

Customer Perspectives

Session Chairman

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Good morning, ladies and gentlemen,

Today we will have two sessions. The idea behind this is to provide an overview on customer and supplier perspectives for our industry. In this session we will concentrate on the customer perspectives. For this purpose, we have engaged three distinguished speakers who will address topics related to wind power, premises communications and distribution channels. I am sure that the session will be of great interest to all the participants and I would like to thank our speakers in advance for their appreciated availability.

I would now like to introduce our first speaker, who under the heading “Network Challenges” will talk to us about the prospects and impacts of wind power. Our speaker is Colin Ray from the UK. Colin has been associated with the electric power industry for about 20 years. He started his career in manufacturing, but soon moved to a utility, the Central Electricity Generating Board of the United Kingdom (CEGB), which at that time was a national corporation. He worked in system operation and in generation and transmission development.

He was closely involved in the privatisation of the UK utility sector and joined National Grid, where he worked on the establishment of the Grid Code and the start of the ancillary services business. He managed this business for a few years and then became responsible for the development of the National Grid network and the associated capital expenditure. He has also been closely involved with CIGRE for many years and was the chairman of the study committee on System Development and Economics until last August. Colin is now a consultant and will help us today to get a clearer view regarding the extent to which wind energy will be “blowing in the wind.” Colin, the floor is yours.