

Wholesale market designs for future low-carbon electricity systems

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**EPRG-CEEPR European Energy Policy
Conference**

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<http://www.eprg.group.cam.ac.uk>

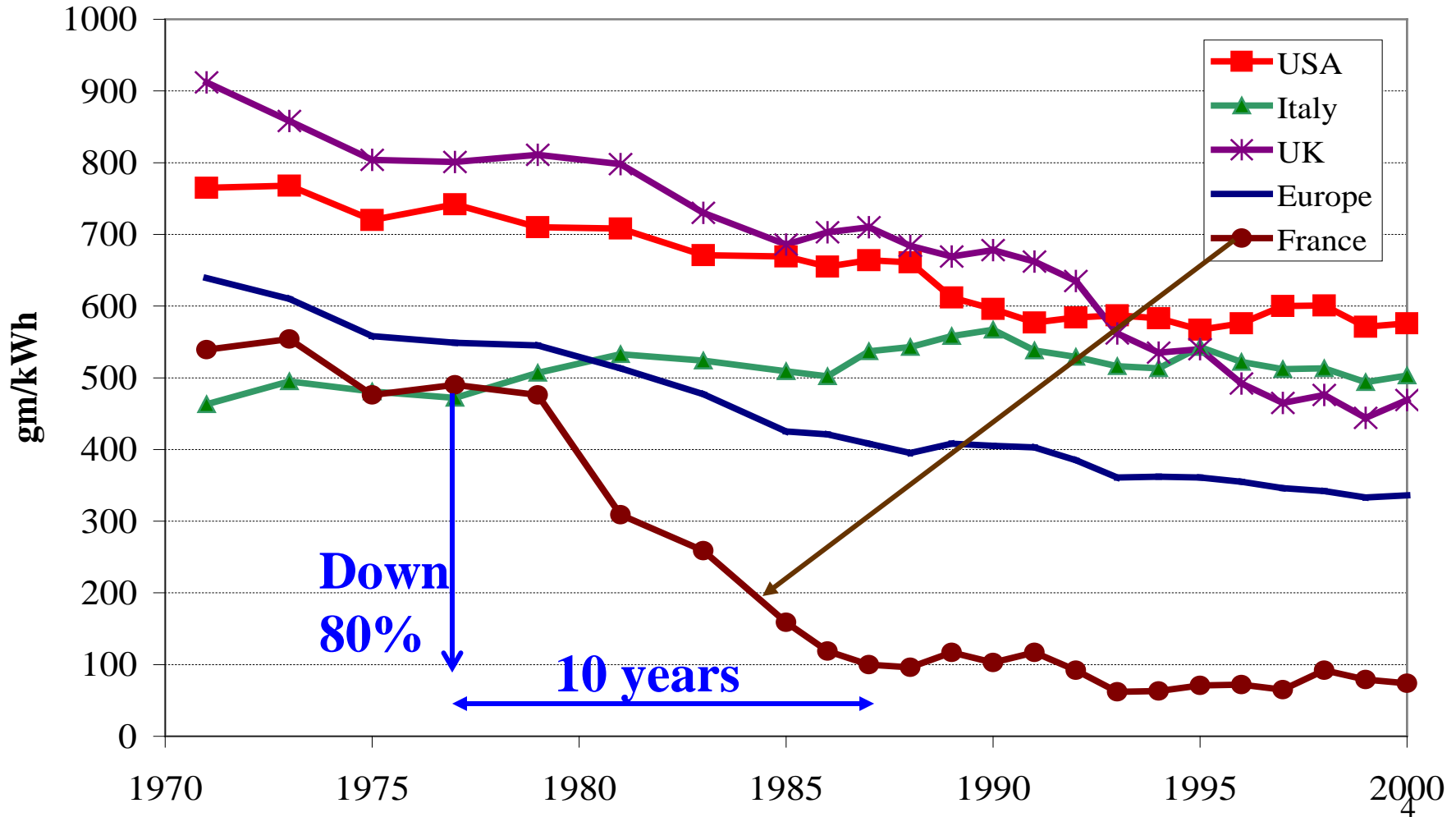
- **Decarbonising power** needs a new market design
 - reconciling security of supply with renewables (RES)
- Nuclear, CCS or RES?
 - **high capital cost, low variable cost**
 - **intermittent** RES connected to distribution networks
- Criteria for charging and market design
 - ⇒ **Capacity** payments, long-term contracts, **auctions**
 - ⇒ new **flexibility services** required
 - ⇒ Better contracts for RES
- Challenges for network regulators

* *Based on joint work with Michael Pollitt and Robert Ritz, Supported by CISL*

- **Electricity** is key to decarbonising economy
 - Large, easiest, and capital **highly durable**
- Coal-fired electricity has more than **twice** the GHG emissions of gas *and* far higher air pollutants
 - **gas as transition fuel to the low carbon future**
 - But there is lots of coal => **CCS a long-run priority**
- Deployment has dramatically lowered cost of **wind, PV**
 - justifies **support for R&D and deployment**
- **RES** depresses prices, needs flexible reserves
 - ⇒ hard to invest in flexible plant in policy-driven market
 - ⇒ capacity auctions and **new flexibility products**
 - ⇒ Increases case for **interconnections paid for security**
 - ⇒ Need better contracts for RES and capacity adequacy

Nuclear power can cut emissions – but we have forgotten how to do it at reasonable cost

