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

**Eric Hansen, PE, PG** is Director of Environmental Services at Westwood Professional Services. His primary focus is on renewable energy and power delivery projects, including regulatory analysis, environmental due diligence, field application of remediation technologies, geo-engineering design, environmental remediation, and power line routing

**Richard Heinemann**, Boardman & Clark LLP, provides legal services to municipalities and local governments throughout the upper Midwest. He advises clients on utility asset transfers, power supply and power purchase agreements, and renewable energy project development. He also serves as general counsel for three municipal electric joint action agencies and two intergovernmental commissions.

**Jason A. Johns** is a partner at Stoel Rives LLP. His experience includes the negotiation of major facility contracts, such as interconnection, transmission, and power purchase agreements, the prosecution of disputes at FERC, and counseling and defending clients on issues related to regulatory compliance.

**Erik E. Malinowski** is a shareholder at Fredrikson & Byron PA. His practice focuses on the development and financing of renewable energy projects, helping his clients obtain and negotiate power purchase agreements, hedging or swap arrangements, project investment and finance documents, and project sale and acquisition agreements.

**Philip J. (P.J.) Martin** is Director of Resource Planning and Bidding

for Northern States Power Company-Minnesota. Previously, he was a Portfolio Director and Energy Trader at ACES Power Marketing, engaged in trading and wholesale portfolio management activities on behalf of electric cooperatives, municipal utilities, IPPs, banks, and other customers.

**Darrick Moe** is President & CEO of the Minnesota Rural Electric Association. He began his career as an electrical engineer with Western Area Power Administration and has served on power system reliability committees for NERC, MRO, WECC, and the North American Transmission Forum.

**Andrew P. Moratzka** is Chair of the Energy Development Practice Group at Stoel Rives LLP. He represents iron mines, paper companies, refineries, steel manufacturers and other large industrial customers in electric and gas rate cases and various regulatory matters at the state and federal level.

**Amanda Rome** is Lead Assistant General Counsel at Xcel Energy and serves as regulatory attorney for its northern jurisdictions in five states. Previously she practiced commercial litigation at Faegre Baker Daniels LLP in Minneapolis and at Winston & Strawn LLP in Chicago.

**Beth H. Soholt** is Executive Director of the non-profit Wind on Wires (WoW) organization. Its members include non-profit environmental organizations, Tribal representatives, wind developers, wind turbine manufacturers, and businesses that provide goods and services to the wind industry.

**Kari Valley** is Senior Corporate Counsel at MISO. She serves as Director of State Regulatory Affairs for MISO's North Region. She previously served as Assistant General Counsel for Excel Energy and as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Minnesota.

**John Wachtler** is the Energy Program Director for the Minnesota Department of Commerce. Previously, he was the Vice President of Barr Engineering, which provides engineering and environmental consulting services to clients across the Midwest

**October 3 & 4, 2017**  
 Minneapolis, Minnesota

**U.S. Bank Plaza Building**  
 200 South Sixth Street  
 (612) 492-7000

**Who Should Attend:**

*Attorneys, industry executives, governmental officials, Tribal representatives, consumer advocates and anyone involved with renewable energy infrastructure investment, public policy, and resource development*

**Our Co-Chairs:**



**Alexandra Lipsky Mertens, Esq.**  
 Stoel Rives LLP



**Daniel A. Yarano, Esq.**  
 Fredrikson & Byron PA

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