



Area of Impact: Society
Specialty: Public Policies

The production, distribution and consumption of energy in Chile have become an urgent challenge for the country. As a consequence, a unanimous conclusion has been reached on the need to introduce major changes in order to "achieve sufficient, efficient, secure, equitable and sustainable energy development".

Resulting from this judgment, a great variety of measures have been proposed which, as a whole, seek to strengthen the national electricity supply system, ranging from large infrastructure construction to energy efficiency campaigns. From a conventional viewpoint, these measures appear to be well designed and should contribute to improve the current situation to some extent. The severity of the problem, however, should lead us to be more ambitious when it comes to exploring solutions, asking ourselves at the same time what new factors have to be incorporated to initiate a decisive transition towards a sustainable electrical grid.

The Millennium Nucleus Center NUMIES is convinced that a change in the traditional perspective is necessary so that energy policy reformulation can be significant and effective, accepting that this takes place within a broader ground than just the technical-economic area. For this reason, the center seeks to enrich the traditional approach to energy issues in Chile by incorporating social and cultural factors, an analytical perspective that has so far played a marginal role in the analysis and development of concrete interventions in the national energy sector.



MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

- Historical genealogies on the progression and controversies that accompany the construction of electrical infrastructure, the development of the national electricity market and the Chilean consumer during the twentieth century.
- Study about the sociocultural factors that participate in the process of developing unconventional energy provision infrastructure.
- Studies on public policy in the energy sector, with particular emphasis on the tensions that emerge from energy transition.
- Survey on energy consumption practices in Chile with a special focus on issues of sustainability.
- Multi-situated ethnographic case study on domestic energy consumption by individuals located in different parts of the country, both urban and rural.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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NUMIES
Núcleo Milenio de Investigación
en Energía y Sociedad

RESEARCHERS

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RESEARCH TOPICS

- **Energy markets and regulation:** studies of the sociocultural factors involved in the regulation and distribution of energy, both at state level and that of economic actors.
- **Consumer practices:** examines everyday practices related to energy consumption from the user perspective.
- **Policies and disputes over energy infrastructure:** investigates the current and planned energy infrastructure in Chile. Describes and analyzes the social controversies associated with its development and operation.

NOTED OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

- **NUMIES Seminar: "Energy and Society in Chile: New Challenges for New Citizenship" (2015).**
- **Workshop: Citizens Energy. The New Challenge of Civil Society (2015)**
- **Design and implementation of energy efficiency workshops for schools (2016).** The objective is to sensitize students in first and second cycle of elementary school on the importance of energy efficiency, promote learning spaces, reflection, dialogue and action on how energy is used in our country, mainly through the "learning by doing" method.
- **NUMIES International Seminar: "Bounding Economic Rationality: Time-varying Electricity Rates and the New Consumer" with Daniel Breslau (2016).**
- **NUMIES International Seminar: "The Smart Grid and the Techno-material Construction of an Electricity Consumer" with Catherine Grandclément (2016).**

PRODUCTIVITY PUBLICATIONS
(BETWEEN 2014-2016)
ISI: 5 | BOOK CHAPTERS: 3 |
OTHER PUBLICATIONS: 1

ACTIVE MILLENNIUM NUCLEUS CENTER
From 2014 to 2017
Formerly: The Millennium Nucleus
Center of Investigation about Energy
and Society - NUMIES

The Millennium Nucleus Centers can be renewed after 3 years, reaching a maximum of 6 years.

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