Conference Overview

The Council for Clean & Reliable Electricity and the Centre for Urban Energy at Ryerson University invite you to attend a conference on The Future for LDCs: Are New Business and Regulatory Models Required for LDCs to Survive? being held on Wednesday October 15, 2014. This conference provides LDCs with the opportunity to consider issues vital to their survival with industry and academic experts.

LDCs have seen the cost of delivering electricity increase due to a number of factors beyond their control, including the effects of Provincial green energy and conservation policies. While conservation and technological innovation reduce the load, the socialization of green energy costs increase system supply costs. These increased costs in turn create incentives for consumers to either leave the grid, or use it as a standby facility. The cumulative effect of these forces may require LDCs to adopt a new business model and may require, in addition, a new regulatory construct.

Who should attend

- Officers, Directors and Senior Managers of LDCs
- Members of Municipal Council and Senior Municipal Staff
- LDC stakeholders

Conference Registration

This conference is being held in the Markham Ballroom at the Hilton Suites & Conference Centre in Markham, Ontario on Wednesday October 15, 2014. The conference fee includes enrollment, conference reference materials, as well as continental breakfast, lunch and coffee break. Hotel accommodations may be booked separately.

Conference Fee: $300.00

Register Online for the Conference: www.thinkingpower.ca

Conference Location

Hilton Suites & Conference Centre
Markham Ballroom
8500 Warden Avenue
Markham, Ontario L4G 1A5

Phone: (905) 470-8500

Hotel Special Rate: Executive Suite - $149.00/night Including parking
The Future for LDCs:
Are New Business and Regulatory Models Required for LDCs to Survive?

October 15, 2014

Conference Program

8:15 am  Conference Registration & Continental Breakfast
Networking
Markham Ballroom Lobby

9:00 am  Welcome
Glen Wright, Chair,
Council for Clean & Reliable Electricity

Policy Context and Issues
Speaker:
Robert B. Warren, Partner, Weir Foulds LLP

9:30 am  Panel 1: What Changes Will Determine the Future for Electricity LDCs and How Soon Will the Changes be Upon Us?

Speakers:
Dr. Bala Venkatesh, Academic Director,
Ryerson Centre for Urban Energy
Dr. Dan McGillivray, Executive Director,
Ryerson Centre for Urban Energy

This panel will address the factors which are going to require LDCs to adapt to radically changed circumstances. A particular focus will be on the impact of technological changes which will allow residential and business consumers to leave the grid. The panel will explore the impact of renewables, energy storage and microgrids on the economics of LDCs as we know them. The pace of change and how it is making grid parity possible for more consumers and communities, and the risks of the stranding of assets if LDCs can’t find ways to adjust the rapidly circumstances will be examined.

10:30 am  Break

10:45 am  Panel 2: How Can LDCs Adapt to a Brave New World

Speakers:
Paul Sommerville, Executive Vice-President, Chief Regulatory Officer and General Counsel, Toronto Hydro-Electric System Limited
Norm Fraser, Chief Operating Officer, Distribution and Customer Service, Hydro Ottawa Limited
Dennis Nolan, Executive Vice-President Corporate Services and Secretary, PowerStream Inc.

This panel will examine the ways in which LDCs might adapt to the change, and will consider, for example, the option of charging stand-by rates, diversifying the LDCs business activities, and the need to merge with, or acquire, other LDCs. What a new business model might look like, and what it would take to adopt it will be discussed.

12:00 pm  Lunch

12:45 pm  Panel 3: Are New Business, Regulatory and Legislative Models Needed for the Electricity Sector?

Speakers:
Dr. Bryne Purchase, Adjunct Professor, School of Policy Studies, Queen’s University
Sean Conway, Visiting Fellow, Ryerson Centre for Urban Energy
Karen J. Taylor, Director, Advisory Services, Transactions and Restructuring, Global Infrastructure, KPMG LLP

This panel will examine whether the new regulatory and legislative models are required. It will examine, for example, whether the obligation to serve is obsolete and, if so, what should replace it, how governments will assure the reliable delivery of reasonably-priced energy in an opt-in electricity market, and the economic and social implications of a changed electricity system. The role of government in managing the change and the implications of those changes will be examined.

2:00 pm  Question & Answer Period

2:30 pm  Closing Remarks

Conference Organizers

Council for Clean and Reliable Electricity
www.thinkingpower.ca

The Council is a federally incorporated non-profit organization that was formed to provide a platform for open public dialogue and a solutions-oriented approach to the challenges of the energy sector. Representatives from universities, public and private sector business leaders, and strategic planning professionals have collaborated to broaden the public debate on energy issues. The Council has organized conferences on distributed generation, biomass, coal and nuclear, as well as on public sector governance in the electricity sector. The organization also regularly publishes the CCRE Commentary that presents reasoned opinions and points of view about significant and timely issues relevant to the electricity sector.

Centre for Urban Energy, Ryerson University
http://www.ryerson.ca/cue/

The Centre for Urban Energy (CUE) at Ryerson University is an academic-industry partnership that is exploring and developing solutions to urban energy challenges such as the advancement of smart grid technologies, energy policy and regulatory issues, storage, electric vehicles, net-zero homes and renewables.

CUE brings together industries, government and top researchers from around the world to undertake collaborative, multi-disciplinary research on the issues of urban energy. Combining the perspectives of engineering, science, environment, business, social science, public policy, law and infrastructure management, CUE’s researchers tackle the issues facing large cities today.

The Faculty of Engineering and Architectural Science is thrilled to house this groundbreaking research centre, and to support CUE’s objective of developing innovative, next-generation solutions to keep cities powered now and for many years to come.

in partnership with

WeirFoulds LLP

Ivey Energy Policy and Management Centre

University of Waterloo

WISE

Workers’ Union

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