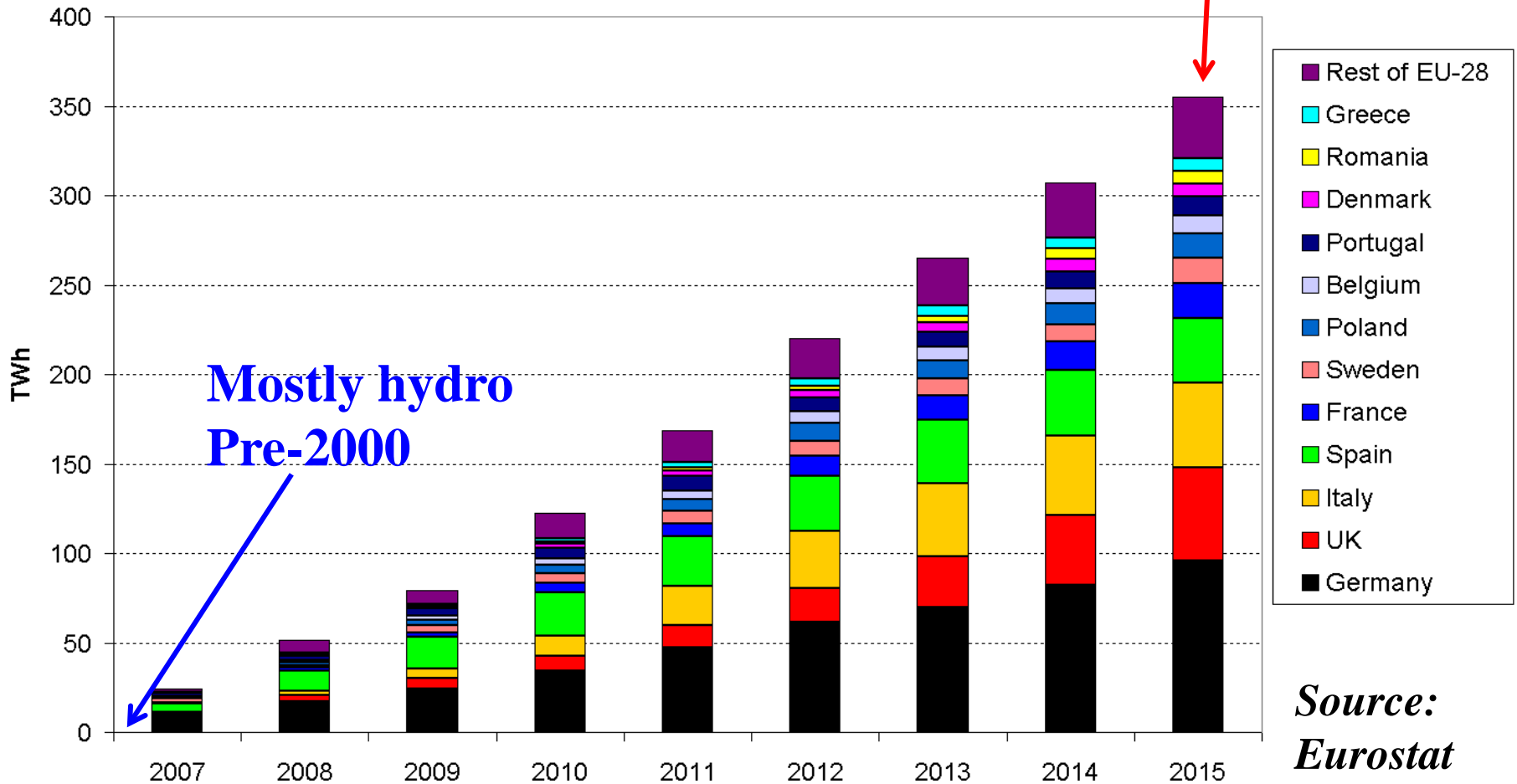
CO2 emissions per kWh 1971-2000





Rapid increase in EU renewable electricity to 29% in 2015

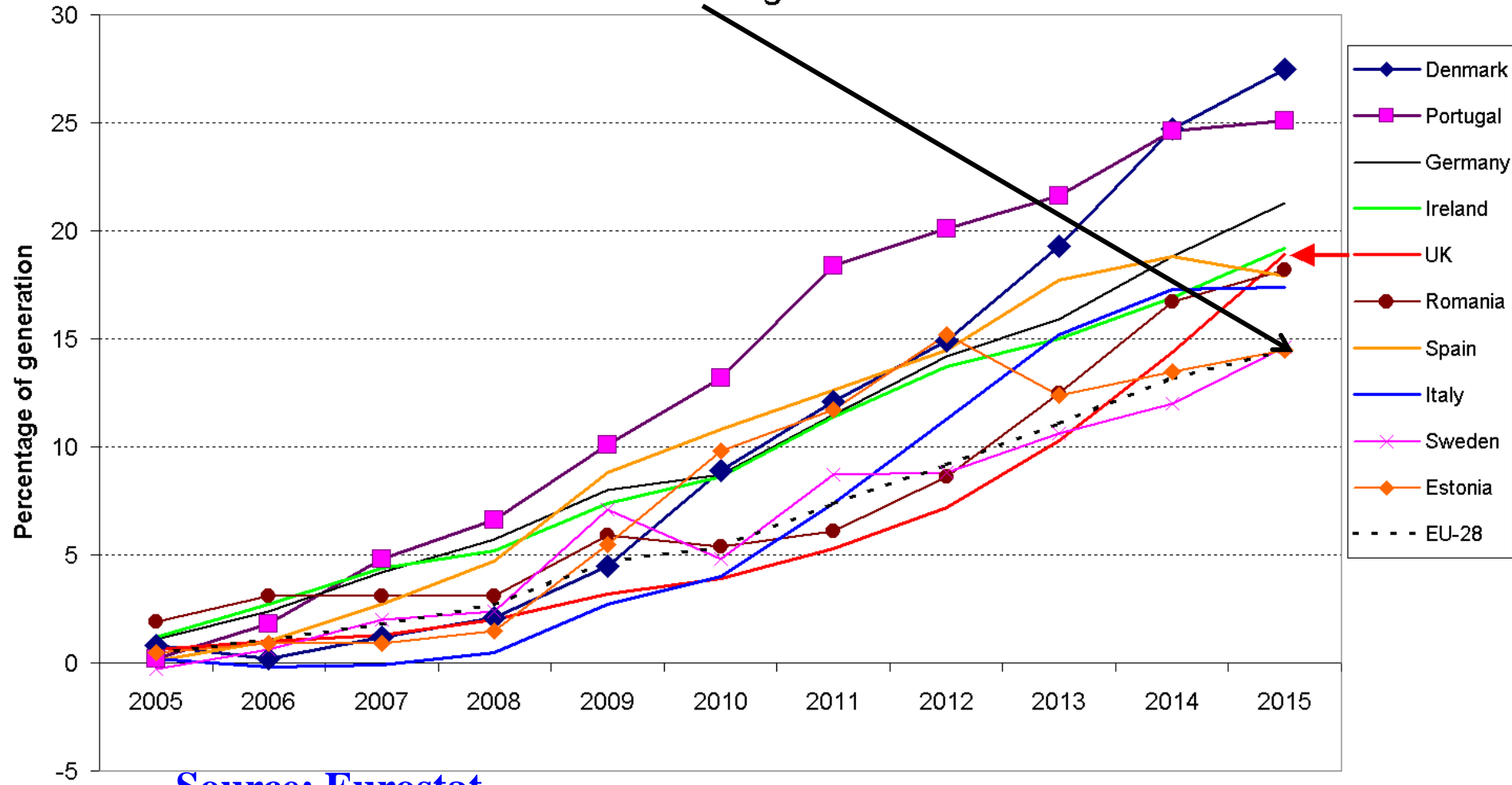
Cumulative increment in RES-E since 2006



