

ELCON *PRESS RELEASE*

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JOHN HUGHES IS NEW ELCON PRESIDENT

Effective today, John Hughes is the new President and CEO of the Electricity Consumers Resource Council (ELCON), pursuant to a vote taken by ELCON's Board of Directors last month. He replaces John Anderson who had earlier announced his retirement, effective at the end of the year. Anderson will now serve as President Emeritus.

Hughes joined ELCON in 1987 and since then has been ELCON's lead staff person on technical issues. He has managed ELCON's interventions at FERC, DOE, EPA and State proceedings and has been the lead author of numerous ELCON position papers. In addition, Hughes has served on several committees of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC). He previously worked as Director of Economic Research at the Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation and as Chief Economist of the Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Council.

Hughes stated that "Since its inception in 1976, ELCON and ELCON members have sought a reliable supply of electricity at just and reasonable prices. In many ways, those objectives are in as much jeopardy in today's changing electricity marketplace as they ever have been. Even though the Nation has an ever increasing supply of energy, new energy and environmental regulations, and the infrastructure costs they will require, may well force electricity prices up. And many experts have questioned whether some of those regulations may also threaten grid reliability."

Dave Meade of Praxair, a manufacturer of industrial gases and ELCON's Chairman, noted that "ELCON is fortunate to have John Hughes on staff with nearly thirty years of experience to succeed John Anderson. Throughout his career at ELCON, John Hughes has demonstrated that he understands electricity markets, he understands issues, and, most important, he understands how ELCON members can play a meaningful role in the public policy debate. On behalf of ELCON's membership, I wholeheartedly endorse his presidency."

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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.