

## 2016: Year in Review

This past year has been quite the roller coaster. There were some highs – the Paris agreement coming into force, the Montreal Protocol HFC amendment – and there were some disheartening lows, including a new U.S. Administration and Congress that appear to be actively hostile to climate progress.

Through it all, <u>Green Light</u> continued its work to help non-profit organizations, philanthropies, businesses, and others advance action on and strengthen understanding of climate change, clean energy, and broader sustainability and civil society issues. With research, analysis, writing, and strategic advisory services, <u>Green Light</u> worked both independently and with other consultants on a range of projects in 2016, including:

- Serving as rapporteur and producing public reports for seven Aspen Institute dialogues: the North American Carbon Price Roundtable; the Energy Policy Forum; the Clean Energy Innovation Forum; the Roundtable on Shale Production & Governance; the Forum on Global Energy, Economy and Security; the Forum on the Future of Nuclear Energy; and a Latinos and Society Program forum on activating Latino Millennial civic power.
- Refining policy ideas and drafting <u>papers</u>, regulatory <u>comments</u>, and <u>blog posts</u> for Climate Law & Policy Project on accelerating reductions of greenhouse gas emissions by combining carbon pricing, subsidies for reductions, and reverse auctions.
- Continuing to advise the Edwards Mother Earth Foundation on its state-level energy efficiency granting program (with David Gardiner & Associates).
- Editing an <u>issue brief</u> on energy storage and <u>another</u> on <u>utility business models</u> for the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices.
- Helping the Institute for Governance & Sustainable Development investigate the status of litigation involving refrigerants with low global warming potential.

- Preparing a brief for Smart Electric Power Alliance (SEPA) members on virtual power plants and helping SEPA capture the highlights of its "51<sup>st</sup> State" summit on the evolution of the electricity marketplace.
- Continuing to provide appliance efficiency research and analytical expertise to help Climate Advisers convince major retailers to improve the energy efficiency of the fleet of appliances they sell.
- Continuing to help the Pennsylvania Environmental Council develop its climate and energy strategy, leading in part to an upcoming <u>conference</u> on achieving deep decarbonization.
- Serving as rapporteur and producing a concise <u>report</u> capturing the key insights from the American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE) 2016 National Renewable Energy Policy Forum.
- Finalizing a white paper on highperformance buildings for a leading private-sector provider of building products and systems (with David Gardiner & Associates).

The year(s) ahead will present challenges for climate, clean energy, and sustainability progress. There will be a need to play defense at the federal level, to seek federal progress where possible, to consider where litigation could be useful, and to encourage action in states, cities, other countries, and the private sector. If Green Light can be of service in your efforts in any or all of these areas, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Best wishes for the new year,

Dave Grossman

Principal, Green Light Group