



APERC's Future Research Activities

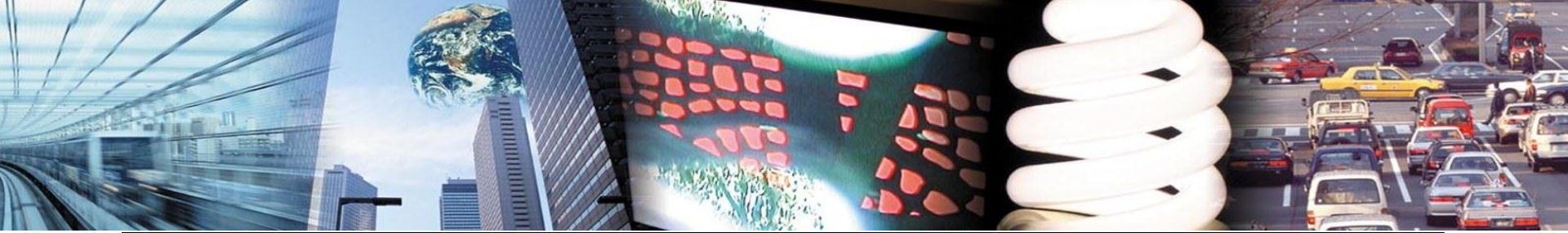
Ralph D. Samuelson

APERC Annual Conference

27 February 2013

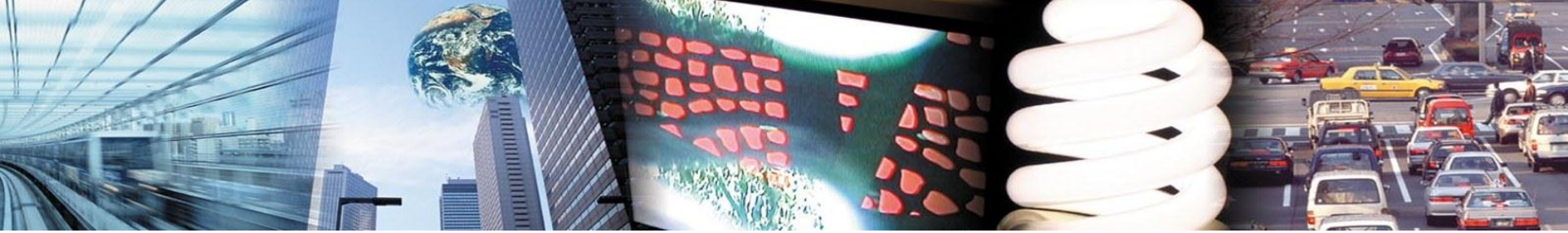


Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation

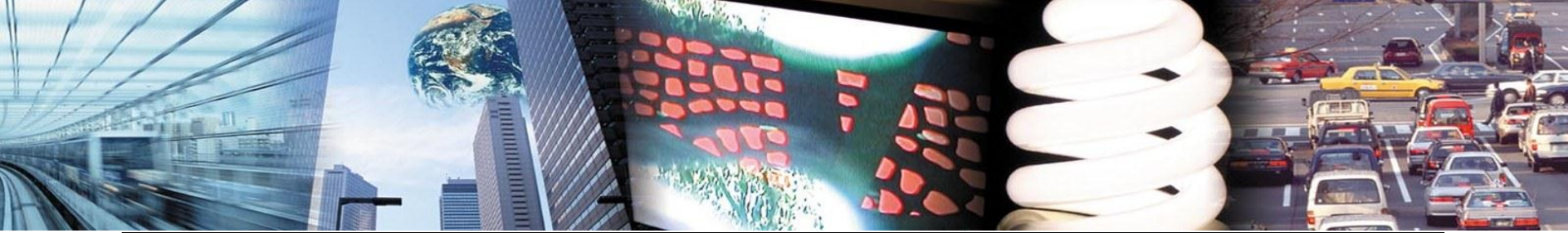


Outline

- The Big Picture: The Role of APERC's Research
- Outlook 6th Edition: What Should Be Included?

