



University of Texas Releases Electric Competition Scorecard

After a year of utility scandals, academic study examines electric markets in states

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CEN CONTACT: Joanna Lewis – jlewis@conservativeenergynetwork.org

October 20, 2021 – AUSTIN, Texas – The **University of Texas** has released a national “Electric Competition Scorecard” in conjunction with the release of “The State of Electric Competition in the United States of America,” an academic paper authored by Joshua D. Rhodes, PhD., Aaron Nisman, William Wade, and Michael E. Webber, PhD. from the Webber Energy Group at the University of Texas.

“This study seeks to assess the existing principles of competition in each state’s electricity sectors, it is not a commentary on former or current public officials,” explained **Joshua Rhodes, PhD.** “Competition is often introduced into systems to nudge them towards higher levels of efficiency.”

The study awarded a “D” or “F” rating for electric competition to 28 states. Only four states received an “A” rating. As the study demonstrates, the extent of electric market deregulation and competition is far from uniform from state to state.

The **Conservative Energy Network (CEN)** will host a webinar on **Wednesday, October 27 at 11:00 AM ET** to discuss the study’s findings with Dr. Rhodes. CEN believes that today’s economy calls for a rethinking of the role of utility providers. Policies should be enacted to encourage competition in the marketplace and recognize the rights of individuals to choose how they purchase and consume electricity. You can register for the webinar [here](#).

“States that are part of a broader, wholesale electricity market while offering retail choice for customers tended to score the highest on the study’s scorecard,” concluded **Landon Stevens**, CEN director of policy and advocacy. “Fully-regulated states tended to not fare as well.”

“Competition is paramount to forging a cleaner energy future,” added **Mark Pischea**, CEN president and CEO. “Unfortunately, it is difficult to capture how states enforce the policies, laws, and regulations that lead to higher scores. CEN is working hard to ensure that all

ratepayers can benefit from an electric market that is truly competitive in practice, not just on paper.”

[Polling by CEN](#) has consistently found that three quarters of Americans favor a new electricity system that benefits the environment, accelerates the availability of new technology, and creates more choices by opening markets to competition. Consumers want the ability to choose an electricity provider that best meets their needs, rather than relying on a single monopoly utility.

For more information, and to access the entire report including scores for all 50 states, visit www.competitioncorecard.org.

###

About Conservative Energy Network: Formed in 2016, the Conservative Energy Network (CEN) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit coalition of 21 state-based conservative clean energy organizations advancing policy solutions that emphasize market competition, consumer choice, and innovation. Learn more at www.conservativeenergynetwork.org.