



22ND ERRA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Progressing Energy Transition via Effective Policies and Regulation

5 – 6 May, 2025
MUSCAT, OMAN

Hosted by:
هيئة تنظيم الخدمات العامة
Authority for Public Services Regulation



#ERRACONFERENCE2025

AGENDA

DAY 1 – MONDAY, MAY 5, 2025

OPENING CEREMONY

09:00 **Introductory Remarks**

- Ms. Andrijana Nelkova-Chuchuk, ERRA Chair; Energy, Water Services and Municipal Waste Management Services Regulatory Commission, North Macedonia

09:10 **Keynote Address**

- Ministry of Energy and Minerals, Oman – TBC

09:25 **Keynote Address**

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Hungary – TBC

SESSION I: PROGRESSING ENERGY TRANSITION IN THE GULF REGION

The Gulf region is at the crossroads of energy transition. This session will explore how Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries are leveraging their unique strengths—including abundant renewable energy resources, cutting-edge technologies, and financial capacity—to advance towards sustainable and diversified energy systems. Discussions will highlight national energy strategies, milestones in clean energy deployment, and the role of public and private sector partnerships. Special focus will be given to the challenges of balancing rapid economic growth with environmental sustainability and how the Gulf's leadership in energy transition can influence global markets.

Session Moderator: Dr Khalil Al Hanashi, Senior Energy Renewal Advisor, Petroleum Development Oman (PDO)

09:40 **Keynote Address**

- Mr. Francesco La Camera, Director General, International Renewable Energy Agency – TBC

10:00 **Moderated Panel Discussion**

- Eng. Thamir Alhammad, Vice Governor of Consumer Affairs, Saudi Electricity Regulatory Authority (SERA), Saudi Arabia
- Representative of IRENA – TBC

- Representative of the Authority for Public Services Regulation (APSR), Oman – TBC
- Representative of United Arab Emirates – TBC
- Q&A

10:30 *Morning break*

SESSION II: GRID INTEGRATION AND MANAGEMENT

As renewable energy becomes a larger part of the energy mix, grid stability and resilience emerge as critical challenges. This session will delve into the complexities of integrating high levels of intermittent renewable energy into the grid while ensuring reliability and security of supply. Experts will share insights on advanced grid management solutions, and the importance of cross-sector collaboration to meet future demand.

Session Moderator: Dr Adil Al Busaidi, Principle New Technology and Sustainability Specialist, Daleel Petroleum LLC, Oman

11:00 **Round of Presentations**

11:00 *Grid Integration: The Regulatory Challenge*

- Mr. Luca Lo Schiavo, Senior Regulatory Specialist, ERRA

11:20 *New Power Systems*

- Mr. Mohammed Atif, Area Manager, Energy Systems, DNV AS, Dubai Branch

11:40 *Challenges of Grid Integration and Management in the U.S.*

- Ms. Ann E. Rendahl, Commissioner, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission; First Vice President, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), United States of America

12:00 Joint Q&A session

12:15 **Moderated Panel Discussion**

- Eng. Hisham Al Riyami, General Manager Planning, Oman Electricity Transmission Company (OETC)
- Ms. Ann E. Rendahl, Commissioner, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission; First Vice President, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), United States of America
- Ms. Ludimila Silva, Director, Energy Regulatory Agency (ANEEL), Brazil; Association of the Portuguese-Speaking Energy Regulators (RELOP)
- Mr Hasan Ozkoc, Director, Mediterranean Energy Regulators (MEDREG)
- Q&A

13:00 *Lunch break*

SESSION III: CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION; MARKET INTEGRATION

With globalization shaping energy markets, cross-border cooperation has become essential for ensuring energy security, efficiency, and affordability. This session will focus on regional energy trade and market integration initiatives, showcasing the benefits of interconnected systems in enhancing competition and resource optimization. Discussions will explore the regulatory and technical frameworks required to harmonize markets and the lessons learned from successful international projects.

Session Moderator: Ms. Alda Ozola, ERRA Presidium Member; Chair, Public Utilities Commission, Latvia

14:00 **Round of Presentations**

14:00 *Guidelines on Transmission Pricing and Cost Allocation for Regional Power Trade – report by MARCOT program of the World Bank*

- Mr. Alberto Pototschnig, Executive Deputy Director, World of Practice, Florence School of Regulation – TBC
- Q&A

14:20 *The Nordic Market Integration and Cross-Border Experience: lessons for emerging countries.*

- Mr. Luis Boscan, Senior Consultant, Ea Energy Analyses, Denmark
- Q&A

14:40 **Moderated Panel Discussion**

- Dr Nasser Al-Shahrani, Chief Operation Officer, Gulf Cooperation Council Interconnection Authority (GCCIA)
- Mr. Rolands Irklis, Chairman of the Board, AS Augstsprieguma tikls (AST), Latvia
- Mr. Laurent Kocou Rodrigue Tossou, Chairman, ECOWAS Regional Electricity Regulatory Authority (ERERA)
- Mr. Marko Bislimoski, President, Energy, Water Services and Municipal Waste Management Services Regulatory Commission, North Macedonia
- Ms. Souad Nassir, Director, National Office of Electricity and Drinking Water (ONEE), Morocco
- Q&A

15:20 *Afternoon break*

SESSION IV: MARKET REFORM TO FACILITATE ENERGY TRANSITION

Transforming electricity markets is a key enabler of the global energy transition. This session will examine the role of market reforms in creating an environment conducive to renewable energy deployment, technological innovation, and customer-centric solutions. Topics will include modernizing tariff structures, incentivizing investment in clean energy, and redesigning market mechanisms to enhance flexibility and competition.

