

# **Programme Announcement and Call for Papers**

## **8<sup>th</sup> BIEE Academic Conference**

in association with

## **UK Energy Research Centre**

# **Energy in a Low Carbon Economy: New roles for governments and markets**

St John's College, Oxford, England  
22-23 September 2010

**Invitation to the 8th BIEE Academic Conference  
in association with  
UK Energy Research Centre**

**Energy in a Low Carbon Economy:  
New roles for governments and markets**

Dear colleague,

On behalf of the British Institute of Energy Economics and UK Energy Research Centre, it is our pleasure to announce the 8<sup>th</sup> BIEE Academic Conference “*Energy in a low carbon economy : new roles for governments and markets*” which will be held at St. John’s College in Oxford on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2010.

**The conference theme**

For the past two decades, European energy policy has been based on the belief that markets are best able to provide secure supplies of energy at the lowest cost. As a consequence, Governments have, to varying degrees, delegated the responsibility for the provision of energy to industry. Now that participants are facing large investment programmes, on account of ageing asset replacement and targets for renewable energy and greenhouse gas reductions, many are questioning whether these companies will be willing or able to make the necessary investments. After all, economic theory may suggest that “markets” are superior, but it is financial considerations, not economics, that determine whether assets get built.

This conference will examine whether the need to consider the economic and financial issues raised by different policy measures could, or should, have implications for the design of policy instruments required to meet the rapidly changing energy economy. To this end, the conference will bring together senior level speakers from energy industries, academia, financial institutions and policy makers from the UK, Europe and the US. The conference will endeavour to shed some light on the decision making processes adopted at senior levels in Government and Industry.

Student participation is sought in the main conference and via the “Research Roadshow”; a highly interactive event in which students can set up a stall around a poster and present the key results of their recent academic work in a series of short sessions, including instant questions and feedback from the conference audience.

Oxford does not really need any introduction in the academic world, but more information on the city and how to get there can be found on [www.citysightseeingoxford.com](http://www.citysightseeingoxford.com). Accommodation for 1 night is reserved at St. John's College, St Giles Oxford, OX13JP. [www.multimap.com/map/browse.cgi?pc=ox13jp](http://www.multimap.com/map/browse.cgi?pc=ox13jp).

If you have any questions regarding abstract submission or the conference, BIEE Administration at [admin@biee.org](mailto:admin@biee.org) will be happy to respond to your enquiries.

We look forward to seeing you at the 2010 BIEE/UKERC Oxford Academic Conference.

Tony White  
Conference Chair

**Conference Committee:**

**Tony White**, Ytilitu , Conference chair

**Peter Connor**, University of Exeter

**Hannah Chalmers**, University of Edinburgh

**Gareth Davies**, Poyry

**John Dimitropoulos**, Kema

**Steven Fries**, Shell

**Nick Hartley**, Oxera

**John Holding**, ex -Chevron

**Matthew Leach**, University of Surrey

**Jim Watson**, University of Sussex

## **Energy in a Low Carbon Economy: New roles for governments and markets**

### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

We are pleased to announce the call for papers for the 8th BIEE academic conference entitled “*Energy in a low carbon economy: new roles for governments and markets*” We welcome submissions from academics, postgraduate students and all professionals who have an interest in energy policy and energy economics.

We are planning to hold three plenary sessions, eight parallel sessions and a student poster session, the ‘Research Roadshow’. The plenary sessions will address the key conference theme, which is asking whether the current market arrangements, in particular, the preference for market mechanisms, will deliver the reductions in greenhouse gas emissions sought by policy makers. This will draw on the expertise of thought leaders from the academic, political and commercial worlds.

### **The parallel sessions**

We have chosen themes for the parallel sessions that will subject some of these ideas behind current policy to critical scrutiny. The sessions will therefore address the following:

#### **Markets, Investment & Regulation (double session)**

This is a crucial issue. Unless significant investment in our built environment and energy production and transportation industries is made, the greenhouse gas and renewable targets will not be achieved. What actually happens in boardrooms when choices are being made whose financial returns depend on volatile prices, such as those of oil or carbon allowance prices? What is the basis for particular rules and regulations that control our markets, such as the ability to “bank” carbon allowances, or even the timing of, surrender and receipt of these certificates? How does, for example, the ability to use Phase 2 allowances to meet Phase 3 obligations, influence investment decisions today? This session will, in effect, test the assumption that markets lead to the adoption of the lowest cost option.

#### **Enabling Behavioural Change (double session)**

We have broken this into two areas and envisage holding a session on each. The first looks at the general challenge of changing people’s ‘energy’ behaviour, and the second looks at

the more specific role that technology can play in achieving this - via intelligent networks for example.

