

The Outlook for Energy: A view to 2040

Speakers' short biographies

Tom Brookes (discussant)

Mr. Tom Brookes is Executive Director, Strategic Communications, and a member of the ECF Executive Management Team. Based in Brussels, he works to advance the policy response to climate change, and has responsibility for external communications, public affairs, and political communications strategy for the ECF, its affiliates, and network. He is Senior Advisor, Global Communications Strategies for ClimateWorks Foundation. Tom joined the ECF in 2009.

Tom started his career as a journalist, covering technology, regulation, and European politics, and moved into communications, public affairs, and media relations in the late 1990s. Following regulatory and standards work for Alcatel and other organisations, Tom joined an international public affairs consultancy and worked on his first competition case in 2000. That case, IMS Health, became the defining case on the balance between intellectual property and competition law in the EU.

Tom worked on the Microsoft anti-trust case in Europe, representing Microsoft as press spokesman on the case and acting as political advisor to Microsoft's general counsel from 2002 to 2007. He also worked on mergers, international trade issues, and regulatory issues in copyright, environment, and other areas. He then left consultancy and joined Apple as Director of Government Affairs, Europe.

William (Bill) M. Colton (speaker)

Mr. William (Bill) M. Colton is Vice President of Corporate Strategic Planning, formerly Assistant Treasurer for Exxon Mobil Corporation. Mr. Colton was born in Massachusetts and received his B.S. degree in Chemical Engineering from Michigan Technological University in 1975.

Mr. Colton joined Exxon Corporation in 1975 as a Project Engineer in Exxon Research and Engineering. His career of thirty-three years has been spent in both upstream and downstream businesses throughout ExxonMobil, including project development, refining, lubes, synthetic fuels and marketing. Mr. Colton also worked in finance and planning positions, including Exxon Mobil corporate headquarters. He spent eight years overseas, first as Director of Finance and Planning for Esso Sekiyu in Tokyo, and then in Bangkok, initially as Finance Director and later as the Chairman of Esso Thailand.

The Outlook for Energy: A view to 2040

Speakers' short biographies

Mr. Colton returned to the U.S. in 2000 when he was appointed Treasurer of ExxonMobil Development Company in Houston. He became Vice President Asia Pacific in ExxonMobil Gas & Power Marketing Company on April 1, 2002. Mr. Colton returned to the Corporation as Assistant Treasurer on January 1, 2006. Mr. Colton and his wife Deborah have two daughters, Susan and Elizabeth. They reside in Dallas, Texas. Mr. Colton joined the NBR Board of Directors in April of 2009.

Christian Egenhofer (chair)

Senior Fellow, Head of the Energy and Climate programme; Director of the Energy Climate House; Visiting Professor at the College of Europe in Bruges (Belgium) and Natolin (Poland), SciencesPo (Paris/France) and LUISS University (Rome/Italy).

Christian Egenhofer has more than 20 years' experience working with EU institutions on numerous policy areas. Over the last decade he has been specialising in EU energy and climate change policy, with a particular focus on the EU energy, climate and transport policies. He is currently Senior Fellow and Head of the Energy, Climate and Environment Programme at the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), a Brussels-based think tank. Christian is also Visiting Professor at the College of Europe in Bruges (Belgium) and Natolin (Poland), SciencesPo (Paris/France) and LUISS University in Rome/Italy. From 1997 to 2010 he was Senior Research Fellow and Jean-Monnet Lecturer at the Centre for Energy, Petroleum and Mineral Law and Policy at the University of Dundee in Scotland/UK (part-time).

Christian Egenhofer holds a Master's degree in Administration from the University of Konstanz as well as a Public Law degree.

Stefaan Vergote (discussant)

Since March 2014, Stefaan Vergote is Head of Unit 'Economic Analysis and Financial Instruments' in the Directorate General for Energy of the European Commission. His team is responsible for energy modelling, economic analysis, the development of financial instruments in the energy field, energy statistics and monitoring of energy markets.

The Outlook for Energy: A view to 2040

Speakers' short biographies

From 2010 to 2014, he was Head of Unit 'Strategy and Economic Analysis' in the Directorate General for Climate Action. He led the team in charge of the 2050 Low Carbon Roadmap and the 2030 framework for climate and energy policies.

From 2002 to 2010, he worked in DG Environment as policy officer and Deputy Head of Unit. He worked on various climate and energy related topics such as the ETS, CO2&cars, the Effort Sharing Decision, renewable energy, energy efficiency and CCS. In 2007-2008, he lead the team in DG ENV in charge of the development of the 2020 climate and energy package.

From 1998 to 2002, he was policy officer working on automotive emission control standards in DG Enterprise.

He has a diploma of civil electrotechnical-mechanical engineer at the Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven) and holds a Postgraduate Degree in Environmental Management and Technology (KULeuven).