### Accepted Manuscript

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 PII:
 S0140-9883(14)00272-2

 DOI:
 doi: 10.1016/j.eneco.2014.11.003

 Reference:
 ENEECO 2927

 To appear in:
 Energy Economics

Received date:19 June 2013Revised date:24 July 2014Accepted date:2 November 2014



Please cite this article as: Paraschiv, Florentina, Fleten, Stein-Erik, Schürle, Michael, A spot-forward model for electricity prices with regime shifts, *Energy Economics* (2014), doi: 10.1016/j.eneco.2014.11.003

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## ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

## A spot-forward model for electricity prices with regime shifts

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#### Abstract

We propose a novel regime-switching approach for electricity prices in which simulated and forecasted prices are consistent with currently observed forward prices. Additionally, the model is able to reproduce spikes and negative prices. We distinguish between a base regime as well as upper and lower spike regimes. We derive hourly price forward curves for EEX Phelix, and together with historical hourly spot prices, historical hourly price forward curves are the basis for model calibration. The model can be used for simulation and forecasting of electricity spot prices over short- and medium-term horizons. Tests imply that it shows a better performance than classical time series approaches.

*Keywords:* electricity prices, regime-switching model, negative prices, spikes, price forward curves

#### 1 1. Introduction

The deregulation of electricity markets has shifted much risk onto producers and retailers. Extreme price movements force producers and wholesale buyers to hedge against price risk. Electricity is non-storable and faces a volatile demand from end-users depending on weather conditions and business cycles. Furthermore, factors like the use of renewable energy sources, power plant outages or transmission grid unreliability enhance complexity

Preprint submitted to Energy Economics

November 7, 2014

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