

Conference on
"The Economics of Energy Markets"

IDEI Toulouse, June 15 and 16, 2011

The Institut D'Économie Industrielle (IDEI) and the Toulouse School of Economics (TSE) are organizing the seventh conference on the Economics of Energy Markets in Toulouse on June 15 and 16, 2011. The conference will take place at the Hôtel Mercure Atria (5 minutes walk from IDEI/TSE).

The scientific committee stresses the following topics (the list is not exhaustive):

- **Smart grids:** significant investment is planned in most countries (already undertaken in some, e.g., Italy). What is the economic impact of these various smart elements? How should they be structured and/or regulated? Regulatory and technical challenges are very different for transmission and distribution: in transmission the major issues are planning criteria, methodology and cost allocation; in distribution the challenge is to encourage innovation in the distribution companies (to incorporate distributed generation and demand response) and how to remunerate these companies accordingly
- **Renewables:** most countries have generous R&D subsidy and feed-in tariffs programs in place, and in some instances quantitative targets for share of production. What is the best mix of policies? What is the impact of these renewable production sources on the system (e.g., dispatching, transmission and distribution grid)? What is the adequate mix of the remaining technologies (conventional, storage, demand response, others) and an adequate scheme of remuneration of these remaining technologies, so that investment does take place?
- **Retail competition:** we now have a few years of experience with retail competition? What have we learnt? Is Bertrand competition the only outcome? How to design "default tariffs", for those countries who have decided to maintain them: pass-through of spot prices, periodic long-term auctions under the auspices of the regulator?
- **Carbon markets** have been operating in Europe and some parts of the United States. Will they drive long-term investment, or simply short-term behaviour change? If carbon markets are not sufficient to change investment decisions, what might be?
- **Incentive regulation:** we have observed a progressive shift towards more benchmarking and cost sharing in transport? What other evolutions are forthcoming?

The scientific committee includes Severin Borenstein (University of California, Berkeley), Richard Green (University of Birmingham), William Hogan (Harvard University), Paul Joskow (Alfred P. Sloane Foundation and MIT), Yves Smeers (CORE/UCL), Jean Tirole (TSE and IDEI), Frank Wolak (Stanford University), and Catherine Wolfram (University of California, Berkeley)

Submission of papers: If you would like to submit a paper, please complete the enclosed form and return it to Ms. Christelle FAUCHIE by email at elecconf@cict.fr, or by fax at +33 (0)5 61 12 86 37. All proposals to present papers must include an abstract, although a preference will be given to

submissions of a complete paper. The proposal must reach IDEI by February 28, 2011 (you can use the Pre-registration Form). The program and list of presenters will be confirmed and notification will be made to presenters by March 31, 2011. Completed drafts of accepted papers are due by May 31, 2011.

Ticket fares are reimbursed to speakers on a negotiated basis and their hotel room paid directly by the conference organizing committee (this does not apply to co-authors). Please indicate on your reply form whether you will be able to cover your own travel costs, or whether you will require funding.

The registration fees: 200 € (includes lunches, conference dinner and coffee breaks). Waived for speakers and discussants, special rates for certain other attendees.

Pre-registration for non-presenters:

Individuals wishing to participate in the Conference but not intending to submit a paper are asked to express their interest in attending by completing and returning the attached **“Pre-registration Form.”** Further information on the conference and accommodation will be sent to those who have pre-registered.

On-line registration for conference attendance will be available from April 1st, 2011 to June 1st, 2011. Pre-registrants will be asked to confirm their registration at that time.

We hope you will be able to join us for an intellectually stimulating conference, with potentially significant academic, strategic, and policy outcomes.

Yours sincerely,

The organizers: Claude Crampes, Thomas-Olivier Léautier and Jean Tirole

Please note the deadlines:

for abstracts:	February 28, 2011
for completed drafts:	May 31, 2011
for registration:	June 1, 2011