



# LORI BENNEAR

*Associate Professor of Environmental Economics and Policy*

*Nicholas School of the Environment (primary), Sanford School of Public Policy, Economics*

*Associate Director for Energy Education, Duke University Energy Initiative*

[ Faculty Fellow through June 2020 ]

## EDUCATION



Harvard University, Ph.D., 2004

Yale University, M.A., 1996

Occidental College, A.B., 1995

## TOPICS



Environmental Policy

Strategic Behavioral Response

Offshore Oil and Gas Regulation

## LINKS



[Watch: Learning from Failure](#)

[Watch: Regulating Oil and Gas Drilling in the Evolving Arctic](#)

## BIOGRAPHY



Disaster has struck. Trees are down, power is out, and people need help. Whether it is hurricanes, earthquakes, or tornados, we have all witnessed the affects as our communities and government respond to natural disasters. How do the narratives that emerge about crises shape the response (or inaction) that ensues? Lori Benneer's work addresses the relationships between crises and the policies that regulate governmental response.

The immediate challenges of disaster management sometimes reveal new evidence or frame new perspectives on the best policy practices to prevent future events of a similar magnitude. Benneer's research focuses on evaluating the effectiveness of flexible environmental policies tracking governmental responses to disasters and comparing when responses work well or create unintended consequences. She evaluates environmental policy innovation based on four dimensions: the effectiveness of policies and program, behavioral responses to non-traditional regulatory regimes, distributional impacts of new regulatory regimes, and the creation of dynamic and adaptive policies. She has applied this research across a range of domains including energy, toxics, and drinking water. Through her research, Benneer aims to achieve greater clarity about when, and especially how, "crisis" generates regulatory change bringing evidenced-based policy into governance.

Lori Benneer is the Juli Plant Grainger Associate Professor of Energy Economics and Policy at the Nicholas School of the Environment at Duke University and the Associate Director for Educational Programs at the Duke University Energy Initiative. In addition, Benneer serves a dual appointment with the Sanford School of Public Policy and the Department of Economics. She received her Ph.D. in Public Policy from Harvard University (2004). She also earned an MA in Economics from Yale University (1996) and an AB in Economics and Environmental Studies from Occidental College (1995). Her co-edited book *Policy Shock: Recalibrating Risk and Regulation after Oil Spills, Nuclear Accidents and Financial Crises* was published by Cambridge University Press in September 2017. She is currently working on developing best practices for adaptive regulation of emerging technologies in the energy domain.

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