Session Moderator: Mr. Elie Matar, Director of Electricity, Regulatory and Supervisory Bureau for Electricity and Water of Dubai, United Arab Emirates

15:40 **Round of Presentations**

15:40 *Designing Markets for the Energy Transition*

- Mr. Stephen Woodhouse, Director, AFRY Management Consulting

15:55 *Market Reforms Supporting Energy Transition: Mechanisms to Integrate V-RES and Electricity Storages*

- Mr. Guido Bortoni, Chairman of the Board of Directors, CESI SpA, Italy

16:10 Joint Q&A session

16:25 **Moderated Panel Discussion**

- Dr Firas Al Abduwani, Director General of Renewable Energy and Hydrogen, Ministry of Energy and Minerals, Oman
- Mr. Jesse Cohen, Associate, Carbon-Free Electricity, RMI, United States of America
- Mr. Volkan Yiğit, Managing Partner, APLUS Enerji, Türkiye
- Mr. Francisco Salazar, International Confederation of Energy Regulators Coordinator, Mexico
- Q&A

17:00 *Day 1 Adjourn*

20:00 **CONFERENCE GALA DINNER**

Venue: TBD

DAY 2 – TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2025

WELCOME

09:00 **Welcome and announcement of 2026 ERRA Annual Conference location**

- Mr. Pál Ságvári, ERRA Vice-Chair, Vice President for Strategic and International Affairs, Hungarian Energy and Public Utility Regulatory Authority (MEKH)

SESSION V: THE ROLE OF TRANSITION FUELS IN TRANSFORMING THE SECTOR

Transition fuels such as natural gas, biofuels and low-carbon hydrogen play a critical role in bridging the gap between traditional fossil-fuel driven economies and the zero-emission system of tomorrow. This session will explore the current and future role of transition fuels in reducing carbon emissions, enhancing energy security, and enabling sustainable development. Special attention will be given to natural gas as an important fuel driving the GCC economies. Discussions will focus on the benefits, challenges, and technologies surrounding transition fuels, and how they fit into long-term strategies for a net-zero future.

Session Moderator: Mr. Abdulwahhab Al Hinai, ERRA Strategic Advisory Board Member; General Counsel, Legal, OQ, Oman

09:10 **Round of Presentations**

09:10 *Research Driven Energy-Transition: The Role of Hydrogen and Low Carbon Resources*

- Mr. Gergo Várhegyi, Technical Executive, EPRI International Inc.

09:30 *DESFA's Energy Transition Strategy Towards a Sustainable Future in Greece*

- Ms. Emmanouela Angelidaki, Senior Manager, Head of Asset Remuneration Department, Hellenic Gas Transmission System Operator (DESFA), Greece

09:50 *Development of the Green Hydrogen Sector in Oman*

- Eng. Abdulaziz Al Shidhani, Managing Director, Hydrom Oman

10:10 **Moderated Panel Discussion**

- Ms. Wassila Atimene, President, Electricity and Gas Regulatory Commission (CREG), Algeria
- Mr. Gergo Várhegyi, Technical Executive, EPRI International Inc.

- Ms. Emmanouela Angelidaki, Senior Manager, Head of Asset Remuneration Department, Hellenic Gas Transmission System Operator (DESFA), Greece
- Mr. Saif Al Hosni, Chief BD&C Officer, Business Development & Commercial, OQ Gas Networks, Oman
- Q&A

10:50 *Morning break*

SESSION VI: CAPTURE RATES FOR SOLAR AND RE-THINKING SUPPORT SCHEMES

Support schemes are instrumental in accelerating the adoption and integration of renewable energy sources. This session will provide insights into the diverse range of financial incentives, policy frameworks, and market mechanisms that support renewable energy deployment worldwide. Special attention will be given to competitive instruments that provide reasonable levels of support while safeguarding market confidence such as Contracts for Difference (CfDs). Experts will discuss lessons learnt from early days of support for RES, and highlight the current challenges in fostering investment, enhancing grid stability, and encouraging technological advancements.

Session Moderator: Mr. Ardian Berisha, ERRA Training Expert; Managing Consultant, Optima Energy Consulting

11:20 **Round of Presentations**

11:20 *Rise of Solar, Falling Capture Rates and Policy Considerations for RES Support Schemes*

- Mr. Ardian Berisha, ERRA Training Expert; Managing Consultant, Optima Energy Consulting

11:30 *Analysis of Negative Price Occurrences and Recommendations to Adapt French Renewable Support Schemes*

- Mr. Ivan Faucheux, Commissioner, Energy Regulatory Commission (CRE), France

11:45 *Impact of High Market Prices on Renewables; Unsupported Renewable Energy Sources*

- Dr Nadia Horstmann, Head of Section, International Relations, Bundesnetzagentur (BNetzA), Germany; Council of European Energy Regulators (CEER)

12:00 *Energy Sharing - New Possibilities for PV*

- Dr Harald Proidl, Director, Renewables and Energy Efficiency, E-Control, Austria

12:15 **Moderated Panel Discussion**

- Mr. Ivan Faucheux, Commissioner, Energy Regulatory Commission (CRE), France
- Dr Nadia Horstmann, Head of Section, International Relations, Bundesnetzagentur (BNetzA), Germany; Council of European Energy Regulators (CEER)
- Dr Harald Proidl, Director, Renewables and Energy Efficiency, E-Control, Austria
- Q&A

12:45 *Conference concludes; Lunch*