Source: Eurostat

EU-28 doubled its RES-E share from 2004-2015

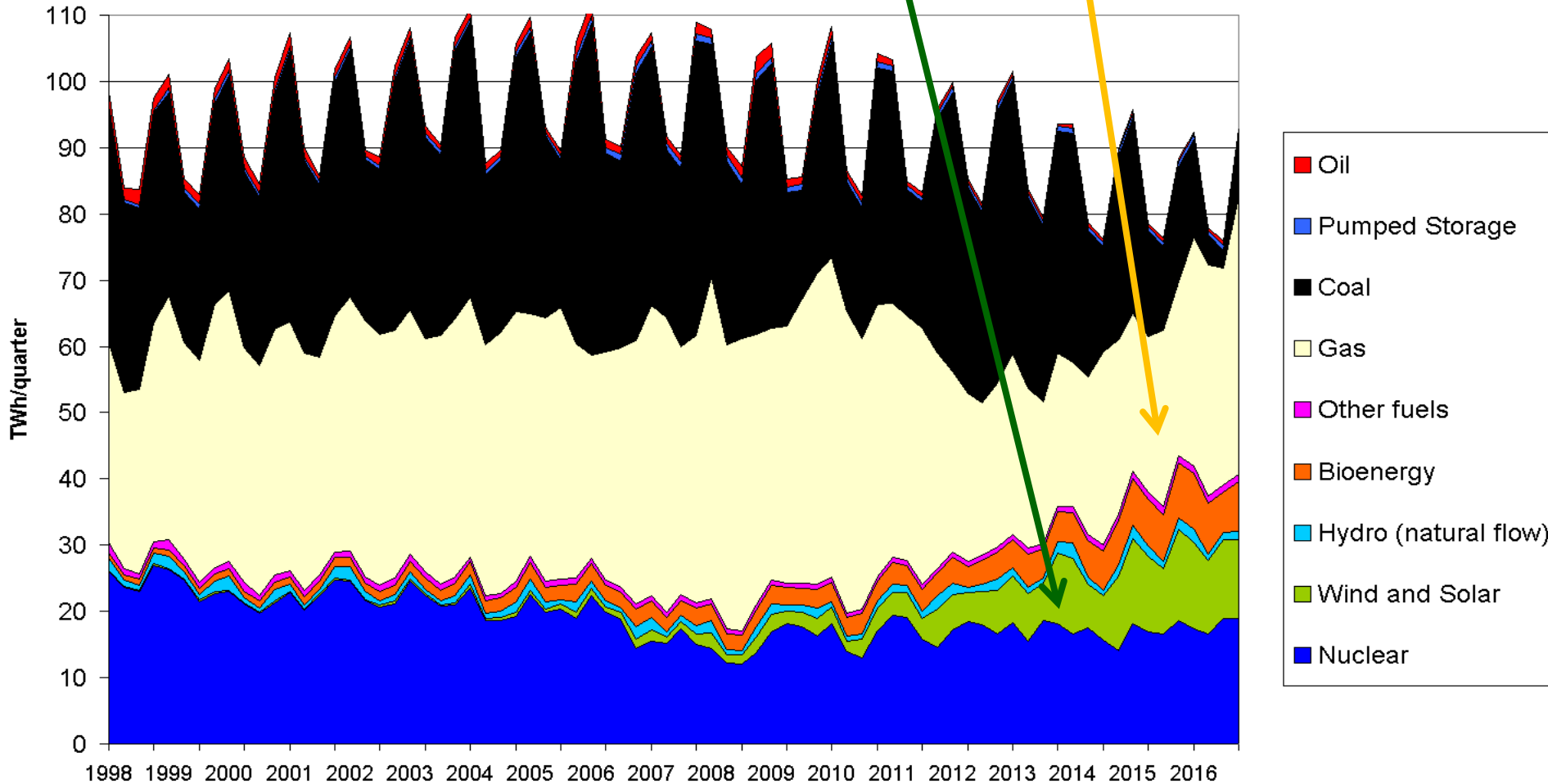
Cumulative increment in share of RES in generation from 2004
Countries exceeding EU-28 increment



