

A Special Issue (SI) of *Frontiers in Energy* (FIE) is a collection of articles focusing on a theme or themes relevant to the journal's aims and scope and is often produced by one or more guest editors (GEs) with the assistance of the journal's Editor.

Typically, an SI normally consists of 5-20 articles which can include review articles, mini-review articles, original research papers, perspectives, viewpoints and comments, etc. There is no restriction on the number of papers to be included in the SI or on the word limitation/page budget as long as the papers are of high quality. If the accepted papers are fewer than 124 printed journal pages, we would still publish them together, but as a Special Column within a regular issue rather than as a standalone SI. Submitted papers must adhere to the Editorial style of FIE which can be found at: [Instructions for authors](#). All papers must be submitted through the [FIE online submission system](#).

In addition, the editorial for the SI may be in the form of an 'introductory essay' of approximately 1000 words which briefly summarizes the essays within the SI, or an 'editorial essay' of 5000-8000 words which goes beyond a brief summary of the SI' essays, e.g., commenting on the future of the SI field.

Rules for submitting an SI Proposal

The proposal should be submitted as an MS Word document with a Call for Papers embedded within it. Please include the following information:

1. The name, contact details, backgrounds of the GEs (including expertise on the topic in question and editorial experience)
2. The title of the SI and the abstract or summary of the proposed topic
3. Justification for why the SI is needed
4. Explanation of the suitability of the topic for FIE
5. A copy of the Call for Papers
6. Proposed schedule for each stage of the process, including timelines and deadlines for receiving, reviewing and revising manuscripts into the final publishable form.
7. A list or description of indicative scholars who might submit (or be invited) to the SI.

The following peer-review process should be adhered to:

1. The same review processes and criteria of quality and originality apply to articles in SI as to regular issue articles.
2. All papers accepted for publication (except Editorials) should be peer reviewed by at least three independent referees.
3. Paper submitted by a GE must be edited by another GE, or if that is not feasible, by another independent party, e.g., the EiC or another handling Editor on the journal.
4. During the review process, the EiC may request additional reviews for particular papers, further revisions, and have the right, in consultation with the GEs, to reject papers if they do not fulfil standards of scholarly excellence.
5. Final decisions on the manuscripts will be made by the EiC, in consultation with the GE.

Please contact Dr. Ruiqin LIU (rqliu@sjtu.edu.cn) for submitting a proposal or any enquiry related to SI.