**1. Influencing behaviour:** A significant part of the targets for reductions in greenhouse gas is to be achieved by changing people's behaviour to more energy efficient and less carbon intensive practices. Increased awareness of energy consumption, low carbon lifestyles, and personal carbon allowances have all been proposed as instruments for altering energy behaviour. What is the evidence that proposed measures can alter behaviour? Can they support significant behavioural changes over the long term? Is there a consensus that changing people's behaviour within liberalised energy markets can deliver the expected greenhouse gas reductions, as planned?

**2. A new role for electricity networks:** Traditionally electricity demand had to be matched with generation in almost real time. However, advances in distributed generation, network automation and integration of energy networks with communications networks, can re-define the role of networks in matching demand with supply. Load management opportunities that open up with advanced metering and electric vehicles, together with large scale electricity storage and offshore grids, promise a profound change in electricity supply. This session will examine what the role of intelligent networks can be in re-shaping electricity markets and delivering a low carbon economy.

### **Stimulating technological and regulatory innovation**

The new energy economy will require different technologies to address society's need for comfort, illumination, entertainment, information and motive power. Stimulating the creation, development and commercialisation of these technologies is a key challenge for policy makers, established industries and for entrepreneurs, but it is difficult. It requires creativity, intellectual power, commercial cunning and the simple, but too often rare, ability to just get things done. This session will examine how different funding approaches are required at different stages of development of these technologies and explore how different regulatory regimes may assist or hinder.

### **Transition Scenarios**

Achievement of the "20:20:20" targets by 2020 will not be straightforward; nor will be the longer term 80% reduction in emissions by 2050. Although the options to achieve the 2020 goals are rapidly diminishing, those for the later date are not; or has the recession made the task that much easier? This session will examine alternative scenarios, with their implications for the structure of the energy economy and the measures required to achieve

them. Of particular interest will be the implications of recent developments in the US shale gas market, and its ramifications for the European, Russian and LNG gas markets.

### **International Experience**

Whilst the energy economies of countries are all different, influenced by the varied economic, geographic and demographic drivers, there are some experiences that have relevance for all. For example, some “liberalised” markets in the Americas are taking centralised approaches to provide peak power capacity. How have the different countries coped with the recession? Is the result of the Copenhagen meeting going to change the rate of renewable energy capacity construction in the developed and developing world?

### **Modelling**

Modelling is in the heart of decision making in the energy arena and helps stakeholders and policy makers to learn from the past and prepare for the future. This traditionally popular session will examine new insights and further developments in economic and econometric modelling of agents and markets in the energy sector. What new lessons can be learned from a decade that witnessed the largest to-date energy price crisis and severest post-war recession? What can our models add to our knowledge of the dynamics of energy markets in periods of transition and profound uncertainty?

### **Submitting an Abstract**

**The deadline for abstract submission is 5.00pm Monday March 1<sup>st</sup> 2010**

Abstracts should be submitted electronically using the online abstract submission form, accessible from the BIEE website [www.biee.org](http://www.biee.org)

It would be helpful if you would let us know for which of the parallel sessions (above) you would wish to have your paper considered. We may change or add to these, and we do reserve the right to move your paper, if accepted, to a different session, (for example if one is already crowded).

We will be deciding whether or not to accept a paper solely on the basis of the abstract submitted. You should therefore make it as full as you can, no less than 100 words with 250 being an acceptable length. Abstracts will be considered by the programme committee and they will endeavour to notify authors of acceptance or rejection by March 31<sup>st</sup> 2010 and no

later than April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Selection criteria will be a combination of quality, originality and relevance to the conference theme.

If your paper is accepted at least one of the authors must attend the conference and will need to pay the relevant rate. Information about costs can be found in the conference flyer or at the conference website [biee.meeting.org.uk](http://biee.meeting.org.uk).

Authors whose abstracts are accepted will have until August 31<sup>st</sup> 2010 to return their papers for publication in the CD-based conference proceedings. Papers should be no longer than 6000 words and should be in pdf format. File size must be less than 1 Megabyte. Papers should be sent electronically to: [admin@biee.org](mailto:admin@biee.org)

At the conference, facilities will be available for PowerPoint presentations. Presentations should be also be sent in electronically and should be less than 1 Megabyte in file size. The deadline for presentations is September 15<sup>th</sup> 2010.

### **Abstracts for the Student ‘Research Roadshow’**

Student abstracts may be considered for either poster presentation in the Research Roadshow or for full papers.

The Research Roadshow is a highly interactive event that gives Masters and PhD students the opportunity to present their academic work in a series of 20-minute sessions including discussions with their audience, based around a poster.

Students should also submit their abstracts using the online abstract submission form which can be accessed from the BIEE website [www.biee.org](http://www.biee.org). Student abstracts should also be no less than 100 words with 250 being an acceptable length. Posters should be A0 portrait format.

