

discusses the widespread use of load-following products in regions with retail competition. Instead, we could have cited the myriad regulatory proceedings which this article references, but thought it unnecessary. De Castro *et al.* have unfortunately misinterpreted this citation.

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De Castro *et al.* Respond: Our Response Seemed To Fall on Deaf Ears

We provide this brief response to be on record that we believe the authors have failed to read either the published paper or the carefully crafted response to their unsubstantiated charges. We are disappointed that the pages of logical arguments and structured analysis in the article

and in our reply fell on totally deaf ears.

In their first reply, the authors claimed that our analysis was “*wrong*,” “*faulty*,” “*flawed*,” etc., because we ignored the “*successful*” experiences in other states, without citing any references to back up this extravagant claim. In our reply, we provided evidence that the contrary was true in the jurisdictions whose histories we studied. We are not surprised to observe again that the authors fail to provide a single reference for their claim of “*success*” as there is no trace of evidence that such “*success*” exists anywhere but in their fecund imagination.

In their second reply, the authors say that we did not address their points and that we provided *no analysis*, notwithstanding the fact that we addressed each issue

raised, demonstrated the lack of any basis or substantiation for the authors’ stated claims, and showed that specific terms used by the authors indeed supported the veracity of our statements.

Finally, we cannot help but conjecture that the authors’ objective is not to provide *anything* meaningful and substantive but simply to attack the carefully researched and extensively substantiated points that we raised in an attempt to protect the lucrative consulting practice to push the load-following product. We are confident that readers will see through this veiled attempt to “set the record straight.”■

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❖ M E E T I N G S O F I N T E R E S T ❖				
Conference	Date	Place	Sponsor	Contact
Introduction to Bulk Power Systems	Feb. 10–11, 2009	Scottsdale, AZ	Power Marketing Association	http://www.pmaconference.com/2.10.09.pdf
Canadian Nuclear Association Annual Seminar	Feb. 25–27, 2009	Ottawa	Nuclear Industry Association	020 7766 6645
Electric West 2009	Mar. 17–20, 2009	Las Vegas	Electrical Wholesaling	www.electricshow.com/
Fourteenth Annual POWER Research Conference	Mar. 19–20, 2009	UC Berkeley	The University of California Energy Institute’s and the Center for the Study of Energy Markets	http://www.ucei.berkeley.edu/power_conf.html