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Preface

Once again, it is a pleasure for me to preface a supplemental issue of *Energy Economics*, a leading academic journal in its field, with a selection of the contents of the 2012 Fifth Atlantic Workshop on Energy and Environmental Economics. As part of a global strategy of pursuing academic excellence in the Spanish region of Galicia, the Barrié Foundation has been supporting this increasingly relevant international academic gathering in the crucial areas of energy and environmental economics. We are especially glad to see that this initiative, now almost ten years old, is gaining momentum and playing a significant role in the dissemination of research in the borders of scientific knowledge.

I believe that only a superficial examination of the authors participating in this issue, and of those who presented their papers in A Toxa since 2004, vindicates our support to the workshop and this subsequent publication. The Foundation is also very satisfied with the presence of young and promising researchers, both in the workshop and in this special issue, as part of its general efforts to foster talent and excellence. Finally, I would like to stress the practical relevance of the papers in this publication as they provide valuable inputs and advice to citizens, policymakers and entrepreneurs on the challenges and solutions ahead in such important matters for the present and future of our societies.

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