When Is Competition the Regulator?

Both competition and regulation can stimulate good performance in an industry. Past conferences have addressed innovation, technological convergence, organizational restructuring, and residual regulation, all of which create citizen concerns about how oversight procedures address new developments. Today, technologies like voice over internet and distributed generation raise new public policy and managerial problems. So we return to a basic question: When is competition more effective than government intervention? This year’s speakers will focus on issues of market power, environmental impacts, service quality, and consumer protection.

Sanford V. Berg, Distinguished Service Professor

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2004
Hilton UF Conference Center – Ground Floor

10:00-1:15 pm PURC Executive Committee Meeting and Luncheon (By invitation)

12:00-1:30 pm Registration and Refreshments

PLENARY SESSION

1:30-1:45 pm John Kraft, Dean, Warrington College of Business Administration Welcoming Remarks

Presentation of Gerald L. Gunter Distinguished Service Award to Timothy J. Devlin

1:45-2:30 pm Dr. Robert M. Pepper, Chief Policy Development, FCC, "Current Issues and Priorities at the FCC"


3:15-3:45 pm Break and Refreshments

Presentation of PURC Distinguished Service Award to Dr. Elizabeth Bailey, Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania

3:45-4:30 pm Dr. Elizabeth Bailey, “When Can Traditional Regulation Become Oversight and Market Monitoring?”

4:30-5:30 pm Braulio L. Baez, Rudolph "Rudy" Bradley, J. Terry Deason, and Charles M. Davidson, Commissioners, Florida PSC Roundtable Discussion of Regulatory Issues

5:45-7:00 pm Reception–Ground Floor

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2004
Hilton UF Conference Center – Ground Floor

7:45-8:30 am Breakfast Refreshments

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Current Issues: Market Imperfections and Energy Regulation

8:30-10:15 am FPSC Chairman Braulio Baez, moderator

Dr. Diana L. Moss, Vice President and Senior Research Fellow, American Antitrust Institute, “The Evolving Role of Competition in Electricity Restructuring”

Current Issues: Voice over Internet in Telecommunications

8:30-10:15 am Moderator: Commissioner Charles M. Davidson, Florida PSC

Speakers:
Dr. Charles Jackson, Consultant Link Hoewing, Executive Director, Verizon John S. Rego, Chief Financial Officer, Vonage Rick Cimerman, Senior Director, Telecommunications Policy, National Cable & Communications Association

10:15-10:30 am Break and Refreshments

PLENARY SESSION

10:30-11:30 am Executive Roundtable

H. William Habermeyer, Jr., President and CEO, Progress Energy Florida

Sprint Executive, TBA

Dr. Karen L. Palmer, Senior Fellow, Resources for the Future, “Clearing the Skies More or Less: The Effects of Multi-pollutant Policies on the Electricity Sector” Discussion
CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

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Title ____________________________

Department ______________________

Organization _____________________

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___ Complimentary for PURC Sponsors and UF Faculty/Students.

___ $300 Registration Fee for Non-Sponsors

Please make checks payable to PURC and return completed Registration Form by February 3, 2004 to:

Public Utility Research Center
P.O. Box 117142
Warrington College of Business Administration
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611-7142

PUBLIC UTILITY RESEARCH CENTER

Sanford V. Berg, Director
Mark A. Jamison, Executive Director

Founded in 1972, the Public Utility Research Center's Mission consists of three components:

Research: Expanding the body of knowledge in Public utility regulations, market reform, and infrastructure operations;

Education: Teaching the principles and practices that support effective utility policy and regulation; and

Service: Engaging Florida, the nation, and the world in outreach activities that provide ongoing professional development and promote improved regulatory policy and infrastructure management.

PURC-affiliated scholars include Eminent Scholar David Sappington, Director, Public Policy Research Center; Paul Sotkiewicz, Director of Energy Studies; and Lynne Holt, Policy Analyst.

ACCOMMODATIONS: All sessions will take place at the Hilton University of Florida Hotel and Conference Center located at 1714 S.W. 34th Street, Gainesville, FL 32607 (352-371-3600). Individuals should make their own hotel reservations by January 31st for the Conference rate, specifying that they plan to attend the PURC Annual Conference.

EDUCATIONAL CREDIT: The material presented at the conference qualifies for 6 hours of technical business CPE credit for Florida CPAs, 6 hours of general CLER credit for Florida law practitioners.

INQUIRIES: Please contact Kat Worden at PURC. Telephone: 352-392-0060; fax: 352-392-7796; e-mail: kat.worden @cba.ufl.edu.