

**The Centre for Environmental Economics and Environmental Management presents its third international Summer School**

## ***Economics of Electricity Markets***

**Ghent University, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration  
September 1-4, 2015**

### **First Announcement**

#### **Introduction**

In September 2015, the Centre for Environmental Economics and Environmental Management (CEEM<sup>1</sup>) of Ghent University will organize its third international summer school on the economics of electricity markets. During this summer school (September 1-4, 2015), national and international experts will elaborate the institutional frameworks, business landscape, market and investment models and long-term economic dynamics of electricity markets.

The unique feature of this summer school is the combination of academic analysis and presentations by insiders from various electricity sectors (generation, transmission, electricity trading, regulatory affairs,...).

#### **Topic and theme**

The focus of the summer school is on European electricity markets. An overview of the relevant European legislation is presented, followed by an assessment of the long-term consequences of the European projects related to energy systems and electricity markets in particular (i.e. market liberalization, 20/20/20, ETS, long-term decarbonization targets...).

Electricity markets are not typical commodity markets but have very specific technical and regulatory characteristics. As supply should always equal demand, the electricity supply side needs to be managed and approached from a collective action perspective. To explore this technological imperative, a basic overview on the technologies to generate, distribute and transport electricity is presented, followed by a discussion on electricity system requirements such as adequate balancing and the availability of back-up assets. In this overview, much attention will be given to the impact of higher shares of (intermittent) renewable electricity generation technologies.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.ceem.ugent.be/en/index.htm>

The technological overview is complemented by an economic analysis of generation and investment costs for all the considered technologies. The basic tools of economic methodology are presented and used in the context of changing electricity markets (LCOE, option valuation, cost/benefit and investment analysis).

The most recent issues will be analyzed and economic models to understand the functioning of transmission, distribution and electricity trading are presented by specialists from industry.

Finally, the current evolutions on European electricity markets should in principle prepare and support the transition of our energy system into an efficient and sustainable low-carbon economy by 2050. To illustrate the nature of this challenge, the main energy transition scenarios – such as Energy Transition Perspectives 2014 of the International Energy Agency (IEA) – are discussed during the summer school. In this (part of the) course, the focus is on the role of the electricity sector in the energy transition.

The goal of the summer school is to provide the building blocks needed to assess the dynamics of European electricity markets. Students will be confronted with multiple perspectives. The public policy perspective will be complemented by the perspective of electricity companies, electricity traders, households and electricity-intensive industries.

## Tentative programme

Tuesday, September 1st, 2015

- Electricity in Europe; a changing landscape
- Electricity generation costs and system effects in low-carbon electricity systems
- Transmission, ancillary services and system management

Wednesday, September 2nd, 2015

- Distribution; challenges and economic models
- Electricity markets and power exchanges
- Electricity trading + trading game for the participants

Thursday, September 3rd, 2015

- Generation capacity adequacy
- Debate: optimal market models and instruments for high RES futures

Friday, September 4th, 2015

- The challenge of the energy transition
- The future of liberalized electricity markets
- Presentations by participants

## Course type

The courses are specialized courses for PhD and (selected) MA students, complemented by a trading game and a structured debate among the participants. Participants have the opportunity to present their ongoing research on themes covered during the summer school. Because of the combination of economic and technical topics, the summer school encourages participants to explore multidisciplinary approaches.

## Targeted audience

The target audience consists of PhD students, young professionals from the electricity and energy sector and selected MA students. Applications from post-doc researchers will not be considered.

## Registration

The registration fee for the Summer School is € 190 and includes the course material, lunches, coffee breaks, a social event and a summer school dinner on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. Accommodation close to the faculty costs between € 40 and € 95 per night. Information on accommodation packages will be provided in March.

## How to register?

A dedicated website with a registration form will be developed in the next weeks to support the summer school (<http://www.ceem.ugent.be/en/index.htm>). To get notified once the website is operational, you can already send a message to [ruben.laleman@ugent.be](mailto:ruben.laleman@ugent.be). The registration deadline is June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015.