

# ELCON *PRESS* RELEASE

FOR RELEASE: May 3, 2007

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## ANDERSON NOTES OPPOSITION OF SMALL CONSUMERS TO ORGANIZED MARKETS

ELCON President John Anderson noted today that “small electricity users are experiencing the same problems with today’s electricity markets that large users have faced, and increasingly they are becoming more and more likely to voice their dissatisfaction.”

Anderson was speaking to the spring seminar of the Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario (AMPCO) in Collingwood, Ontario, Canada. He entitled his presentation “Electric Power Competition in the U.S.: A Light at the End of the Tunnel – Or a Train Wreck in the Making?” He listed recent developments in roughly a dozen states that showed evidence of dissatisfaction among residential consumers.

“Maryland has been the poster child in getting media attention,” he said, “but in reality electricity users in states as different as Michigan and Massachusetts have been equally upset about the current state of electricity markets.”

Anderson also asserted that the problems are “not self correcting,” observing that “the stakeholder process in the organized markets is broken. Consumers have only a small proportion of the votes – but they have to pay all of the bills. Consumers are unable to stop the implementation of proposals that they do not believe are in the best interests.”

Anderson threw a mild compliment to FERC, praising them for holding a series of recent conferences. “FERC has at least acknowledged that problems exist,” he said. “We have been saying for a long time that the current ISOs and RTOs are too costly, not truly competition, and fail to deliver net consumer benefits.”

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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](http://www.elcon.org).