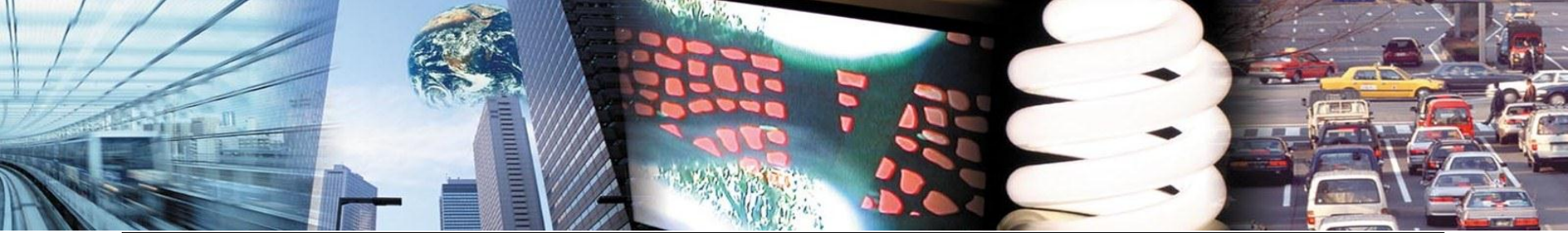


The Big Picture: The Role of APERC's Research



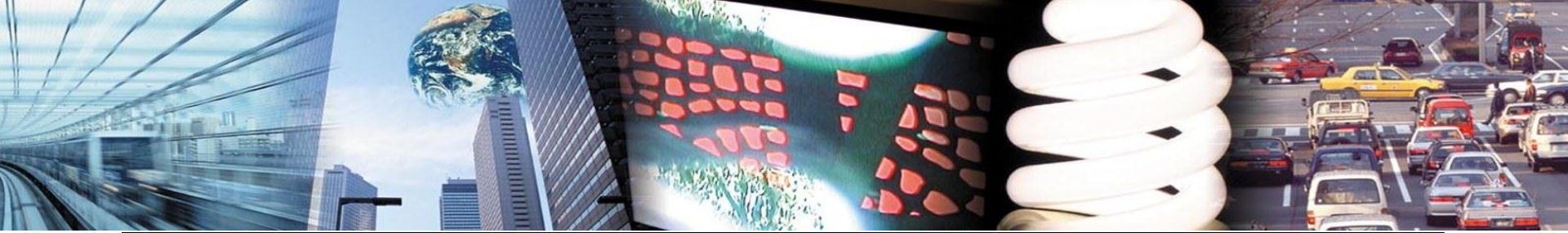
Some Historical Background

- Prior to 2009, APERC's primary focus was on research
 - In addition to the *Outlook* (3 editions by then) and *Overview*, APERC produced a series of one-off research reports on various topics
- In 2008, APERC was asked to coordinate the first Peer Review of Energy Efficiency (PREE) for New Zealand
 - This was the first of APERC's cooperative projects
 - Feedback was good, and ministers soon instructed APERC to coordinate more PREE's, as well as a variety of other cooperative efforts
 - These cooperative efforts have been well-regarded by participants, as evidenced by the high rankings they have consistently received in the EWG's funding priority polls



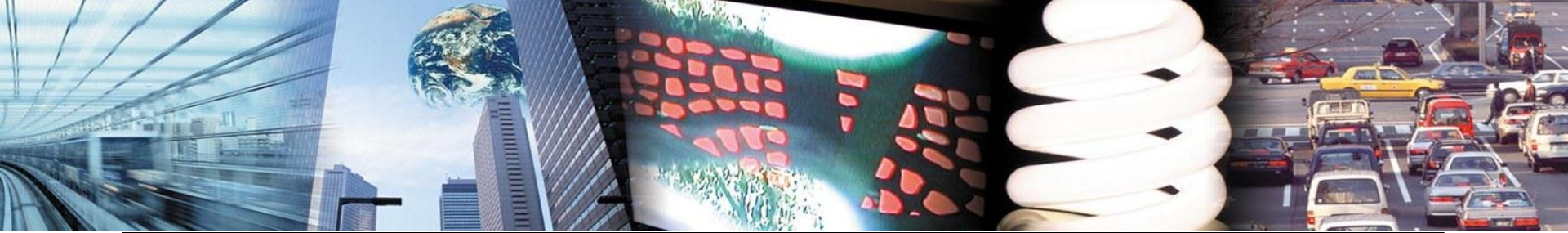
So What Became of APERC's Research?

