CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

The Trump Administration and changing geopolitical situations are redefining energy directions, layering additional change over ongoing technological and market changes. Removal or revision of regulations, withdrawal from the Paris climate accord, and shifting geopolitical relations add complexity to an energy portfolio still bracing for cyberattacks and weather impacts against vulnerable grids. These geopolitical shifts, and the reactions to them by OPEC, local governments, and other actors, challenge us to chart a path forward through changed and dynamic domestic and international energy and environmental sectors.

The 36th USAEE/IAEE Conference provides a forum for informed and collegial discussion of how the emerging realities will impact all stakeholders—from populations to companies to governments—in North America and around the world.

Nowhere calls out this urgency more clearly than the mid-Atlantic region. The energy mix includes offshore wind, coal mines, nuclear power, solar, and natural gas. Conference attendees will benefit from access to tour some of these facilities as well as tours of federal energy institutions in Washington, D.C.

The Washington, D.C. metro area is the epicenter of energy policy and home to legislators, regulators, and diplomats. It boasts the greatest concentration of think tanks and is a bastion of energy thought leaders that bolster the value of networking opportunities provided by the conference.

The conference will highlight contemporary energy themes at the intersection of economics, public policy, and politics, including those affecting energy infrastructure, environmental regulation, markets vs. government intervention, and international energy trade. Participation from industry, government, non-profit, and academic energy economists ensures robust, insightful discussion.

TOPICS TO BE ADDRESSED INCLUDE:

The general topics below are indicative of the types of subject matter to be considered at the conference. A more detailed listing of topics and subtopics can be found by clicking here: http://www.usaee.org/usaee2018/topics.html

- Energy Protectionism in Practice
- Countervailing Winds: International Geopolitical and Domestic Responses to the New Administration
- The New DOE and FERC Agendas
- Energy Implications of Environmental Regulations: Future and Impact
- International Energy Policy Responses to the U.S. Departure of the Paris Climate Accord
- A Look at Shifts in Energy Supply: Renewables, Coal, and More
- Deregulation of Marine and Land Use: Offshore Access, Extraction, and Pipelines
- Europe, Russia, and U.S. Natural Gas Exports
- Recent State Energy Policy Developments
- Energy Innovation and Technology
- Other topics of interest including shifts in market structures and fundamentals, including those induced by policy and technological forces.
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

There are two categories of concurrent sessions: 1) current academic-type energy economics research, and 2) practical case studies involving applied energy economics or commentary on current energy-related issues. This latter category aims to encourage participation not only from industry but also from the financial, analyst and media/commentator communities. In either instance, papers should be based on completed or near-completed work that has not been previously presented at or published by USAEE/IAEE or elsewhere. Presentations are intended to facilitate the sharing of both academic and professional experiences and lessons learned. It is unacceptable for a presentation to overtly advertise or promote proprietary products and/or services. Those who wish to distribute promotional literature and/or have exhibit space at the Conference are cordially invited to take advantage of sponsorship opportunities – please see www.usaee.org/usaee2018/sponsors.html Those interested in organizing a concurrent session should propose a topic and possible speakers to Professor Pierre-Olivier Pineau Concurrent Session Chair (pierre-olivier.pineau@hec.ca) Please note that all speakers in organized concurrent sessions must pay speaker registration fees and submit abstracts.

Concurrent Session Abstract Format

Authors wishing to make concurrent session presentations must submit an abstract that briefly describes the research or case study to be presented. The abstract must be no more than two pages in length and must include the following sections:

- **a.** Overview of the topic including its background and potential significance
- **b.** Methodology: how the matter was addressed, what techniques were used
- **c.** Results: Key and ancillary findings
- **d.** Conclusions: Lessons learned, implications, next steps
- **e.** References (if any)

Please visit www.usaee.org/USAEE2018/PaperAbstractTemplate.doc to download an abstract template. All abstracts must conform to the format structure outlined in the template. Abstracts must be submitted online by visiting www.usaee.org/USAEE2018/submissions.aspx. Abstracts submitted by e-mail or in hard copy will not be processed.

