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### An Impact Assessment of the Nigerian Power Sector Reforms

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<b>Authors</b>	<a href="#">S.T. Wara</a> , <a href="#">A. Abayomi-Alli</a> , <a href="#">N.D. Umo</a> , <a href="#">I. Oghogho</a> , <a href="#">C.D. Odikayor</a>
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<b>Abstract</b>	This paper examines the various reforms carried out in the Nigerian power sector between the year 1999 and 2007 and its impact on the life of the average citizens. Efforts were made to review relevant literatures, questionnaires were administered and forty-nine responses were received and the result was analyzed through the use of simple percentages and correlation coefficient. The correlation coefficient method, r (the product moment of the correlation was negative and of magnitude -1, implying a perfect correlation in the negative direction (deregulations and reforms are not improving the power sector of Nigeria yet). The research hypothesis, HR, stated that the deregulation and reforms did not evidently improve the power sector. It was recommended that the government should continue the rehabilitation of the various power systems in a guided manner to allow a core Nigerian investor, consider alternative sources of energy like solar, tide, biomass, wind.
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## An Impact Assessment of the Nigerian Power Sector Reforms

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**Keywords:** Electricity, PHCN, Deregulation, Power sector, Reforms

**Abstract.** This paper examines the various reforms carried out in the Nigerian power sector between the year 1999 and 2007 and its impact on the life of the average citizens. Efforts were made to review relevant literatures, questionnaires were administered and forty-nine responses were received and the result was analyzed through the use of simple percentages and correlation coefficient. The correlation coefficient method,  $r$  (the product moment of the correlation was negative and of magnitude -1, implying a perfect correlation in the negative direction (deregulations and reforms are not improving the power sector of Nigeria yet). The research hypothesis,  $H_R$ , stated that the deregulation and reforms did not evidently improve the power sector. It was recommended that the government should continue the rehabilitation of the various power systems in a guided manner to allow a core Nigerian investor, consider alternative sources of energy like solar, tide, biomass, wind.

### Introduction

Within the particular conception of socio-economic processes which underscore every economic system, economic development, globally, revolves around the issues of the character, structure, pattern and evolution of desirable inter-personal relations of production, allocation and utilization of available resources in any country. To optimally develop and efficiently manage such available resources, as well as equitably allocating and effectively utilizing them and subsequently putting economic development firmly on course, modern operational technologies with respect to production, allocation and utilization are designed and tied strictly to the use of energy in one form or the other. Thus, the quest to rapidly and firmly put Nigeria on the course of economic development is, technically, a function of adequate supply and distribution of energy, particularly electricity.

In this regard, adequate supply and distribution of electricity constitute a central development issue which cannot be over-emphasized. Apart from serving as the pillar of wealth creation in Nigeria, it is also the nucleus of operation and subsequently the 'engine of growth' for all sectors of the economy. In recognition of the consolidating linkages between the energy sector and other sectors of the economy, electricity development and utilization therefore have pervasive impacts on a range of socio-economic activities and consequently the living standards of citizens in the country.

The foregoing assertions subsequently explain why one of the most frustrating and disturbing economic development issues in the Nigerian economy and society, particularly since the 1960s, is that of inadequacy of electricity supply and distribution. The situation of the emerging electricity outages from the supply inadequacy, especially one year before the inception of the Obasanjo led-civilian administration on May 29, 1999, was that of persistent electric power outages at alarming frequencies, in the face of abundant primary electricity resources-coal, natural gas, geothermal, tide, solar, biogas, biomass [1,2].

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