

European Electricity R & D Perspective. Drivers, Trends and Outlook

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Abstract

The responsibilities between the key players in the Electricity Supply Industry , the manufacturers , the industry itself and the governments are shifting. And so does the R&D focus. What is the impact of energy policy changes, of environmental challenges, of competitive markets and of new entrants on the R&D needs? And how to respond to unbundling, to the increasing pan-European integration and to the growing importance of customer demands? With liberalisation of the EU-electricity market, R&D budgets are sharp decreasing with focus on short term applications. A discussion is started on the EU's "Lisbon Strategy" and the role of research in achieving the EU's competitiveness goals. And on the needs to support the security of supply. The outcomes of the Eurelectric-IERE Workshop on Electricity R&D in May 2004 will be presented and evaluated.