The first 30 students to register are eligible for subsidised conference registration fees. Subject to sponsorship, we hope to be in a position to offer free registration to students whose paper or poster is accepted. We will provide students with more information on this when we send out notifications of acceptance. For further details, see registration fees in the conference flyer or , from January, on the conference webpage at [biee.meeting.org.uk](http://biee.meeting.org.uk). There will be a prize awarded for the best student paper / poster.

**The deadline for abstract submission is 5.00pm Monday March 1<sup>st</sup> 2010**

## **Energy in a Low Carbon Economy: New roles for governments and markets**

### **Programme Outline**

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September**

- 09:00 Accommodation Registration**  
(Residential Main Porter's Lodge, St John's College, St Giles, Oxford, OX1 3JP)
- 09:45 Conference Registration**  
(Garden Quadrangle Foyer)
- 10: 30 Welcome and Introduction**  
Lord Howell , BIEE President
- 10.45 First Plenary Session**  
*“Energy in a low carbon economy: New roles for governments and markets”*  
*Are our current markets ‘fit for purpose’, is there a need for the Government to become more involved, if so, how would investors react? Why are oil & gas companies able to deploy capital so readily, yet utilities are having difficulty?*  
**Keynote speaker:** Paul Golby, CEO, E.ON UK  
Christof Ruehl, Chief Economist , BP plc  
David Newbery, University of Cambridge  
David Kennedy, Committee On Climate Change
- 12:45 Lunch**
- 14:00 First Parallel Session**  
**Session 1 Markets, Investment and Regulation 1**  
**Session 2 Enabling Behavioural Change 1**  
**Session 3 Stimulating Technological and Regulatory Innovation**  
**Session 4 Modelling**
- 15:30 Tea**
- 15.45 First Parallel Session continued**
- 17.00 Research Roadshow**
- 18:00 Drinks**
- 19:00 Conference dinner**  
**After Dinner speaker:** James Smith, Chairman, Shell UK  
*“Stepping up to the Energy Challenge”*

## Energy in a Low Carbon Economy: New roles for governments and markets

Thursday 23rd September

**09.00 Second Plenary Session**

***'Economies of scale vs. the Learning Curve'***

*Is only small beautiful, or can large also be attractive? Is it possible for large power stations to fill the gap, or will a more disaggregated form of energy production need to emerge? What are the implications for the networks and the energy trading arrangements?*

Gearoid Lane, Centrica

Speakers tbc

**10.45 Coffee**

**11.00 Second Parallel Session**

**Session 1 Markets , Investment and Regulation 2**

**Session 2 Enabling Behavioural Change 2**

**Session 3 Transition Scenarios**

**Session 4 International Experience**

**13:00 Lunch**

**14:15 Third Plenary Session**

***'What can we learn from the BRIC countries?'***

*What are the implications of the Copenhagen decisions and what lessons can the developed countries learn from the "developing" world where green investment incentives are concerned?*

John Ashton, UK Ambassador on Climate Change , FCO

Bernice Lee , Chatham House

Speakers tbc

**15.30 Chairmen's Panel – Summary and report back from the Parallels**

**16.30 Tea and depart**

## Energy in a Low Carbon Economy: New roles for governments and markets

### REGISTRATION FEES

Conference fees cover all conference proceedings, registration materials, one night's accommodation and breakfast at St Johns College, one drinks reception, two lunches, one dinner and coffee/ tea breaks.

Accommodation is in student rooms, not all of which have ensuite facilities. If you would prefer to stay elsewhere, you will need to make your own arrangements. A list of hotels nearby will be published in February on the conference website at [biee.meeting.org.uk](http://biee.meeting.org.uk) .

A day rate, excluding dinner and accommodation, is available for delegates wishing to attend for one day only. There are 12 double rooms available at a supplement of £25. These will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Extra dinners and additional nights of accommodation with breakfast, can also be added to your booking.

### Costs

	Before July 31 <sup>st</sup> (Early booking discount)	After July 31st
<b>BIEE members</b>	<b>£260</b>	<b>£300</b>
<b>Non members</b>	<b>£300</b>	<b>£360</b>
<b>Rate without accommodation</b>	<b>- £20</b>	<b>-£20</b>
<b>Day rate</b>	<b>£150</b>	<b>£180</b>
<b>Students</b>	<b>£60</b>	<b>£90</b>
<b>Additional night's accommodation with breakfast (21<sup>st</sup> and/or 23<sup>rd</sup> )</b>	<b>£55</b>	
<b>Double room supplement · £25 additional breakfast (12 available )</b>		
<b>Extra Dinner</b>	<b>£35</b>	

**REGISTRATION WILL OPEN AT THE END OF JANUARY 2010**