

Center for Geopolitics of Energy and Raw Materials (CGEMP)





Power in Germany: The turning point of 2011

One year later, lessons for neighbouring countries

Innovation and new markets for the German industry

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Innovation and New Markets for the German Industry

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Outline

Innovation = Creative anger Why we should be angry about the German *Energiewende*?

- Concept remains somehow politically unclear:
 - Centralized vs. decentralized electricity supply
 - Renewable power marketing
 - Offshore wind (and new transmission lines
 - Building insulation vs. more CHP
 - Manifold of distorting subsidies
- Intermittency of Photovoltaic and wind power
- Reliability of power supply (power storage)
- Energy Costs and who shall pay







Implications: Intermittency

- Conventional thermal power plants need to develop new operation modes characterized by steeper gradients (in both directions)
- Traditional base load power power plants have to reduce operation hours and will become, from an economic point of view, mid-load and even peak-load plants (with < 2000 full load operation hours)
- Reduced number of annual operation hours → Missing money challenging backup power plant investments
- Subsidizing 20 % of the market leads sooner or later to the situation to subsidize the whole market



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Why we should be angry about the German Energy Turn?

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Cost of Electricity Withdrawn from a Storage



- *cc* Annualized capital costs
- *oc* Energy and operation costs
- *flh* Full load hors
- η Energy efficiency of the storage



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Modelled Costs of Power from Storage [under optimistic assumptions]



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Implications: Reliability of Power Supply

- High shares of renewable power require backup systems
 - Interruptible load (functional storage)
 - Backup power stations (emergency load, CHP, distributed generation)
 - Transmission grid extensions (as far as renewable sources across Europe are statistically uncorrelated)
 - Different types of storage devices
- The economics of capital intensive systems suffers
 - from small annual number of operation hours
 - Cannibalization of revenues
- Is the energy only EPEX market able to solve the missing money problem? (I would say yes, if the feed-in regulation for renewables is modified)



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Household Electricity Prices [Data source: BDEW]



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Load profile of 10 Three-Person-Households Electric load [kW] Electric load [kW] 12 12 8 8





Implications: Energy Costs

- Power will become more expensive through
 - Renewable capacity investments
 - Backup and storage capacity investments
 - transmission and distribution grid investments
- Energy intensive industries (and some customers) will be exempted from paying the additional costs (What happens at the limit?)
- Grid parity issue will be generate a self reinforcing pressure towards decentralized power generation
- Stranded system costs, social imbalance, regional imbalance
- And what about European single market

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Conclusion: Portfolio of Innovations

- Renewable generation technologies: Forecasting of wind and PV; satisfaction of grid requirements (50.2 hz problem); direct marketing; further cost reductions and efficiency improvements, particularly for offshore wind and geothermal
- Thermal power: Flexible generation; market design that solves the missing money problem
- Storage: Battery costs, security and lifetime; power to gas; hydrogen and fuel cells; thermal storages; flexible electric demand such as heat pumps, battery vehicles etc.
- Transmission grid: Temperature management; HVDC cables; offshore connection; enhancement of the planning processes
- Distribution grids: DG preparation for system services, smart metering (information technology)