Source: Eurostat

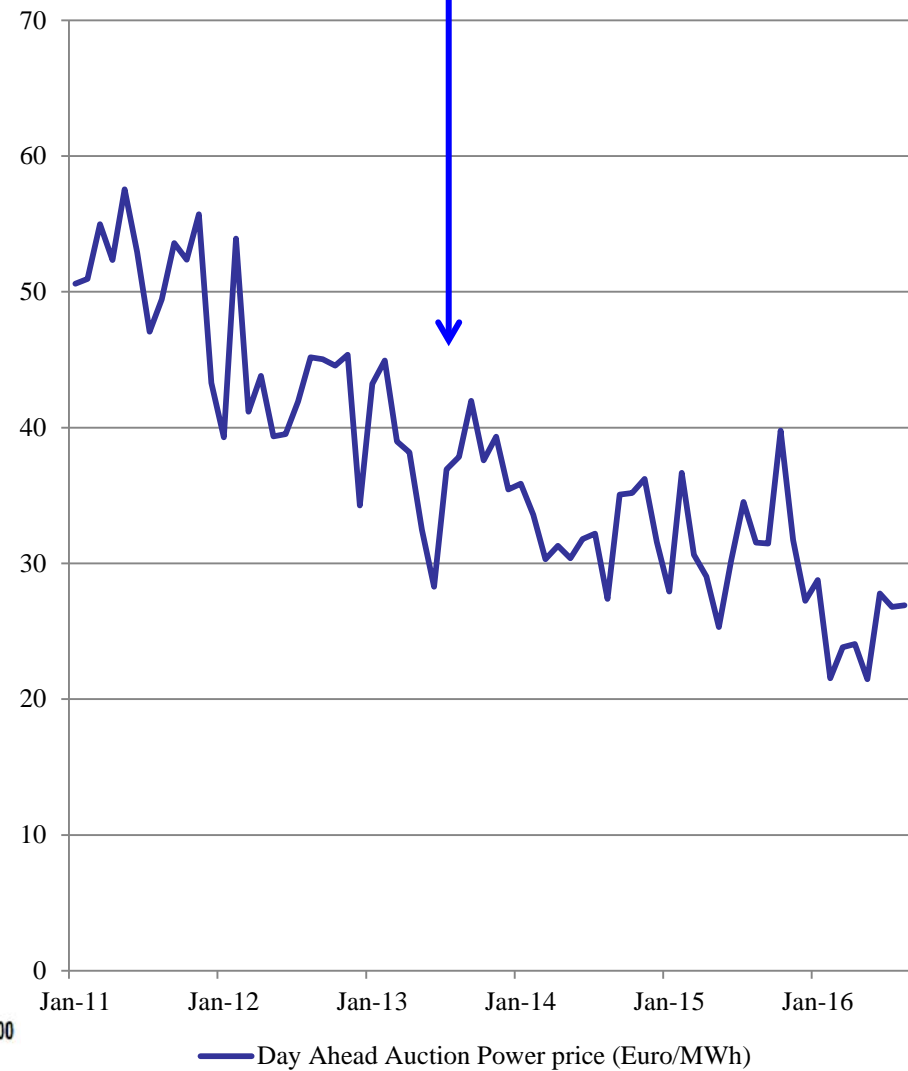
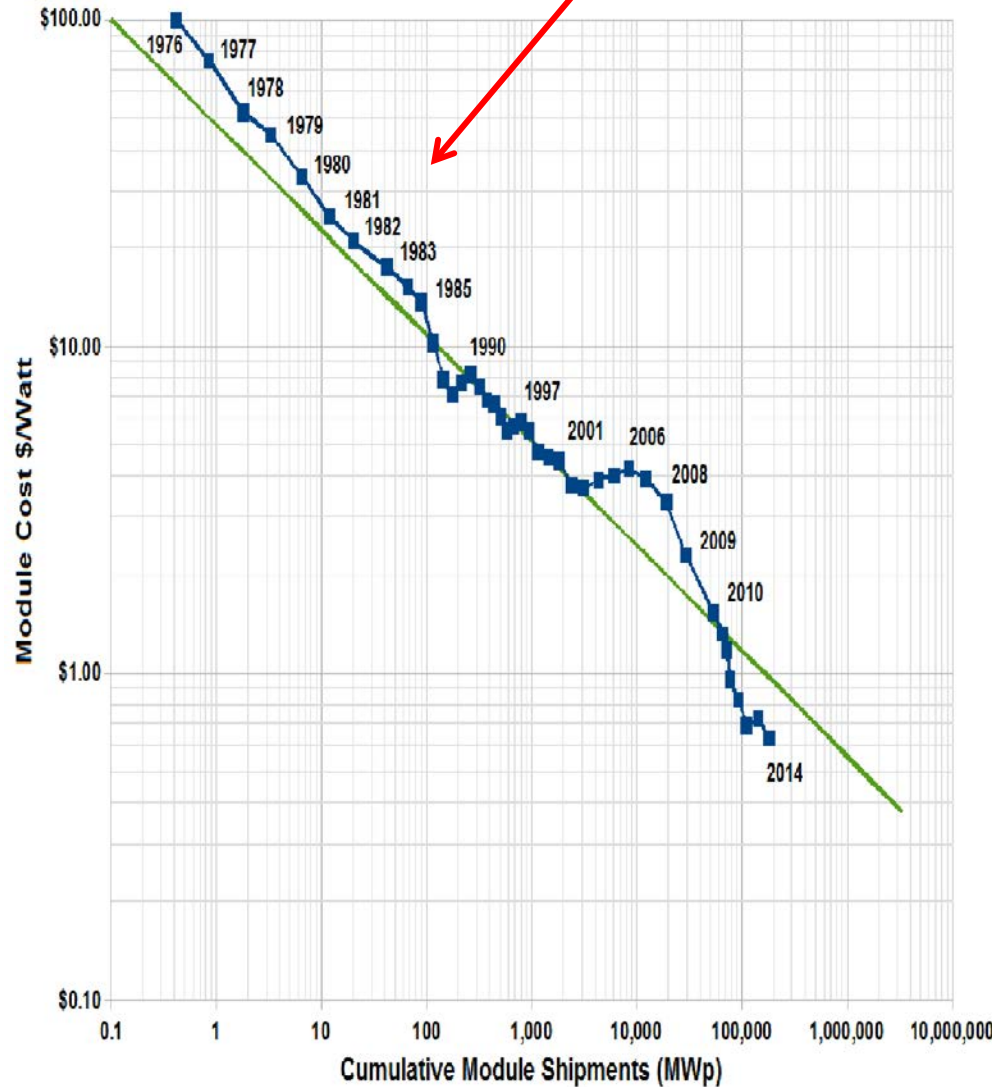
GB: RES & gas displace coal

Quarterly GB electricity generated by fuel



Solar PV cost fall 20% as capacity x2

German wholesale prices fall 50% in 5 yrs, 40% of which due to RES



- **Networks** are regulated natural monopolies
 - marginal cost pricing **fails to recover full costs**
 - efficient grid pricing may recover **< 30%** of cost
- ⇒ challenge is to give **efficient price signals** and recover balance from **optimal taxes** (**efficiency vs equity**)
- Low carbon **generation** has similar cost characteristics
 - Low variable costs, high capital cost
- ⇒ challenge is to develop **efficient wholesale/retail prices**
 - But not normally a regulated asset
 - ⇒ long-term contracts?

How to charge final consumers?



