
Editorial

Ahmed F. Zobaa

Electrical Power & Machines Dept.,
Faculty of Engineering, Cairo University,
Giza, 12613, Egypt
Fax: +2012 390 4786
E-mail: a.zobaa@eng.cu.edu.eg

Walmir Freitas

Department of Electrical Energy Systems,
State University of Campinas, 13083-852, Campinas, Brazil
E-mail: walmir@dsee.fee.unicamp.br

James S. McConnach

Castle Hill Engineering Services,
25 Catharine Crescent, Bracebridge, Ontario, P1L 1B2, Canada
E-mail: jsmcconnach@iee.org

Biographical notes: Ahmed Faheem Zobaa received the BSc (hons.), MSc and PhD Degrees in Electrical Power and Machines from the Faculty of Engineering at Cairo University, Giza, Egypt, in 1992, 1997 and 2002. Currently, he is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Electrical Power and Machines, at Faculty of Engineering, Cairo University. He was an Instructor in the Department of Electrical Power and Machines, with the Faculty of Engineering at Cairo University from 1992 to 1997 and Teaching Assistant from 1997 to 2002. His areas of research include harmonics, compensation of reactive power, power quality, photovoltaics, wind energy, education and distance learning. He is an editorial board member for *Electric Power Components and Systems Journal*, *International Journal of Emerging Electric Power Systems*, *International Journal of Computational Intelligence* and *WSEAS Transactions on Power Systems*. He is an editor for *IEEE Power Engineering Letters* and *IEEE Transactions on Energy Conversion*. Also, he is an Associate Editor for *IEEE Transactions on Industrial Electronics*, *Electrical Power Quality and Utilization Journal*, *International Journal of Power and Energy Systems*, *International Journal on Modelling and Simulation*, *International Journal of Energy Technology and Policy* and *Neurocomputing Journal*. He is a member of the IEEE Power Engineering/Industry Applications/Industrial Electronics/ Power Electronics Societies, Institution of Electrical Engineers, the International Association of Science and Technology for Development and the International Solar Energy Society.

Walmir Freitas received his PhD Degree in Electrical Engineering from State University of Campinas, Brazil, in 2001. From 2002 to 2003, he was a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Alberta, Canada. At present, he is an Assistant Professor at the State University of Campinas, Brazil. His areas of research interests are power system stability and control, distributed generation and power electronic applications.

James S. McConnach graduated in Electrical Engineering from St. Andrews University, Scotland in 1964 and received his MSc Degree from the University of Salford, England in 1966. During his early career years he was involved with the development and application of special transmission equipment. In 1972, he joined a UK Consultancy firm, working on power system projects in many developing countries. In 1977, he joined Ontario Hydro in Toronto Canada where he had the opportunity to work on and manage a wide range of challenging projects in bulk transmission, hydro, fossil and nuclear generation, and energy efficiency up to his retirement in 2000. He is a registered professional engineer in Ontario, a fellow of the IEE, UK and a senior member of the IEEE, USA. He is Vice-chair of the IEEE-PES Policy Development Coordinating Committee.

During the last quarter of the 20th century, many developments have served as catalysts for change in the national energy policies of countries throughout the globe. These catalysts have affected the institutions and energy framework of virtually every country. In the majority of countries, the predominant electric institution is the electric utility monopoly – characterised by some degree of government ownership and control. In many of these countries, self-generation supplements the electric supply. To the extent that existing institutions have been unable to create new sources of funding for new electric-sector capacity and new sources of funding to cope with environmental imperatives, governments are turning to the private sector.

The objective of the special issue is to provide a means for the publication and interchange of information, on an international basis, on all aspects of *Policy and Economic Issues of Electrical Power and Energy Systems*.