

Foreword

In today's world, as in the millennia before, this axiom has lived: Change is the only constant. Those who ignore change around them do so at their own peril, but those who embrace it — who study it, evaluate it and prepare for it — set themselves apart.

We see change all around us in the energy sector. Customers want to play new and more hands-on roles in how they consume and pay for utility service. In the face of changing economic and environmental conditions, governments, utilities, and other stakeholders are evaluating how generation portfolios and market structures must be changed.

As an international community of energy regulators, we must determine the prudence and affordability of all the steps and strategies to respond to change, knowing that our duty is to ensure safe, reliable, and affordable service. This edition of *The Chronicle* highlights how the best and the brightest in our field are navigating the changing energy sector, with an eye toward improved service and a better quality of life for millions of people.

From Mexico, we learn how regulators — in their own words — embraced change as they drafted a comprehensive rule for distributed generation. From West Africa, we explore the progress in implementing a regional market, which offers the promise of increased access and economic development. We also have the pleasure to learn from our ICER 2018 Distinguished Scholar Award recipients about the potential for change in Haiti's power sector and the challenges facing regulators in working with both traditional customers and those who desire more modern conveniences.

I am once again grateful and privileged for the opportunity to highlight respected leaders in our field through our Women in Energy section. In these stories, we hear about the lessons learned from industry leaders who have encountered new opportunities and unfamiliar waters on their career path.

Within ICER, this is also a time of change. I would like to announce that this will be my last edition of *The Chronicle* as ICER Chairman. I want to express my sincerest gratitude for all who have contributed their time and expertise to our efforts these past two years, both within *The Chronicle* and across ICER's work.

As always, we welcome your feedback. Should you have an original article that you think would be of interest for a future edition of *The Chronicle*, please submit it to chronicle@icerregulators.net.

Thank you for your leadership in this time of change and your commitment to sharing best practices internationally.

John W. Betkoski III
ICER Chairman

