Post-Soviet Power

*Post-Soviet Power* tells the story of the Russian electricity system and examines the politics of its transformation from a ministry to a market. Susanne A. Wengle shifts our focus away from what has been at the center of post-Soviet political economy – corruption and the lack of structural reforms – to draw attention to political struggles to establish a state with the ability to govern the economy. She highlights the importance of hands-on economic planning by authorities – post-Soviet developmentalism – and details the market mechanisms that have been created. This book argues that these observations urge us to think of economies and political authority as mutually constitutive, in Russia and beyond. Whereas the political arena often thinks of market arrangements resulting from political institutions, Russia’s marketization demonstrates that the political arena is also produced by the market arrangements that actors create. Taking this reflexivity seriously suggests a view of economies and markets as constructed and contingent entities.

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Post-Soviet Power

State-Led Development
and Russia's Marketization

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For Jay, Oren, Artur, Aino, and Alex, the light of my day.
Contents

List of Tables  page viii
List of Figures  ix
Acknowledgments  xi
Note on Transliteration and Translation  xiii
Introduction: Russia’s Political Marketization  1

PART I
1  From Ministry to Market  23
2  Power Politics  58
3  Regionally Patterned Pacts and the Political Life of Things  99

PART II
4  Privatization – Competing Claims and New Owners  137
5  Liberalization – the Price of Power  183
6  Expertise – Engineers versus Managers  220
Conclusion: Development as Contingent Transformations  247

Appendixes  261
Bibliography  273
Index  289
Tables

1.1 Ownership and subsidy regimes  page 26
2.1 Evolving bargains that shape electricity sector outcomes  69
4.1 Case studies of three energos  143
4.2 New owners in European Russia’s power sector, 2008  166
4.3 New owners of Siberia’s power sector, 2008  170
5.1 Household and industrial tariffs: Regional differences over time  186
5.2 Summary of cross-regional difference in subsidy regimes (2003–2008)  208
5.3 Regional differences in cross-subsidies persist  209
5.4 List of regions receiving direct budget transfers in 2004  216
A.3.1 European power plants and new owners (2008)  265
A.3.2 Siberian power plants and new owners (2008)  267
A.4.1 Price increases between 2000 and 2005  268
A.4.2 Cross-subsidies as percentage of industrial tariffs between 2000 and 2005  269
A.4.3 Industrial subsidies, 2005  270
A.4.4 Levels and differentials for regulated prices, 2005  271
A.4.5 Price differentials in the liberalized segment of the wholesale market, 2009  271
Figures

1.1. Political economy of Russia’s electricity sector liberalization  page 25

3.1. Regional distribution of Gazprom’s Russian domestic gas sales, 2008  113
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