

IR COPEL 16/04 - October 25, 2004

## Power Market at Copel's concession area grows 1.8% from January to September 2004

Power consumption market at Copel's concession area grew 1.8% between January and September 2004 in comparison to the same period of 2003.

Residential, commercial and rural consumption grew by 1.9%, 6.1% and 5.9%, respectively. The good performance of the commercial segment is mainly due to its modernization and to the implementation of new commercial businesses, which in September 2004 registered a 3.6% growth over the number of billed customers registered in the same month of the previous year. Rural segment growth is mainly due to increased exports of agriculture and agribusiness products.

Industrial consumption dropped 1.0% as some major large unregulated ("free") customers ceased to be Copel's clients. Excluding such customers from the comparison base, industrial segment would have increased 8.8%, and the total power consumption would have increased 5.7%.

The 8.4% decrease among free costumers outside Copel's concession area is due to the reduction of the contracted energy amounts by some customers and to the ending of some contracts.

### Direct Distribution

Segment	Jan	Sept 2003	Jan	Sept 2004	In GWh Change
Residential		3,287		3,350	1.9%
Industrial		5,386		5,335	-1.0%
Commercial		2,128		2,259	6.1%
Rural		935		990	5.9%
Other		1,259		1,295	2.9%
<b>Sub-total</b>		<b>12,995</b>		<b>13,229</b>	<b>1.8%</b>
Free costumers (industrial clients) outside Paraná State		991		908	-8.4%
<b>Total</b>		<b>13,986</b>		<b>14,137</b>	<b>1.1%</b>

Sincerely,

Rubens Ghilardi  
CFO and Investor Relations Officer

For additional information, please contact Copel's Investor Relations team:  
[ri@copel.com](mailto:ri@copel.com) or (55-41) 222-2027

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