



## 2015 ICER Distinguished Scholar Awards

### SUBMISSION FORM

Please submit form and candidate papers (PDF format) not later than [April 1, 2014](#) to [award@icer-regulators.net](mailto:award@icer-regulators.net).

- Please refer to the Call for Papers for details on the award criteria and process.
- Applicants must be available to personally attend the World Forum on Energy Regulation VI on May 25-28, 2015 in Istanbul, Turkey where the ICER Distinguished Scholars Award Ceremony will take place.

<b>2015 ICER Award Topic: <span style="color: green;">Creating and Managing Regional Energy Markets</span></b>		
<b>IDENTITY of Person submitting nomination (if other than author)</b>		
Name		
Job Title		
Organization		
Email address		
Phone number		
<b>CATEGORY (Please tick which box applies.)</b>	<b><del>Impact on Developing Countries</del></b>	<b>Next Practices XXXX</b>
Title of Paper	<b>The State of Louisiana enters the world of regional electricity markets: A five year engagement to prove the way for permanent participation</b>	
Author's Name	<b>Eric F Skrmetta</b>	
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Date of Publication	March 18, 2013
Presentation at other conferences or events or Other Distribution of Paper	N/A
Short biography of author (100 words)	Commissioner Eric Skrmetta serves as Chairman of the Louisiana Public Service Commission. This is a state constitutional body and its members are elected by the citizens of Louisiana. Graduate of: Brother Martin High School, Diploma 1976, Louisiana State University (B.S.) scientiae baccalaureus 1981, Southern University Law School (J.D) Juris Doctor (cum laude) 1985 and Tulane University Law School (LL.M) Legum Magister (Admiralty) 1986. Practicing Attorney since 1985. Practicing Mediator since 1989. Elected in 2008, Commissioner Skrmetta serves a six year term at the pleasure of the citizens of his district which is comprised of a population of near one million.
Paper abstract (max 300 words)	Louisiana has entered the world of regional electricity markets. We have begun a five year transition period as a path to permanent participation. The system by which we generate, transmit and distribute the commodity of electricity in United States has arrived at a point where points of conflict occur with many historic parochial components of regulation. These American issues are applicable to challenges faced in the European Union as well as other regions with multi-jurisdictional oversight of transmission planning processes. While Louisiana's experience as part of a larger regional transmission organization (RTO) is relatively new, our transition suggests an effective, efficient improvement, allowing us to meet Louisiana's unique challenges of the past 10 years. Conflict has existed between federal and state authorities since independence. Managing the differences in a reasonable and logical manner is the solution to find the balance point at which both governments' goals can be advanced. Advancing stringent government regulations will have immediate impact on the ratepayers. Thought should be given to how we can achieve our goals in a manner that promotes the efficiencies that are sought without financially injuring the citizens of our republic. As

Louisiana enters the electricity market our goals are simple and clear. To advance needed transmission upgrades when necessary and to promote natural market participation. As with all markets it will be the job of regulators to monitor how markets function and seek to keep markets as free of unrelated regulations as possible. Federal EPA regulation, by limiting supply, could unintentionally impact the market that seeks to promote lower costs, increased transmission and greater access to a variety of electricity sources. The result would be contrary to the goals of both the federal and state regulators, serving the best interests of the ratepayer citizen.