

Charles Blake

Consultant

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Languages: English



Expertise

- Data Science and Analytics
- Performance, Productivity and Efficiency
- Regulation

Sectors

- Energy
- Transport
- Water

Profile

Charles is a member of Oxera's Analytics and Performance Assessment teams. He has extensive experience in regulatory jurisdictions in the UK and continental Europe, and has a particular interest in regulated energy and water networks. He has led a number of efficiency projects in the UK water and transport sectors and the German energy sector, including large, complex international benchmarking assignments. Charles regularly delivers training sessions in cost assessment in Oxera's Utility Regulation course.

Before joining Oxera he completed an internship at an energy economics think tank, and read Economics at the University of Cambridge, where he specialised in econometrics and public economics.

Selected professional experience

- Assisting a Belgian energy distribution system operator (DSO) in its engagements with the regulatory body on developing a cost assessment framework (2020–)
- Providing ongoing advice to Dutch gas and electricity transmission system operators (TSOs) on international benchmarking (2020–)
- Advising UK energy networks on cost assessment for the RIIO-2 price controls (2020–)
- Assisting a Dutch gas TSO in its response to the regulator regarding the scope for frontier shift (2020)
- Providing support on cost assessment for a selection of British electricity distribution network operators (DNOs) (2020)

- Quantifying the frontier shift that a Belgian gas and electricity DSO is likely to face and proposing adjustment to the tariff methodology accordingly (2019–20)
- Assisting a UK water company in its appeal to the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) regarding the regulator's approach to cost assessment (2019–)
- Assisting a UK water company in its appeal to the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) regarding the regulator's approach to cost assessment (2019–)
- Critically evaluating the Bundesnetzagentur's (the German energy regulator's) estimation of the scope for ongoing efficiency improvements for a German DSO (2019)
- Advising a consortium of European electricity TSOs on international benchmarking using non-parametric methods (2018–20)
- Assessing the use of stochastic models in efficiency analysis for Highways England (2018–20)
- Quantifying the possible efficiency gains of a Belgian utility company as part of an efficiency benchmarking exercise, including the scope for catch-up and frontier shift efficiency improvements (2017–18)
- Providing ongoing advice to UK water companies in their response to consultations and regulatory determinations, with a particular focus on econometric modelling and the estimation of frontier shift and real price effects (2017–19)

Qualifications

- BA Economics, University of Cambridge