



INSTITUT  
D'ECONOMIE  
INDUSTRIELLE



Conference on

## **"The Economics of Electricity Markets"**

IDEI Toulouse, June 2 and 3, 2005

The Institut D'Economie Industrielle (IDEI, Toulouse) and the Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR, London) are organizing the third conference on the economics of the electricity industry in Toulouse on June 2 and 3, 2005. The conference will take place this year in Centre des Congrès Pierre Baudis (5 minutes walk from the university/IDEI).

This conference is part of the program "Competition Policy in International Markets", organized by the CEPR.

The 2005 conference will in particular cover the following topics (the list is not exhaustive):

- *Investment*: The question of investment in generation is intensively debated in many countries. Transmission investment is also a key ingredient for both an efficient organization of production and the overall reduction in market power. The conference will investigate new regulatory schemes and the governance of transmission companies, and the complementarity/substitutability between merchant and regulated investment.
- *Coordination*: The multiplicity of regional/national transmission organizations in Europe and the US poses serious concerns as to the coordination of congestion management, the achievement of a single competitive market, and the provision of proper incentives for transmission investment.
- *Retail competition*: The focus of electricity competition initiatives in many countries has been to give end-use consumers the ability to choose among competing suppliers of power. The performance of retail competition programs have not been analyzed comprehensively. We invite in particular empirical research submissions that examine the performance of retail competition in different settings, barriers to competition and the attributes of retail competition programs that affect performance.
- *Pollution permits*: Public policy in the matter of environmental externalities is progressively shifting towards market mechanisms. Papers analyzing the impact of permits mechanisms on electricity markets are welcome.

Papers will be selected by a scientific committee that includes Severin Borenstein (University of California, Berkeley), Natalia Fabra (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid), Richard Green (University of Hull), W. Hogan (Harvard University), P. Joskow (MIT), David Newbery (University of Cambridge), Y. Smeers (CORE/UCL), Jean Tirole (IDEI) and Frank Wolak (Stanford University).

Travel accommodation and registration expenses will be covered for speakers and discussants on an APEX fare base. Please indicate on your reply form whether you will be able to cover your own travel costs, or whether you will require funding.

**Submission of Papers:**

If you would like to submit a paper, complete the enclosed form and return it to Ms. Christelle FAUCHIE by email at [elecconf@cict.fr](mailto:elecconf@cict.fr), or by fax at +33 (0)5 61 12 86 37.

**All proposals to present papers must include an abstract of the paper, and these must reach the IDEI by January 15, 2005 (use the Pre-registration Form).** Completed drafts of all papers are due by February 28, 2005. The program and list of presenters will be confirmed and notification will be made to presenters by March 31, 2005.

**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.”***

On-line registration for conference attendance will be available from April 15, 2005 to May 15, 2005.

Pre-registrants will be asked to confirm their registration at that time. The registration fee for nonspeaker participants will be 200 €.

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 and Jean Tirole

**Please note the deadlines:**

for abstract: **January 15, 2005**– for draft paper: **February 28, 2005**