

Why the United States has to Benefit from Electricity Industry Re-structuring and How Fix That

By Prof. Frank A. Wolak

Frank A. Wolak will summarize the experience of the United States with electricity industry re-structuring, starting with early efforts before the formation of formal wholesale markets in 1998 and ending with current state of the industry. The talk focuses on the question of whether US consumers have benefitted from electricity industry re-structuring and if so how. The reasons for the mixed success of restructuring in the US will be divided into those specific to the US context and those common to all electricity supply industries. Progress towards addressing these challenges will then be described and potential outstanding challenges identified.