The Electricity Policy Forum

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EPRG Spring Research Seminar
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http://www.electricitypolicy.org.uk
Electricity Policy Research Group

- Research Director: David Newbery
- Staff Researchers: 7
- PhD Students: 4
- Associate Researchers: 18
- Three Research Projects:
  - CMI Electricity Project, SUPERGEN (EPSRC), SESSA (EU)
- Education Activities: MPhil and PhDs
- Membership Division: Electricity Policy Forum
Electricity Policy Forum: Context

• Rising public and political awareness
  – justify commitment public funds to energy

• Ongoing liberalisation in ESI
  – risks high but so too are potential rewards for those willing to embrace risks

• Diversity of approaches
  – need to understand specific drivers of change and appreciate differences (not one-size fits all)
The Challenge for Industry Players

• **Evolving policy**
  – Environmental regulations
  – Competition policy issues
  – R+D support policies

• **Regionalisation**
  – lack effective framework for coordination
  – technical problems integrating systems designed to be stand-alone

• **Liberalisation**
  – increasing competition
  – characteristics vary by country

• **International experience**
  – Valuable lessons from and for US and developing countries
Research: a key part of the solution

• Complex policy problems require research
• Who is doing it?
  – private sector R&D intensity in ESI falling
  – public sector funding of University based research projects rising
• But
  – research necessarily highly technical
  – private sector skills to analyse findings have diminished
  – resources and skills in Universities to communicate findings limited due to limitations of funding model
Electricity Policy Forum (1)

• Objectives
  – Provide intellectual leadership of critical dialogue going to centre of policy debate
  – Facilitate access to research findings and policy implications for member organisations
  – Fund high quality dissemination and thought leadership capacity

• Foundations
  – outstanding research resulting from established EPRG staff researchers and associate network
  – existing network of relationships with regulators, policy makers and industry
  – focus on ESI
Electricity Policy Forum (2)

- **Events**
  - Spring and Winter Research Seminars
    - invitation only
    - understand drivers for change
    - participate in and inform policy debate
    - leverage committed public funds
  - Special interest Research Workshops

- **Ongoing support**
  - Non-technical summaries of working papers
    - exclusive to members for 6 months
  - Corporate members
    - two tailored visits per year by researchers and EPF staff for confidential discussions
Membership

• Institutional Membership £2,000 pa
  – two tickets to EPF events
  – EPRG newsletter
  – Early access to non-technical synopses of working papers
  – Access to Members’ intranet

• Corporate Membership £15,000 pa
  – two tailored briefings per year
  – Annual Members’ dinner
  – Opportunity to shape EPRG research programme
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