

Monday, March 25, 2019

Live Oak Room • Norris Conference Center • 816 Town and Country Blvd #210
 Social Hour 5:30–6:30 p.m.
 Dinner 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Cost: \$40 Preregistered members; \$45 non-members/walk-ups**To guarantee a seat, pre-register on the HGS website & pre-pay by credit card.****Pre-registration without payment will not be accepted.****Walk-ups may pay at the door if extra seats are available.**

If you are an Active or Associate Member who is unemployed and would like to attend this meeting, please call the HGS office for a discounted registration cost. We are also seeking members to volunteer at the registration desk for this and other events.

HGS North American Dinner Meeting

*Beth Everage**Consumer Energy Alliance*

The Politics of U.S. Energy Production

The development and production of oil and gas in the U.S. is regulated under a complex set of federal, state, and local laws that address every aspect of exploration and operation. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency administers most of the federal laws focusing on standards for drinking water and quality. Resource development on federally-owned lands and waters is managed primarily by the U.S. Department of the Interior via the Bureau of Land Management and the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management. State regulations have been at the forefront of oil and gas exploration since the 1930s. These regulatory programs, which are as varied as the geography, geology, ecosystems, and social fabric of the U.S., are intended to be flexible, yet effective, in providing environmental protection and regulation. Local control over oil and gas is limited to zoning issues such as project locations, noise and traffic.

Although regulation of oil and gas operations has existed for more than 100 years, the debate surrounding access America's fossil fuel resources has become increasingly polarized over the past decade. Federal and state decision makers are facing greater pressure from vocal anti-energy organizations to create regulations that will curtail future oil and gas exploration.

This presentation will address the landscape for energy policy in the U.S., including state and federal elections, regulatory reform and roadblocks to domestic energy production. ■

Biographical Sketch

BETH EVERAGE is a Senior Policy Director at Consumer Energy Alliance where she consults with clients from the energy and transportation sectors on regulatory affairs, stakeholder relations, and communications. Beth has eight years of experience as Manager, Energy & Environmental Policy at the Greater Houston Partnership where she led advocacy and education efforts aimed at communicating complex energy and environmental issues to a broad range of stakeholders in order to build industry partnerships and coalitions with regional entities. Beth's prior professional experience includes conducting environmental impact studies and air quality analyses for highway projects and management of a successful grant program aimed at regional mobile source emission reductions. Beth has a BS in Bioenvironmental Sciences and an MAg in Natural Resources Development from Texas A&M University