Concurrent Session Presentation Format

**Objective:** To communicate the objectives, context and findings of submitted papers in the most impactful way to a diverse audience of business professionals, academics and government representatives.

We offer two presentation length options:

**Option 1:** 8 minutes of prepared remarks plus 2 minutes for audience Q&A and discussion

- Maximum of 5 slides allowed (not including a title slide), avoid excessive lead-up (history, background) but get directly to the main research finding

**Option 2:** 15 minutes of prepared remarks plus 5 minutes for audience Q&A and discussion

- Maximum of 10 slides allowed (not including title slide)

Please select your preferred presentation “Option” on the Abstract Submission page when submitting your abstract. Each concurrent session may have a mix of 8 and 15 minute presentation slots which are in accordance with the session theme.

Format and Structure: Powerpoint or pdf slides are usually an appropriate presentation format. The structure of the presentation should focus on the following:

- **Context and rationale for research topic**
- **Specific issue/question covered**
- **Main findings, and what evidence supports them**
- **Implications for (business/investment/markets/policy)**

Both presentation options should be able to include coverage of these four areas – the difference is likely to be in the level of detail and/or examples shown.

( Please note that the traditional structure of an academic research presentation, in which major segment of the presentation often includes a series of slides showing equations and the numerical results of statistical analysis, is generally not suitable for the diverse audience attending the USAEE conference.)

Student Poster Session

The Student Poster Session is designed to enable students to present their current research or case studies directly to interested conference delegates in a specially designed open networking environment. Articles for the poster session must be submitted by the regular abstract deadline and must be relevant to the conference theme. The abstract format for the Poster Session is identical to that for papers; please visit www.usaee.org/USAEE2018/PaperAbstractTemplate.doc to download an abstract template. Such an abstract should clearly indicate that it is intended for the Student Poster Session—alternatively that the author has no preference between a poster or regular concurrent session presentation. Abstracts must be submitted online by visiting www.usaee.org/USAEE2018/submissions.aspx. Abstracts submitted by e-mail or in hard copy will not be processed. Poster presenters whose abstracts are accepted should submit a final version of the poster electronically (in pdf format) by July 13, 2018 for publication in the online conference proceedings. Posters for actual presentation at the conference must be brought directly to the conference venue on the day of presentation and must be in either ANSI E size (34in. x 44in.) or ISO A0 size (841mm x 1189mm) in portrait or landscape format.

Presenter Attendance at the Conference

At least one author of an accepted paper or poster must pay the registration fees and attend the conference to present the paper or poster. The corresponding author submitting the abstract must provide complete contact details—mailing address, phone, fax, e-mail, etc. Authors will be notified by June 1, 2018, of the status of their presentation or poster. Authors whose abstracts are accepted will have until July 13, 2018, to submit their final papers or posters for publication in the online conference proceedings. While multiple submissions by individuals or groups of authors are welcome, the abstract selection process will seek to ensure as broad participation as possible: each author may present only one paper or one poster in the conference. No author should submit more than one abstract as its single author: If multiple submissions are accepted, then a different author will be required to pay the registration fee and present each paper or poster. Otherwise, authors will be contacted and asked to drop one or more paper(s) or poster(s) for presentation. Where a team of students and/or a supervisor are co-authors of a paper, one student must be designated as the corresponding author, must attend the conference and present the poster—in order to be eligible for the single cash prize.

STUDENTS

In addition to the above opportunities, students may submit a paper for consideration in the Dennis J. O’Brien USAEE/IAEE Best Student Paper Award Competition (cash prizes plus waiver of conference registration fees). The paper submission has different requirements and a different deadline. The deadline for submitting a paper for the Student Paper Awards is May 18, 2018. Visit www.usaee.org/usaee2018/bestpapers.html for full details.

Students are especially encouraged to participate in the Student Poster Session. Posters and their presentations will be judged by an academic panel and a single cash prize of $1000 will be awarded to the student with the best poster and presentation. For more details including the judging criteria visit www.usaee.org/usaee2018/postersession.html

Students may also inquire about scholarships covering conference registration fees. Please visit www.usaee.org/usaee2018/scholarships.html for full details.