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EDITOR'S NOTE

As this issue goes to print in December, I pause to reflect on the many changes the *Water Law Review* has experienced in 2012, and look optimistically toward a bright 2013 for the publication, its staff, and its supporters.

Above all else, the success of this publication depends on the dedication of its people. In 2012, the *Water Law Review* accepted the resignation of Dave Phillips, retiring Executive Director of the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, from its professional Advisory Board. A grant from the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation was instrumental to the establishment of the *Water Law Review* in 1997 and Mr. Phillips was a founding member of the Advisory Board. The *Water Law Review* is appreciative of the continuing support it receives from the Foundation and wishes Mr. Phillips well in his next endeavors. We are pleased to announce that Jason Turner, Associate Counsel to the Colorado River Water Conservation District (and a former editor of the *Water Law Review*) joined the Advisory Board this fall. Mr. Turner's West Slope perspective and experience with the publication as a law student make him an extremely valuable addition to the Board and we look forward to a long and enjoyable relationship.

In 2012, Professor Tom I. Romero, II accepted the role of faculty advisor to the *Water Law Review* following the retirement of Professor Rock W. Pring. A true giant in the environmental and natural resources fields of law, Professor Pring enthusiastically served the *Water Law Review* and the entire University of Denver Sturm College of Law student community for many years and we bid him a very fond farewell. Professor Romero will ably fill his shoes and brings new life and guidance to the publication as it enters the digital age.

Like all things water law, the *Water Law Review* has recognized the need to adapt to a rapidly changing future. This fall, we initiated the "soft" launch of our new online presence (www.duwaterlawreview.com). There, you will find many of our traditional print pieces like Court Reports, Book Notes, and Conference Reports, along with abstracts of forthcoming articles and purely digital content like water news and student opinion pieces. We hope our new digital presence will help us stay at the cutting edge of water law and serve as a forum for the exchange of important issues and ideas. To that end, we heartily invite our readers to submit guest-written pieces and commentary on our own pieces.

Last, I would be remiss to not encourage you to read the five excellent articles contained in this issue. First, there is *Water, Oil, and Gas: A Legal and Technical Framework*, by Kent Holsinger, Esq. and Peter Lemke, P.E., which explores the treatment of produced water from oil and gas operations from both the legal and engineering perspectives. Second, there is Professor Charles W. Howe's article, *Reconciling Water Law and Economic Efficiency in Colorado Water Administration*, which explores the ways in which Colorado water administration can both serve and impede the efficient functioning of water markets. You will then find *The Public Trust Doctrine: What it is, Where it Came From, and Why Colorado Does Not (and Should Not) Have One* by Stephen H. Leonhardt, Esq. and Jessica J. Spuhler, Esq., which traces the

history of the public trust doctrine through the present day, with a thorough analysis of recent proposed public trust initiatives in Colorado.

There are also two exciting pieces from the Great Lakes Region, *Opening the Floodgates and Draining the Great Lakes One Bottle at a Time: How Privatizing Water Resources Threatens the Great Lakes* by Professor Rhonda L. Ross and *Interpreting Water Conservation Standards in Waukesha, Wisconsin: A Local Internalization of International Norms?* by Sarah E. Sharp. Both pieces explore the Great Lakes Compact from local perspectives and give insight into how the region is addressing many new issues related to water apportionment and conservation.

Our most recent publication and the many changes initiated during the last year reflect the on-going mission of the *Water Law Review* to provide a unique, high quality forum for sharing ideas, information, and legal as well as policy analyses concerning water law issues. Much of our success is dependent upon you, our readers, and we will continue to meet the standards of excellence and usefulness that are expected of us.

With that, I leave you with the wish that your own 2012 was a wonderful and fruitful year, and that your 2013 looks as bright as ours does here at the *Water Law Review*. Thank you for your support of our publication and happy reading!

Allison Pofit Altaras
Editor-in-Chief