- Electricity characteristics and **cost drivers**:
 - **capacity (MW)**: max demand on links to Load
 - **energy (MWh)** nodal for each time period: fuel + C
 - **quality** (frequency, voltage etc.) nodal each second
- Pay for **access option** to take **capacity**
 - Drives investment in T & D
 - Some depends on system peak, some on **local** max. demand
 - Pay for **energy at efficient price (SMC)**
 - Pay for **capacity at LoLP x (VoLL-SMC)**
 - **QoS** bundled with access, energy, capacity
 - paid by final consumers to suppliers of service

Ancillary services for QoS

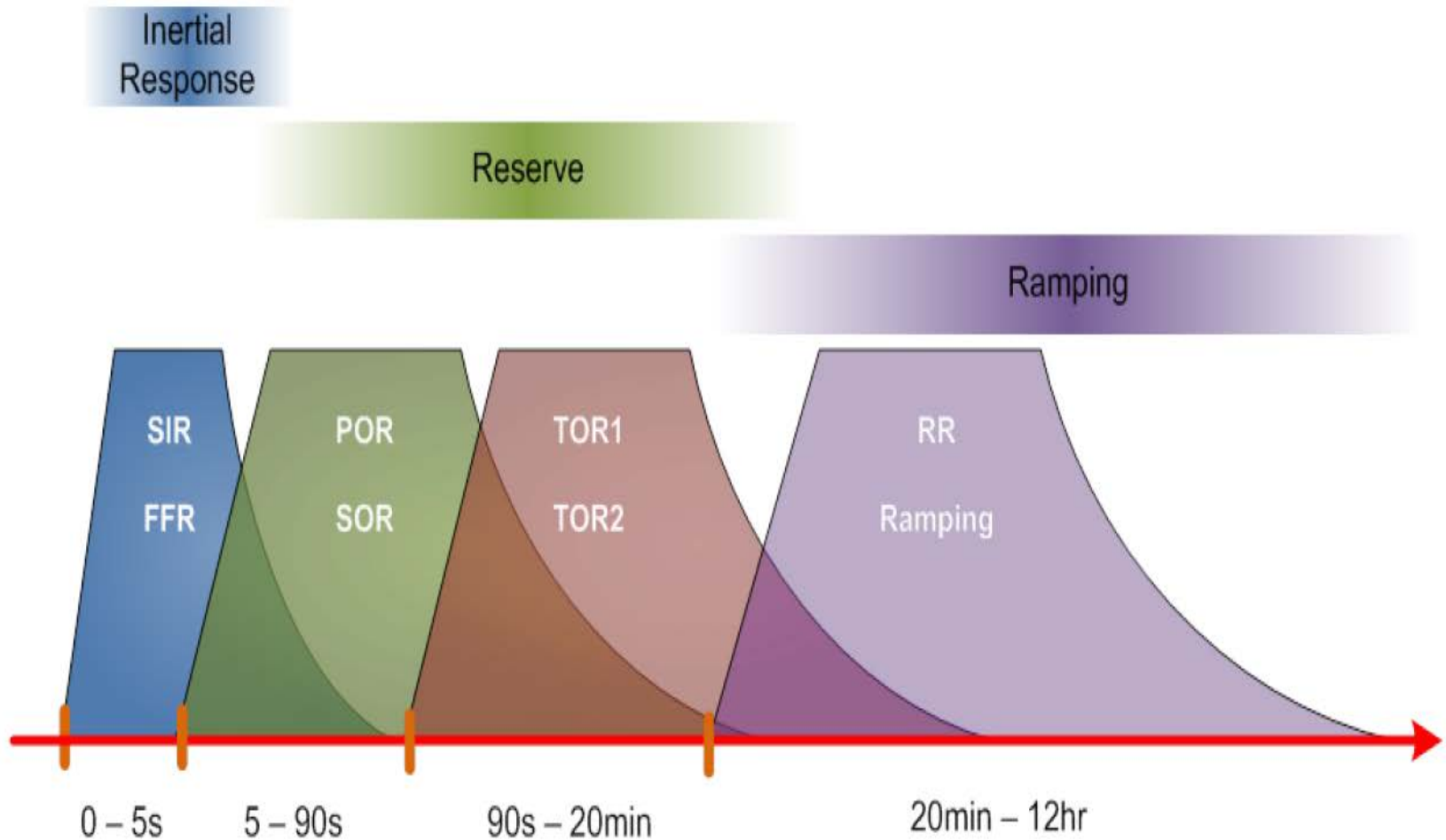


Figure 1: Frequency Control Services (Source: EirGrid)

- **Least system cost** to meet reliability and CO₂ targets
 - **Coordinate** generation, transmission, distribution
 - **Generation**: timely delivery at right place, size, technology
 - **Transmission**: built, sized and used for efficient dispatch
 - **Challenging with unbundled liberalised structures**
- Liberalized markets need good price signals
 - **Many of which are regulated (transmission, distribution)**
- Benchmark efficient spot prices
 - Wholesale price = **SMC + CP** at each node (**LMP**)
 - **CP = LoLP*(VoLL – SMC); \sum LoLP=LoLE**
 - **Ancillary service prices to incentivise efficient quality**
- Location signals: **long-term** financial contract on LMP
- **Revenue shortfalls: Ramsey pricing on final consumer**
- **Targeted subsidies, efficient risk sharing**

Revised RES Directive supports these principles

Revised RES Directive

16. “When designing support schemes and when allocating support, Member States should seek to **minimise the overall system cost of deployment, taking full account of grid and system development needs, the resulting energy mix, and the long term potential of technologies.**”

26. ...”(allow) Member States to count energy from renewable sources **consumed in other Member States towards their own**”

- Art 3 proposes Union funds (financial instruments) to **reduce cost of capital** for RES projects; **mandatory** move towards **investment aid**
- Art 4: ensure RES **responds to market price signals** and support is granted in an open, transparent, **competitive**, non-discriminatory and **cost-effective** manner
- Art 6: Increase investor confidence: **no retroactive changes**

Learning spill-overs driven by cumulative global capacity

Country	GWp cumulative							cum. value
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015		
China	0.8	3.3	6.8	19.7	28.2	43.5	\$22,060	
Germany	17.4	24.9	32.5	35.8	38.2	39.8	\$25,185	
Japan	3.6	4.9	6.6	13.6	23.3	34.2	\$17,653	
USA	2.5	4.4	7.3	12.1	18.3	25.6	\$13,508	
Italy	3.5	12.8	16.5	18.1	18.5	18.9	\$11,863	
UK	0.1	0.9	1.9	3.4	5.1	8.9	\$4,492	
France	1.2	3.0	4.1	4.7	5.7	6.6	\$3,851	
subtotal	29.1	54.1	75.6	107.3	137.2	177.5	\$98,611	
Global cumulative capacity	47.0	78.0	110.0	144.0	184.0	234.0		
spillover per kWp	\$705	\$644	\$587	\$535	\$487	\$443		

80% of total

Source: Newbery EPRG Working Paper 1706

- **Learning spill-overs** need remuneration
 - Almost entirely from **making and installing** equipment
- ⇒ Contract **€X/MWh** for **N MWh/MW**, Auctioneer sets **N**
- ⇒ **Auction** determines **X** – not left to bureaucrats

Reasons:

- Subsidy **targeted** on source of learning = **investment aid**
 - **Reduces cost** of capital and risk via **debt finance**
 - Addresses failure to set **right CO₂ price**
- Exposes RES to **current locational spot price**
 - ⇒ incentivizes efficient **location, connection**
- Does not amplify benefits of high wind/sun
 - Not over-reward favoured locations with same learning
- Pay zero-C generation shortfall in social cost of carbon

If marginal displaced generation CCGT = €10/MWh?

