

Norwegian Association for Energy Economics (NAEE)

NAEE www.naee.no was formally established in 1984 and today has a membership of around 120 individual members with background from energy companies, government, consulting, policy research and academic organisations in Norway. In its earlier years, NAEE membership was mainly from the oil and gas sector however more recently the organisation has attracted members from the electricity industry as well. Since its establishment, the NAEE has worked actively to provide an interdisciplinary forum for the exchange of ideas, experience and issues among professionals interested in energy economics in Norway.

Conferences and Seminars

NAEE regularly holds workshops, seminars and conferences for the benefit of its members and public at large. Most of the NAEE seminars and workshops are organised in cooperation with Norwegian organisations with interest in the energy sector. The seminars and workshops organised during 2005-2006 illustrates this approach. During this period, NAEE organised following national seminars:

- “Utilisation of gas in Norway: Opportunities and Challenges”, organised in collaboration with Statistics Norway, Oslo, 30. March, 2006
- “Security of supply in the Norwegian power market”, organised in collaboration with Statnett, Oslo, 15. November 2005.
- “Norwegian participation in Energy projects in the South: Challenges and dilemmas”, organised in collaboration with Norwegian Petroleum Directorate, Stavanger, 11.May 2005.

The association has also actively pursued regional cooperation with its peer chapters in Europe. In August 2005, NAEE hosted the Annual European Energy Conference in Bergen. This conference attracted over 120 presentations from delegates and speakers from government, corporate and academic circles from over 30 countries. This European event was organised for the second time by NAEE, the first time being in 2000. Both conferences were organised in cooperation with Institute for Research in Economics and Business Administration, SNF, Bergen. NAEE was also host for the IAEE International Conference that was held in Stavanger in 1994.

Opportunities and priorities

Norway is endowed with abundant non-renewable and renewable energy resources. The oil and gas activity in the North Sea is already well established and so is the utilisation of the hydropower resources in the country. However the Norwegian energy wealth goes beyond the currently developed resources. Exploitation of offshore oil and gas resources in the Arctic region is currently in its infancy stage. So is the exploitation of renewable sources, mainly wind power, along the Norwegian coast.

On the demand side, utilisation of natural gas in Norway, particularly for power production is one of the issues on the contemporary agenda. The main challenge facing the industry and the policy makers is to find a commercially viable alternative for handling CO₂ emissions from gas power production. Other issues on the policy agenda include: security of supplies in the Norwegian power system which is almost exclusively dependant on hydropower, and competitive supplies of power inputs to the energy intensive industries as current preferential contracts held by these industries expire by 2010. NAEE is addressing this latter issue at its forthcoming seminar:

- “Power intensive industries and the regional power and network situation in Norway: A power system perspective”, to be organised in collaboration with SNF, Bergen, 9th Nov.2006.

The welfare of the Norwegian society is closely coupled to the efficient and equitable management of its energy resources. Resource endowments are determined in heaven, however resource management takes place on the earth. The quality of the human capital employed in the management of the resources is crucial in this context. NAEE is committed to providing a forum for professionals interested in the energy sector, and the challenges in Norway in the coming years will be no less than what they have been during the past.

The current position of the NAEE is due to its distinguished members, and the voluntary efforts of the group of enthusiasts that have constituted the board of NAEE from time to time since its establishment in 1984. NAEE shall continue to create value by providing updated information and networking opportunities for its members and the public at large.

Balbir Singh, President NAEE

Careers, Energy Education and Scholarships Online Databases

IAEE is pleased to highlight our online careers database, with special focus on graduate positions. Please visit http://www.iaee.org/en/students/student_careers.asp for a listing of employment opportunities.

Employers are invited to use this database, at no cost, to advertise their graduate, senior graduate or seasoned professional positions to the IAEE membership and visitors to the IAEE website seeking employment assistance.

The IAEE is also pleased to highlight the Energy Economics Education database available at <http://www.iaee.org/en/students/eee.aspx> Members from academia are kindly invited to list, at no cost, graduate, postgraduate and research programs as well as their university and research centers in this online database. For students and interested individuals looking to enhance their knowledge within the field of energy and economics, this is a valuable database to reference.

Further, IAEE has also launched a Scholarship Database, open at no cost to different grants and scholarship providers in Energy Economics and related fields. This is available at <http://www.iaee.org/en/students/ListScholarships.aspx>

We look forward to your participation in these new initiatives.