

The Changing Landscape of Environmental, Land Use and Natural Resource Law Since January 2025: Uphold Law and Policy, Uplift People and Planet



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2026

Approved for 6.75 CLE credits
(5.75 Law and Legal Procedure + 1.0 Ethics).
\$235 - Environmental & Land Use Law Section Members
\$275 - Standard/Non-Section Members
\$275 - Join Section
\$235 - New Members*

Washington State Bar Association
1325 Fourth Ave., Suite 600 | Seattle, WA 98101

IN-PERSON &
WEBCAST

DESCRIPTION

Presented in partnership with the WSBA Environmental & Land Use Law Section

How are we navigating the fields of environmental and land use law in the face of federal rollbacks, tech-driven impacts, and future ecosystems? Join us in-person or online to hear from attorneys, academics and other professionals as they seek to answer these, and other, pressing questions for today’s Environmental and Land Use legal professional.

CO-CHAIRS
Aurora Martin, Esq. - Front and Centered, Seattle
Eric Laschever, Esq. - Laschever Law, Seattle

SCHEDULE

8:15 a.m. > Check-in • Walk-in Registration • Refreshments

8:35 a.m. > Webcast Log-In Opens

8:50 a.m. > Welcome and Introductions by Program Co-Chairs

- Aurora Martin - Front and Centered, Seattle
- Eric Laschever - Laschever Law, Seattle

9:00 a.m. > Setting the Stage: Experiences and Observations from the Last Two Years
45 minutes, 0.75 credits L&LP
This session provides an overview of the rapidly changing landscape for clean energy in the last two years, including: (1) the forced halt to offshore wind development, (2) the challenges of adapting renewable energy projects to the new clean energy tax credit requirements introduced by the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, and (3) the rapid spike in demand for energy driven by the data center boom, and how that is changing the clean energy landscape.

- Max Friedman - Ashurst Perkins Coie Group, Chicago, IL

Moderators:

- Aurora Martin - Front and Centered, Seattle
- Eric Laschever - Laschever Law, Seattle

9:45 a.m. > Washington State’s Defense of the Environment and the Rule of Law in Trump II
60 minutes, 1.0 credits L&LP
The Washington State Attorney General’s Office has been at the forefront of litigation to defend federal environmental protections and the rule of law during the current Administration. Whether enforcing Congressionally authorized spending on environmental initiatives, fighting directives to halt clean energy deployment, or defending the Endangered Species Act and the Clean Water Act from regulatory assault, Washington and other state Attorneys General have been heavily involved in a tumultuous time for administrative and environmental law.

- William Sherman - Attorney General’s Office, Seattle

Moderators:

- Aurora Martin - Front and Centered, Seattle
- Eric Laschever - Laschever Law, Seattle

10:45 a.m. > BREAK

CONTINUED >

WSBA CLE #27470 SEA/WEB

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SCHEDULE

11:05 a.m. > The Overburdened Communities Program: Myths and Realities

60 minutes, 1.0 credits L&LP

The Washington legislature enacted a program to reduce air quality disparities between overburdened communities and neighboring areas, but Ecology’s initial proposal to implement the program will not address the real causes of impaired air quality in overburdened communities.

- **Matthew Cohen** – *Stoel Rives LLP, Seattle*
- **Paulina López** – *Duwamish River Clean Up Coalition, Seattle*

Moderators:

- **Aurora Martin** – *Front and Centered, Seattle*
- **Eric Laschever** – *Laschever Law, Seattle*

12:05 p.m. > LUNCH hosted

1:15 p.m. > Data Centers Policy and Perspectives

75 minutes, 1.25 credits L&LP

Data centers have emerged as one of the most important policy issues facing society at all levels of government. The Trump administration strongly supports artificial intelligence (AI) data centers and infrastructure that powers them, including high-voltage transmission lines and other equipment. The administration has set a priority to facilitate the rapid and efficient buildout of this infrastructure by easing Federal regulations. States and local governments as well as sectors of civil society have prioritized the issue, in some cases opposing data centers.

- **Jamie Hearn** – *Front and Centered, Seattle*

Moderator: Tsz Ling White – *Seattle University School of Law, Seattle*

2:30 p.m. > BREAK

2:50 p.m. > Carbon Removal on Land and Sea

60 minutes, 1.0 credits L&LP

Most critical assessments of efforts to transition to a carbon neutral society conclude that it will be necessary to remove carbon from the atmosphere to meet various targets. A recent Congressional Research Service report on voluntary carbon offsets reveals a market that has expanded dramatically, while the Trump Administration has begun dismantling federal oversight of the sector. This panel examines the legal and policy dimensions of carbon removal.

- **Meghan Gavin** – *Rodinia PLLC, Lakebay*
- **Francesca Hillery** – *Indigenous Greenhouse Gas Removal Commission, Olympia*

Moderators:

- **Aurora Martin** – *Front and Centered, Seattle*
- **Eric Laschever** – *Laschever Law, Seattle*

3:50 p.m. > Clean and Alternative Energy Innovations and Impacts

45 minutes, 0.75 credits L&LP

The last years have witnessed major changes in the legal and policy landscape for renewable and other non-fossil fuel energy sources; this panel offers varied perspectives on these changes.

- **Max Friedman** – *Ashurst Perkins Coie Group, Chicago, IL*
- **Elaine Harvey** – *Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, Portland, OR*
- **Aqsa Mengal** – *Front and Centered, Seattle*

Moderator: Aurora Martin – *Front and Centered, Seattle*

4:35 p.m. > BREAK

4:45 p.m. > Holding Lawyers Accountable: Protecting the Rule of Law Using the Rules of Professional Conduct and Other Tools

60 minutes, 1.0 credits Ethics

The Rules of Professional Conduct and other ethical guardrails can guide our profession in ethically strengthening the Rule of Law and pursuing accountability in the legal profession. This discussion will ground a timely conversation on this critically important topic.

- **Hon. Deborah Stephens** – *Chief Justice, WA State Supreme Court, Olympia*
- **Eric Laschever** – *Laschever Law, Seattle*

Moderator: Aurora Martin – *Front and Centered, Seattle*

5:45 p.m. > Adjourn • Complete Online Evaluations

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REGISTRATION

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 - ☐ \$235 - Environmental & Land Use Law Section Members (discount applied at checkout)
 - ☐ \$275 - Standard/Non-Section Members
 - ☐ \$275 - Join Section [add the related item Environmental & Land Use Law Section Membership (\$40) to your cart during check-out and register at the discounted Section price (\$235)]
 - ☐ \$235 - New Members*
- ☐ **#27470 WEB, attend via webcast, 11/13/26**
 - ☐ \$235 - Environmental & Land Use Law Section Members (discount applied at checkout)
 - ☐ \$275 - Standard/Non-Section Members
 - ☐ \$275 - Join Section [add the related item Environmental & Land Use Law Section Membership (\$40) to your cart during check-out and register at the discounted Section price (\$235)]
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