- In 2009, APERC made a conscious decision that we should focus more on cooperative projects, rather than research reports
 - We felt that APEC economies needed one-on-one real-world advice on improving energy efficiency and promoting low-carbon energy much more than they needed research reports
 - Evidence that APERC's research was having an impact on real-world decisions was lacking
 - Because APERC researchers are generally recruited through economy governments, they tend to be well-qualified to work directly with economy government officials. On the other hand, APERC researchers with the skills needed to do cutting-edge research have been unusual.



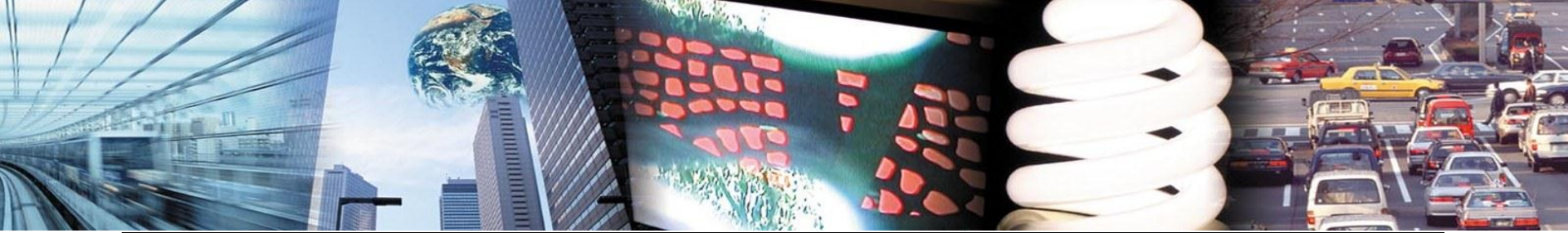
The Research That Continued

- The Past: *APEC Energy Statistics* (actually IEEJ/EDMC)
- The Present: *APEC Energy Overview*
- The Future: *Outlook*, our flagship research project
- *Compendium of Energy Efficiency Policies of APEC Economies*
- Research in support of cooperative projects, especially CEEDS:
 - Building and appliance energy efficiency standards
 - Better urban planning
 - ESCO's
- Research in support of EWG decision making:
 - APEC energy intensity improvement goal
 - *Pathways* report dealing with meeting climate change challenges



The Outlook 5th Edition

- Business-as-Usual (BAU) case provides objective and detailed look-ahead at where each economy's current policies are likely to lead
- In addition, the *Outlook 5th Edition* went beyond previous *Outlooks* in the extent of its original research
 - Alternative cases provided some cutting-edge ideas for improvement: high-gas scenario, virtual clean car race, further work on urban planning
 - Well-organized compilation of other APERC research findings: APEC energy intensity target, building and appliance energy efficiency standards, climate change

