

Power Sector Regulation and Restructuring

May 19-23, 2003

Abuja, Nigeria

Contributor Bios

Ronald Eachus

Former Chairman, Oregon Public Utilities Commission

Ron Eachus has spent fourteen years as Commissioner, eight as chairman, of the Oregon Public Utilities Commission; a consumer oriented state public utility commission known for its independence and proactive responses to changes in the industries it regulated. Mr. Eachus has extensive experience as Commissioner in international exchanges and assistance in developing the framework and capacity for new regulatory bodies in other countries. During his tenure, the Oregon PUC became a leader in promotion of energy efficiency and integrated resource planning as well as in development of policies to encourage competition while maintaining the public interest. Under his direction, the PUC initiated one of first integrated resource planning processes for electricity and natural gas utilities in the nation; and Restructured rates and provided unbundled services to allow direct access to supplies for large gas customers in 1989.

Mr. Eachus has worked with members of the Russian Federal Energy Commission and staff as lead Commissioner for the US National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' (NARUC) support of the Energy Regulators Regional Association, composed of regulatory agencies from 15 countries, including Russia, in Central and Eastern Europe and Eurasia. He has also been the Lead Commissioner on two USAID/US Energy Association partnerships with newly formed regulatory agencies in Brasil and Zambia.

As a member of NARUC, Mr. Eachus served in various leadership capacities, including: Chairman, Energy Conservation Committee, 1991 – 1993; Chairman, International Relations Committee 1996 – 1999; Board of Directors, 1993 – 2001; Ad Hoc Committee on Global Climate Change, 1994 – 2001; and Member, Committee on Electricity, 1999 – 2001. Prior to joining the Oregon PUC, Mr, Eachus was a State Representative to the Oregon State Legislature (1985-1987), developing consensus on major telecommunications and electricity legislation. He obtained a B.S. in Journalism in 1970 from the University of Oregon (US).

Beatriz Arizu

Executive Consultant, Restructuring and Regulation

Mercados Energeticos, S.A.

Mrs. Arizu is a Senior Consultant and Director of Mercados Energéticos, S.A. In her capacity as Director, Mrs. Arizu is in charge of the Corporate Regulatory Practice, and has participated in the design of the rules of the game in aspects related to the electricity market regulations and their organization, and international exchanges in Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay, Guatemala, El Salvador, Panama, Nicaragua, Spain and Nepal. She is also a member of the Electric Market Surveillance Team, the advisory team for the Panama Regulatory Agency (ERSP), and has recently worked with the Bureau of Public Enterprises in Nigeria on regulatory reform in the Nigerian power sector.

Mrs. Arizu participated in the design of the Argentine electric market, in the development and drafting of the Procedures for Operation Programming, Load Dispatch and Prices Calculation for the Wholesale Electric Market (MEM). She also participated in the design of regulations for the divestiture and privatization of hydroelectric power plants. Subsequently, Mrs. Arizu was an advisor to the Energy Secretariat, reviewing and adjusting regulations on the basis of changes in the market and in electric systems. She has worked for HIDRONOR in the development and implementation of programming, optimization, and dispatches models for hydraulic power plants and dams as well as in the operation and dispatch planning for such power plants and dams. Mrs. Arizu has a degree in a Computer Science from the University of Buenos Aires (Argentina).

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Ahmad Ghamarian, Ph.D.

Executive Director, IIE Energy Group

Dr. Ghamarian has over 20 years of management, engineering and teaching experience in the energy and environmental sectors. As Executive Director of the Energy Group, he manages all of the Institute of International Education's energy related programs. Previously, Dr. Ghamarian served as the Director of USAID's Energy Training Program (ETP), designing and managing a series of U.S.-based courses, in-country workshops and international study tours. Special countries of focus included Russia, the Ukraine, Indonesia, India and Pakistan. Dr. Ghamarian came to IIE from Exxon Research & Engineering Company where he performed research and development and provided consulting to promote energy efficiency in Exxon's refineries and chemical plants worldwide. Previously, he served as Project Engineer with the Combustion Engineering Company in Tehran (1973 - 76), working on the design of several power-generation projects for the Iranian onshore/offshore oil industry. He has extensive experience working in the energy sector of emerging economies and holds a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering with a focus on Energy Technology from The George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

Joanne Dixon

Senior Program Officer, IIE Energy Group

Ms. Dixon is responsible for Business Development activities of the Energy Group in assistance to the Executive Director. She also coordinates the Energy Group global training activities under the U.S. Department of Energy cooperative agreement and the Energy Group oil, gas and electricity training activities in Nigeria. She also edits of a series of Best Practices Guides for sustainable energy development published by the Energy Group. Ms. Dixon returned to the IIE Energy Group in February 2001 after a two year Peace Corps service in Senegal, West Africa, where she specialized in natural resource management and small business development. Ms. Dixon holds a B.A. in Comparative Religion and a minor concentration in International Economics from the College of William and Mary. She speaks French, Wolof, basic Mandarin Chinese and Spanish.