

Ohio Public Interest Environmental Law Conference

September 14, 2018

Drinko Hall

55 W 12th Ave, Columbus, OH 43210

11AM - 3PM

11 AM - 11:45 AM: Plenary Session: *The State of Ohio Environmental Law*

- Madeline Fleisher (Environmental Law & Policy Center) will discuss Ohio's role in environmental law and policy from the perspective of a regional organization.
- Trent Dougherty (The Ohio Environmental Council) will discuss how a state-based environmental organization approaches solving Ohio's environmental problems.
- James Yskamp (Fairshake Legal Services) will share how representing individuals in their environmental claims provides an alternative perspective on public interest environmental law.

12 PM - 1 PM: Keynote Address

- Professor Robyn Wilson (The Ohio State University) will speak on the importance of science in environmental decision-making, her experience on the US EPA Science Advisory Panel, and her subsequent lawsuit when Administrator Pruitt requested her resignation

1:15 PM - 2 PM: Breakout Panels

Panel 1: Clean Water: Between Two Waterways

- Professor Kenneth Kilbert (University of Toledo College of Law) will educate attendees on water issues surrounding Lake Erie, particularly algae blooms.
- Rob Billot (Partner at Taft Law) will discuss his work on protecting drinking water along the Ohio River from the chemical C8, also known as PFOA.

Panel 2: Renewable Energy: Charting Ohio's Path to a Clean Energy Future

- Jane Harf (Green Energy Ohio) will provide an overview of the state of renewable energy in Ohio.
- Dylan Borchers (Bricker & Eckler) will give a practitioner's perspective of representing renewable energy companies through the process of developing their projects.
- Randi Leppla (The Ohio Environmental Council) will discuss how the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio plays a role in creating the landscape for clean energy throughout the state.

Panel 3: Oil and Gas Law Drilling Into Oil and Gas Law

- Molly Corey (Capital University Law School) will explain the Ohio Attorney General's role in enforcing oil and gas laws.
- Mike Hopkins (Ohio EPA Division of Air Pollution Control) will explore the purpose and function of air permits in regulating the oil and gas industry.
- Richard Sahli (Richard Sahli Law Office LLC) will give the public interest lawyer's perspective on representing community groups and fracking operation opposing projects that may impact the local environment.

2:15 PM - 3 PM: Closing Conversation: How Ohio Can Save The World

- Chris Jones (former Director of Ohio EPA) and Rich Shank (former Director of Ohio EPA)
- Two former Ohio EPA directors will discuss how the Ohio EPA can serve as both an enforcement and monitoring agency for environmental issues across the state, while also advocating for strong regulations and programs that creatively conserve Ohio's environment.