Title of Article: Power Sector Reforms-Effects on Electric Power Supply Reliability and Stability in Nigeria

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Abstract: This study seeks to examine the power sector reforms, effects on electric power supply reliability and stability in Nigeria. The methodology adopted was to review the power sector before and after the reform, effects of the reform on electricity supply, reliability and the expected impact of the proposed models on the Nation’s economy. The major problems affecting the model been pursued especially in a developing country like Nigeria were also examined. The Electric Power Sector has over the past 25 years witnessed a slow and steady decline leading to near complete failure of the system in 1999 at the beginning of the immediate past civilian government. The federal government of Nigeria using National Council on Privatization (NCP) in 1998 had therefore, embarked on an electric power sector reform program, which gave birth to 18 companies under the auspices of Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN). These companies unbundled from the defunct vertically integrated Nigeria Power Authority (NEPA) monopolistic utility are characterized with horizontal structure. In February 2007 government of Nigeria awarded contracts of about $875 million across the country in actualizing some of the goals in the power sector reforms. The study opined that if all identified problems militating against NEPA meeting the energy demand of the country is met by the reformed energy sector, in no distant time Nigeria can boost of an Electric Power Industry (EPI) that can meet the needs of its citizen in the 21st century and place the nation as one of the industrialized country in the world.