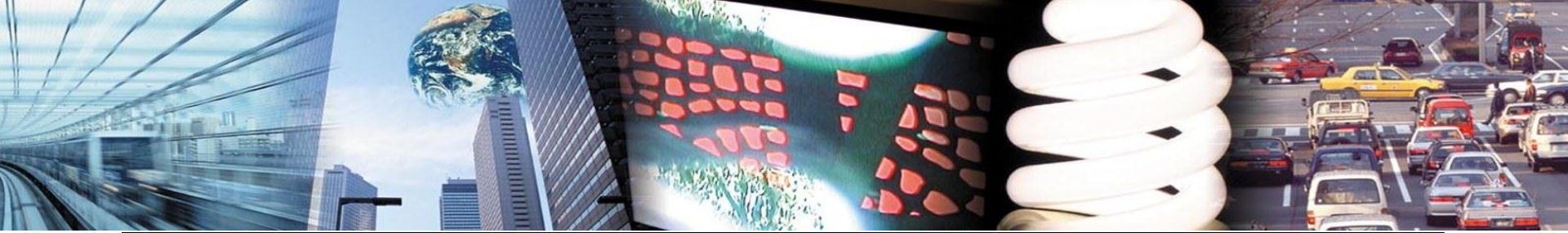


The Big Picture: Summary

- How can APERC best leverage its (limited) resources to produce value for APEC economies?
 - Continue emphasis on cooperative projects, but focus resources where returns are highest
 - Continue APERC's regular publications: *Outlook*, *Overview*, *APEC Energy Statistics*, and *Compendium*
 - Use *Outlook* as a vehicle to introduce some new ideas into APEC's thinking

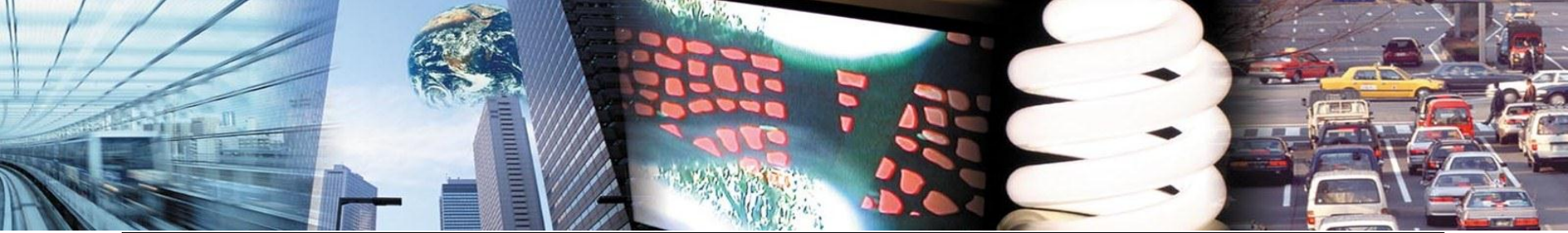


Outlook 6th Edition: What Should Be Included?



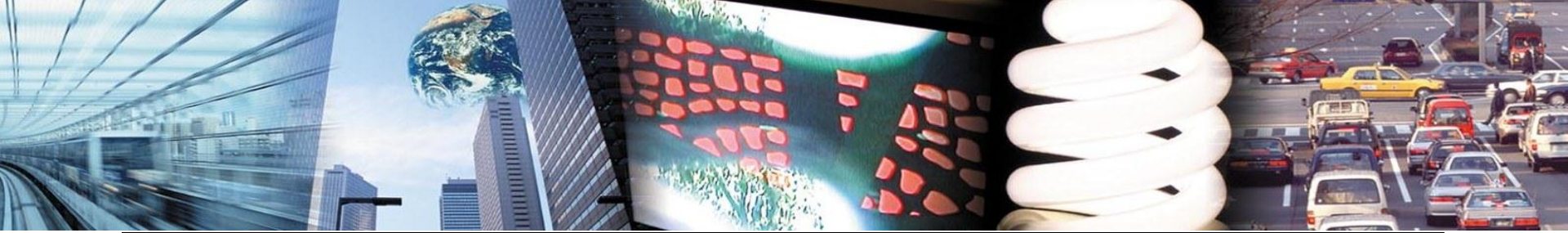
The Outlook Challenge

- APERC is not the only organization that publishes an international energy outlook; others include IEA, USEIA, IEEJ, ASEAN, ADB, OPEC, oil companies (Exxon, BP), more
- The key findings and BAU projections of these outlooks tend to be very similar
- If APERC is going to continue to do an Outlook, how can it have value in this environment?