Location choices under LMP and spot pricing for wind

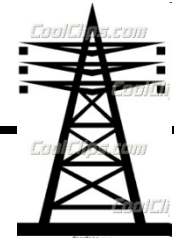
N: 2,500 hrs/yr **With ROCs wind farm inefficiently locates at N**
 $P_N \text{ } \pounds 35/\text{MWh}$
 $\Rightarrow \text{ } \pounds 87.5\text{k}/\text{MW}/\text{yr}$
 $\Rightarrow \text{ } \pounds 212.5\text{k with ROC}$ **ROC = } \pounds 50/\text{MWh}**

Pay wind for availability + average spot price => efficient E

T cost
 $\pounds 15/\text{MWh}$

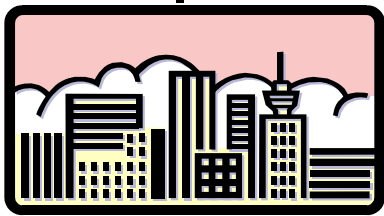


C: } \pounds 50/\text{MWh}



E: 2,000 hrs/yr

$P_E \text{ } \pounds 49/\text{MWh}$
 $\Rightarrow \text{ } \pounds 98\text{k}/\text{MW}/\text{yr}$
 $\Rightarrow \text{ } \pounds 198\text{k with ROC}$



Technology		admin price	lowest clearing price	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	Total Capacity (MW)
Advanced Conversion Technologies	£/MWh MW	£140	£114.39			£119.89 36	£114.39 26	62
Energy from Waste with Combined Heat and Power	£/MWh MW	£80	£80				£80.00 94.75	94.75
Offshore wind	£/MWh MW	£140	£114.39			£119.89 714	£114.39 448	1162
Onshore wind	£/MWh MW	£95	£79.23		£79.23 45	£79.99 77.5	£82.50 626.05	748.55
Solar PV	£/MWh MW	£120	£50.00	£50.00 32.88	£79.23 36.67			69.55

withdrawn

Source: DECC (2015)

- Ambitious RES targets need **flexible back-up**
 - Normally comes from old high-cost plant = coal
 - EU Large Combustion Plant Directive 2016 limits coal
 - Integrated Emissions Directive further threat to coal
 - GB Carbon price floor + hostility to coal => close old coal
 - high (pre-2015) EU gas prices and low load factors
 - gas unprofitable, new coal prohibited by GB EPS
- **Future prices** now depend on **uncertain policies**
 - on carbon price, renewables volumes, other supports
 - on policy choices in UK, EU, COP21, ...

Long-term contracts the solution?

⇒ Auctions for Reliability Options

Reliability Options: the I-SEM proposal

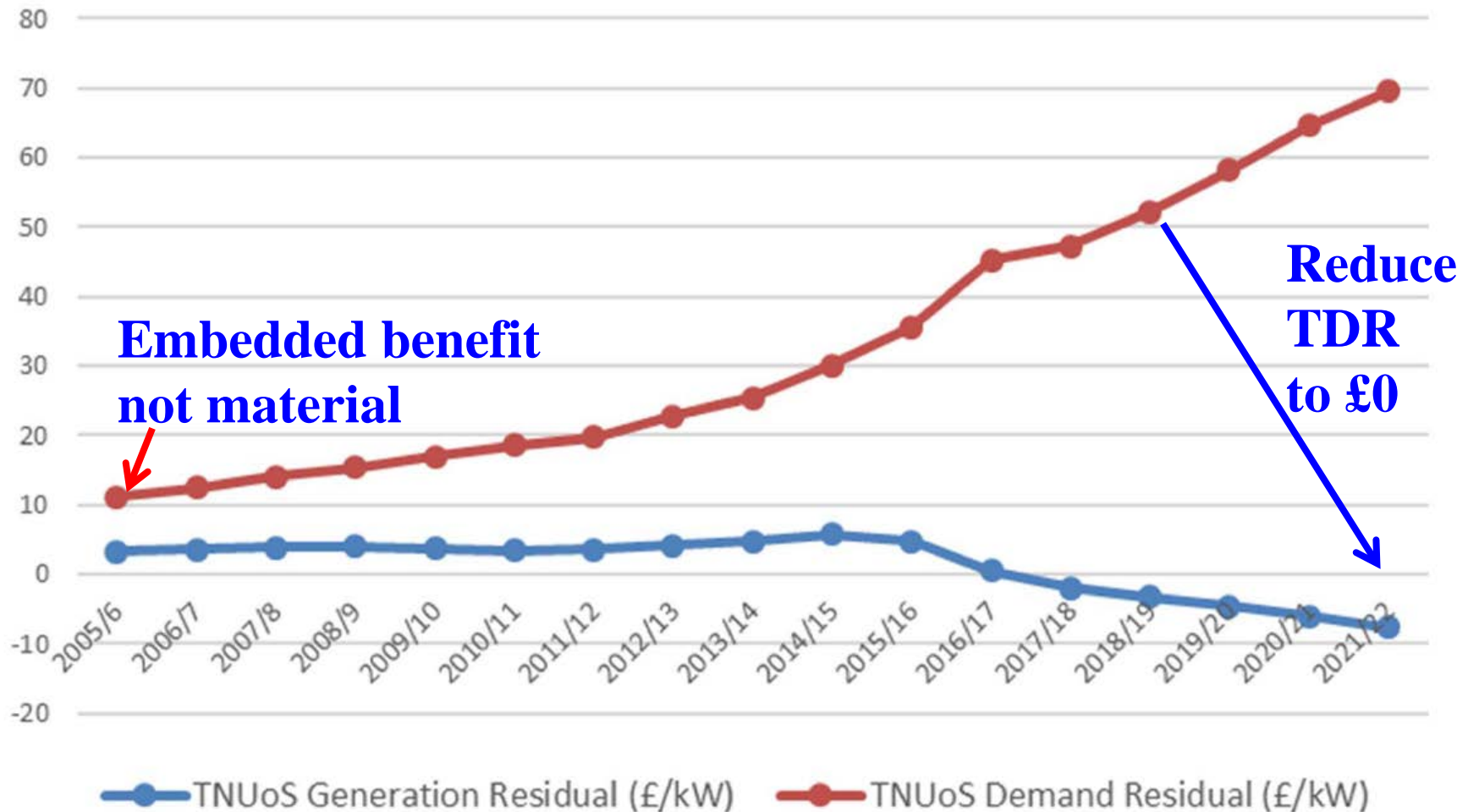
- RO sets **strike price**, s (e.g. at €500/MWh)
- Market price p reflects scarcity (Voll x LoLP)
 - SO sets **floor price** to reflect spot conditions
 - Wholesale price signals efficient international trade
- RO auctioned for annual payment P
 - 7-10 yrs for new, 1 yr for existing capacity
- Gen pays back wholesale price p
 - less strike price if available ($p - s$)
 - G chooses whether to be paid p or $s + P$
- Suppliers hedged at strike price s for premium P

