

New York State Bar Association

Environmental and Energy Law Section Fall Meeting 2026

Changing seasons, changed approaches to environmental and energy law issues

Tuesday, September 29, 2026

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

4.0 MCLE Credits

4.0 Credits Areas of Professional Practice

This program is transitional and is suitable for all attorneys including those newly admitted.

Agenda

8:30 a.m. – 8:35 a.m.

Welcome and Introduction

Steven C. Russo, Esq.

Environmental and Energy Law Section Chair
Greenberg Traurig, LLP
New York, New York

8:35 a.m. – 9:25 a.m.

Real World Impacts of Recent SEQRA Amendments

It is not every day that SEQRA, first enacted in 1975, gets amended. This panel will discuss the impetus to making changes adopted as part of the 2025-26 process and what it will mean for environmental reviews going forward.

Moderator:

Steven C. Russo, Esq.

Environmental and Energy Law Section Chair
Greenberg Traurig, LLP
New York, New York

Speaker(s):

Anthony Luisi, Esq.

Deputy Commissioner and General Counsel
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Albany, New York

Jessica Goldstein, Esq.

Assistant Counsel to the Governor
State of New York
New York, New York

Peter Feroe

Senior Vice President Planning Land Development
AKRF
New York, New York

1.0 MCLE Credit Areas of Professional Practice

9:25 a.m. – 9:35 a.m.

Break

9:35 a.m. – 10:25 a.m.

**When Environmental Claims Become
Constitutional: New York's Green Amendment
and the Next Wave of Litigation**

As plaintiffs test the boundaries of New York's Green Amendment, traditional tort theories are no longer the only pathway for challenging alleged environmental harms. This panel will examine how community groups and other plaintiffs are invoking the constitutional right to "clean air and water, and a healthful environment" in disputes involving odors, emissions, and other concerns.

Moderator:

Daniel M. Krainin, Esq.

Principal
Beveridge & Diamond, PC
New York, New York

Speaker(s):

Katrina Krebs, Esq.

Principal
Beveridge & Diamond
New York, New York

Kacy Manahan, Esq.

Senior Attorney

Delaware Riverkeeper Network & Green
Amendments for the Generations
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Lucas McNamara, Esq.

Assistant Attorney General
Environmental Protection Bureau, NYS Office of the
Attorney General
Albany, New York

1.0 MCLE Credit Areas of Professional Practice

10:25 a.m. – 10:35 a.m.

Break

10:35 a.m. – 11:25 a.m.

**Meeting the Evolving Due Diligence Challenge of
PFAS and the Forever Chemicals**

PFAS forever chemicals are widely used due to their longevity for industrial and other purposes. These chemicals have environmental implications for many transactions. The panel discussion will look at technical considerations in the review of PFAS chemicals, due diligence considerations for these environmental conditions, and the role of environmental insurance in addressing risks.

Moderator:

John L. Parker, Esq.

Lead, Environmental, Energy, Resources Practice
Group
Sahn Ward Braff Coschignano, PLLC
Uniondale, New York

Speaker(s):

Dylan Eberle, PhD, PG, CPG

Senior Geologist
Geosyntec Consultants
Boston, Massachusetts

Julia Quigley, Esq.

Of Counsel
Greenberg Traurig, LLP
New York, New York

Cristin Wickless

Sr. Vice President - Northeast Environmental Leader
Marsh
Hartford, Connecticut

1.0 MCLE Credit Areas of Professional Practice

11:35 a.m. – 12:25 p.m.

CLCPA – Where do we go from here?

This panel will cover the new CLCPA amendments, administrative/regulatory next steps, and what work is going on now to meet the deadlines.

Moderator:

Karen Mintzer, Esq.

Partner
Mintzer Mauch PLLC
New York, New York

Speaker(s):

Jonathan Binder, Esq.

Executive Director
Model Climate Laws Initiative
Sabin Center for Climate Change Law
Albany, New York

Christopher Rizzo, Esq.

Partner, Director, Environmental Practice Group
Carter Ledyard
New York, New York

Vladmir Gutman-Britten

Director, Policy and Analysis
NYSERDA
New York, New York

1.0 MCLE Credit Areas of Professional Practice

12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Lunch & Networking

Adjournment