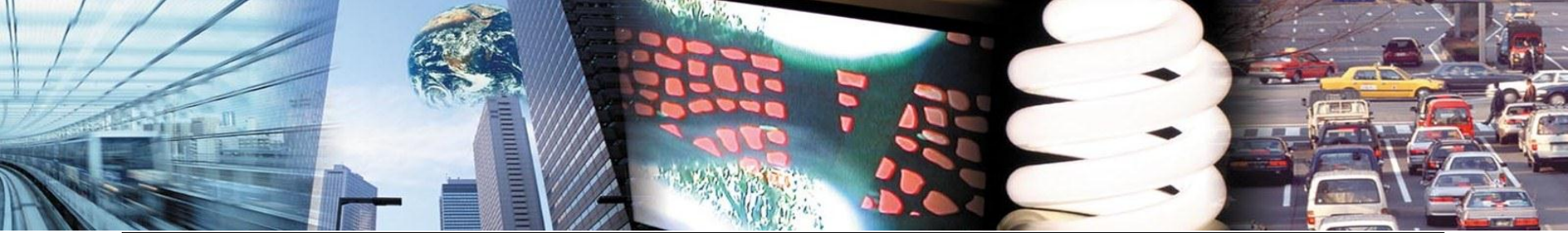
What Can Be Unique About APERC's Outlook?

1. Can give more detailed attention to specific APEC economies, especially the smaller ones
2. Can focus on APEC-specific topics (energy intensity improvements, fossil-fuel subsidy rationalization, APEC regional trade)
3. Can have something original to say (5th Edition addressed opportunities in urban planning, alternative vehicles including hyper-cars, and removing barriers to natural gas, 'sidebars')



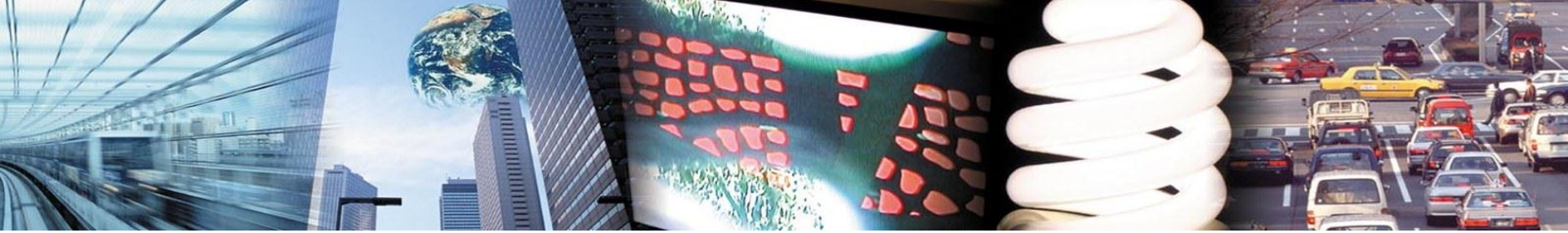
What Are Some Original Topics the Outlook 6th Edition Might Address?

- Opportunities in distributed combined heat and power (co-generation)
- Opportunities in electricity trade in the APEC region
- Opportunities in geothermal energy
- Opportunities in telecommuting
- Opportunities in new approaches to climate change agreements
- Other ideas?



Closing Thought: Tapping Our Researcher's Talents

- APERC researchers come to us from a number of economies, and have varied backgrounds
- To make the *Outlook* richer, and to provide a richer experience for our researchers, we want to make sure our researchers have an opportunity to follow-up on their interests
- So we will seek their suggestions for topics that they wish to investigate. Examples from the 5th Edition, sidebars:
 - "Industrial Energy Intensity, China and the United States"
 - "Improving Energy Efficiency with Residential Fuel Cells"
 - "Improving the Efficiency of Coal-Fired Electricity Generation"



Questions and Discussion