- Distinguish **efficient price** and resulting short-fall in **required revenue**
 - Efficient peak T price is **marginal** expansion cost
 - At best 30% average cost, less if demand falling
 - Ramsey-Boiteux prices => cut demand **equi-proportionally**
 - Diamond-Mirrlees: **tax only final consumers**
- ⇒ T&D revenue shortfall on final consumption **not** net demand reduces embedded G benefit from £60 to < £10/kWyr
- ⇒ **Regulators** need to compute **efficient T&D tariffs**
- ⇒ **and move faster. Auction in 1 day grants 15-yr contract**
- Ofgem alerted to adverse effects Dec 2014, decides June 2017 to reduce to zero by 2020/21***

GB Transmission demand residual – extra to DN connex

Source: Ofgem (2017)

Residual History (£/kW) 2005-2021



- The priority is to **decarbonise electricity**
 - To avoid long-term lock-in
 - **EC Clean Energy Directive** identifies **good principles**
=> clear guidance for good policy instruments
- Low-Carbon electricity has **high capital, low variable costs**
 - Distinguish prices for **access, capacity, energy, quality**
- Support for RES needs change
 - recognise **learning benefits** by capacity support, CO₂ per MWh
 - needs better **location** and dispatch price signals => markets
 - **network tariffs** need reform
 - **reliability auctions and contracts** avoid trade distortions
- Countries can learn from experiences elsewhere

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BOS	Balance of system (cost)
BSUoS	Balancing Services Network Use of System \approx €2-5/MWh
CCS	Carbon Capture and Storage
CfD	Contract for Difference
CONE	Cost of New Entry
CP	Capacity payment
DG	Distribution-connected Generation
EPS	Emissions Performance Standard
ETS	Emissions Trading System
EUA	EU Emissions Allowance Price (per tonne CO ₂)
GHG	Greenhouse gas
G, L	Generation, Load
I-SEM	Integrated Single Electricity Market of island of Ireland
LMP`	Locational Marginal Pricing (Nodal pricing)
LoLP	Loss of Load probability
LoLE	Loss of load expectation in hrs/yr = reliability standard
MS	Member State
QoS	Quality of service
R&D	Research and Development
RES-E	Renewable energy supply in electricity
RO	Reliability option
ROC	Renewable Obligation (i.e. green) Certificate
SMC/P	System Marginal Cost/Price
T&D	Transmission and Distribution
TG	Transmission-connected generation
TNUoS	Transmission Network Use of System, G =Generation, L=Load
VOLL	Value of Lost Load

- <http://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/news/commission-proposes-new-rules-consumer-centred-clean-energy-transition> gives links to the various directives
- Clean Energy For All Europeans, COM/2016/0860 final at <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1481278671064&uri=CELEX:52016DC0860>
- Ofgem (2017) Impact Assessment and Decision on industry proposals (CMP264 and CMP265) to change electricity transmission charging arrangements for Embedded Generators at <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/system/files/docs/2017/06/cmp264265.docx.pdf>
- Newbery, D., M. Pollitt, R. Ritz, & W. Strielkowski, 2017. Market design for a high-renewables European electricity system, EPRG 1711 at <http://www.eprg.group.cam.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/1711-Text.pdf>

