

For Immediate Release

For further information:
Tom Sommers
(713) 222-1600

**CONNECTICUT DPUC NAMES LONDON ECONOMICS TO ASSIST
IN OVERSIGHT OF CL&P'S AUCTION FOR TRANSITIONAL STANDARD OFFER
IN 2005-2006**

BOSTON, September 28, 2004 – The Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (DPUC) has named London Economics International to advise the DPUC in overseeing Connecticut Light & Power's (CL&P) competitive bidding process to procure energy to meet its transitional standard offer for 2005 and 2006.

London Economics will support the DPUC team throughout the entire CL&P auction process, including developing and evaluating the request for proposals and master sales agreement, monitoring initial bidding, and evaluating final bids submitted and subsequent negotiations. Core objectives of the process are:

- Effectively monitor maintenance of a competitive Code of Conduct throughout the auction;
- Safeguard against any competitive advantage being provided to a power supplier by virtue of its association or affiliation with an electric distribution company;
- Involve as broad a group of potential bidders as is practicable; and
- Promote price consistency and stability.

The process is intended to produce a contract that provides DPUC with maximum flexibility in setting retail pricing for 2005 and 2006, and in maximizing ratepayers' ability to choose or leave a third-party supplier for generation services. At the conclusion of its assignment, London Economics will draft testimony and offer an independent expert opinion on the fairness of the process and selection of the winning bids.

London Economics has performed more than twenty consulting and advisory projects in the Northeast for a variety of power sector parties including IPP developers, utilities, and electricity consumers. "We have a thorough understanding of Northeastern electricity markets, and the state of the electricity restructuring and competition in Connecticut and surrounding states," said Julia

Frayer, London Economics Managing Director. “The firm has provided advisory services on competitive energy procurement for different industry participants, including industrials, System Operators, and utilities. As a result, we understand the key ingredients necessary for implementing a successful competitive bidding process. This knowledge base will be instrumental in monitoring and assessing CL&P’s procurement of its Transitional Standard Offer for 2005 and 2006,” she said.

London Economics International LLC provides consulting services and expert testimony on economic, financial, regulatory, and strategic issues to corporations, law firms, and public agencies world-wide from its Boston headquarters, with affiliated offices in Mexico City, Melbourne, London and Paris. For more information on London Economics’ competitive procurement and auction design expertise, please call Julia Frayer at 1-617-494-8200.

#