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aura Smith Morton is a Senior Advisor for Renewable Energy in the Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE). In this role, Laura advises the Assistant Secretary, EERE, and the Department's Renewable Energy Technology Programs (Wind and Water, Solar, Geothermal, and Biomass) on policy initiatives and strategies to address and overcome market and regulatory barriers to deployment of gigawatt-scale renewable energy projects. Laura has lead EERE responsibility for the coordination of interagency and intergovernmental efforts to expand and accelerate environmentally-responsible deployment of renewable energy resources across the United States and in U.S. waters. Also included in Laura's portfolio are cross-cutting initiatives to accelerate market adoption of alternative energy and energy efficiency solutions to power homes, businesses, and vehicles.

Prior to joining DOE, Laura was Senior Counsel with Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. Her practice focused on permitting, environmental, and other regulatory issues arising from siting conventional and alternative energy projects on federal and Indian lands and on the Outer Continental Shelf. Laura has a J.D. from George Washington University, an M.Sc. from the London School of Economics and Political Science, and a B.A. from the University of North Carolina/Chapel Hill.