

ELCON *PRESS* RELEASE

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ELCON PRAISES FERC'S PLAN FOR CONFERENCES ON WHOLESALE MARKETS

"Kudos to FERC," said John Anderson, president of the Electricity Consumers Resource Council (ELCON), in response to FERC's announcement that the Commission will convene a series of public conferences to evaluate the state of competition in wholesale power markets.

"For several years," Anderson continued, "ELCON has been telling the Commission and anyone else who would listen that wholesale electricity markets are not competitive, not benefiting consumers, and, in short, simply not working. FERC has now recognized that there needs to be a more formal discussion about the effectiveness of these markets. ELCON has issued two papers recently urging FERC to look at issues such as market design, the availability of long-term contracts, and demand response. We are pleased that FERC will be addressing these matters and we look forward to participating."

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ELCON, established in 1976, is the national association of large industrial users of electricity from virtually every manufacturing sector. ELCON members seek a reliable supply of electricity at competitive prices and have long supported federal and state efforts to achieve that objective. More information about ELCON is available at ELCON's website, www.elcon.org.