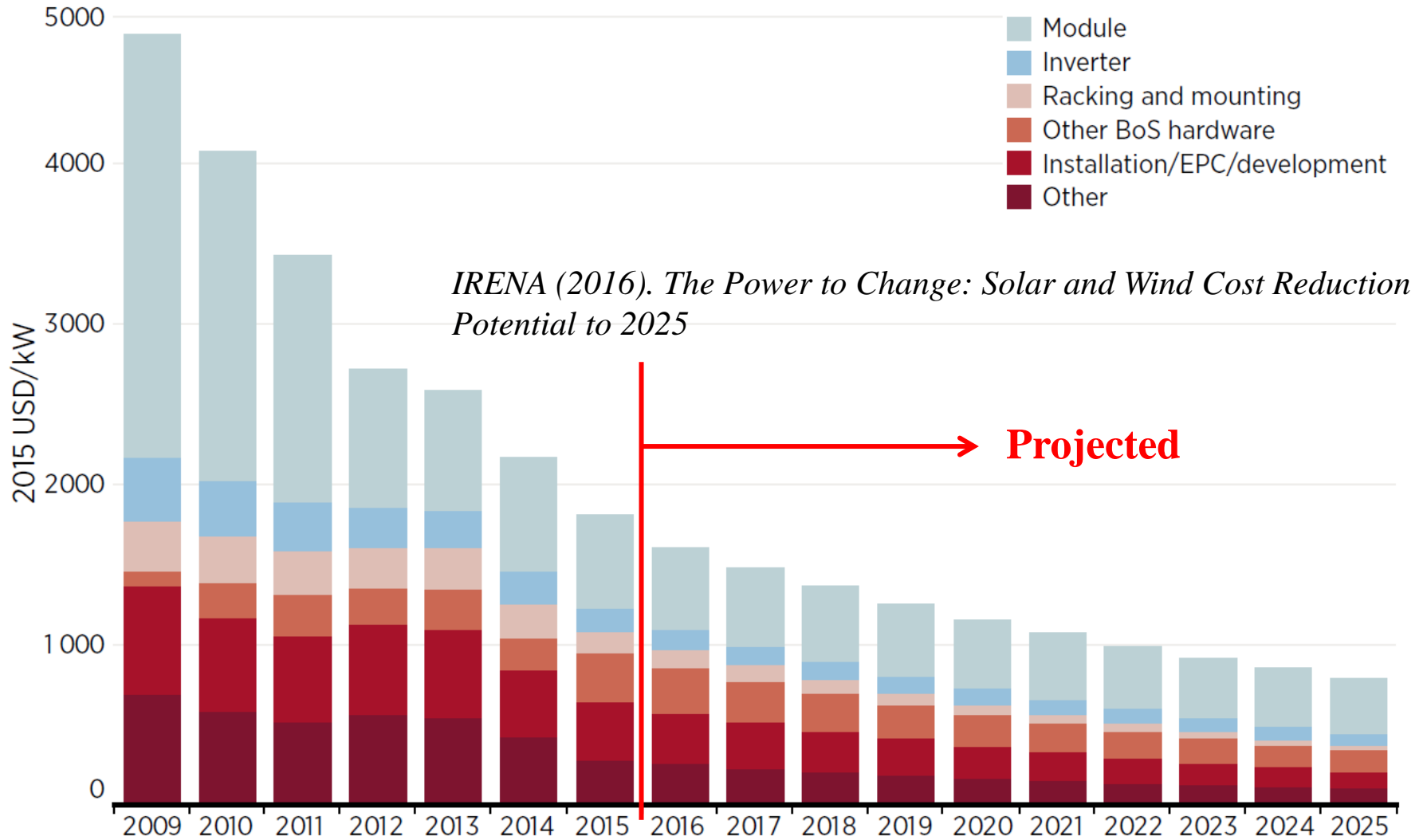
Spare slides

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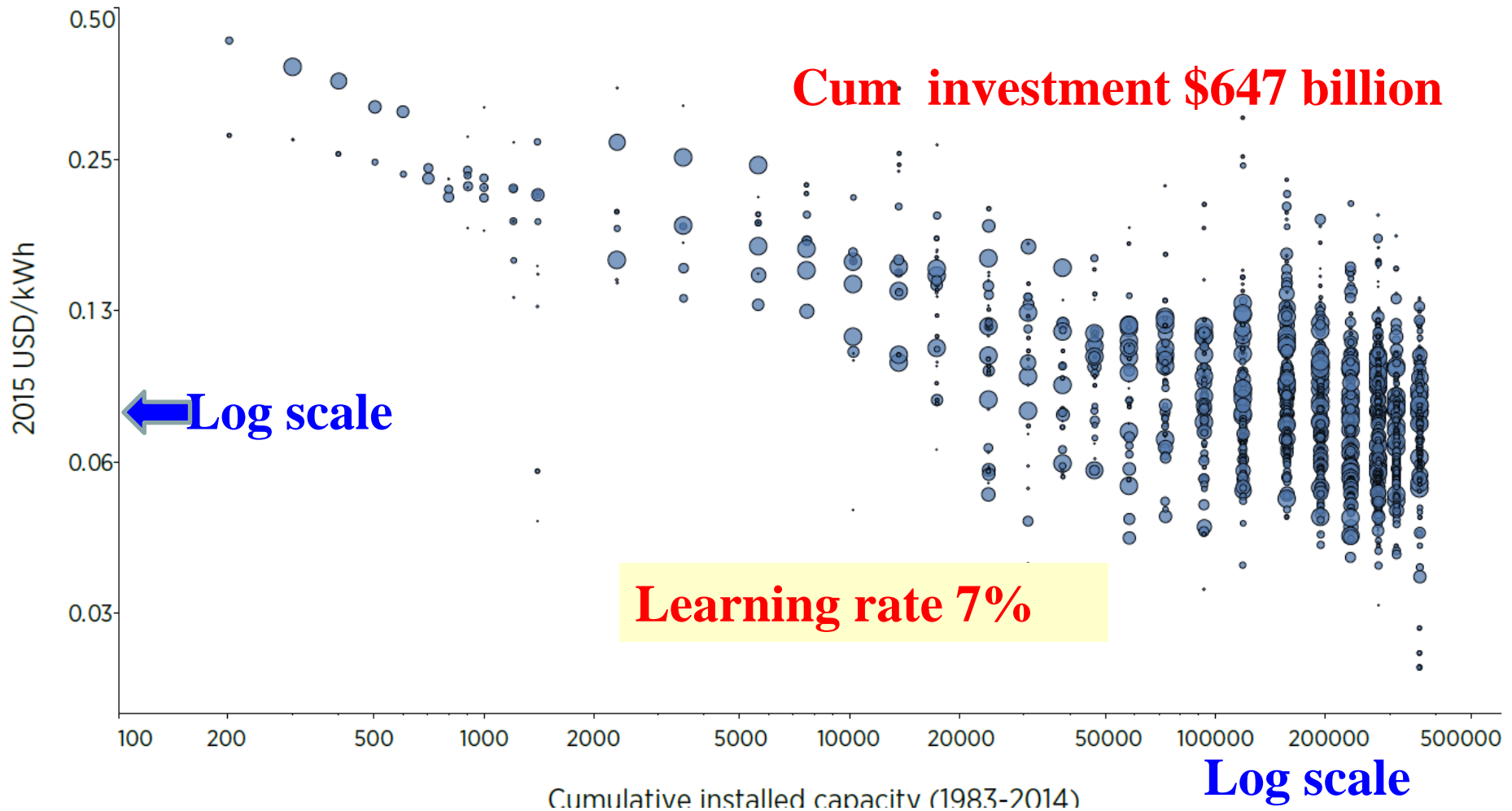
Dramatic fall in solar PV prices

FIGURE ES 1: GLOBAL WEIGHTED AVERAGE UTILITY-SCALE SOLAR PV TOTAL INSTALLED COSTS, 2009-2025



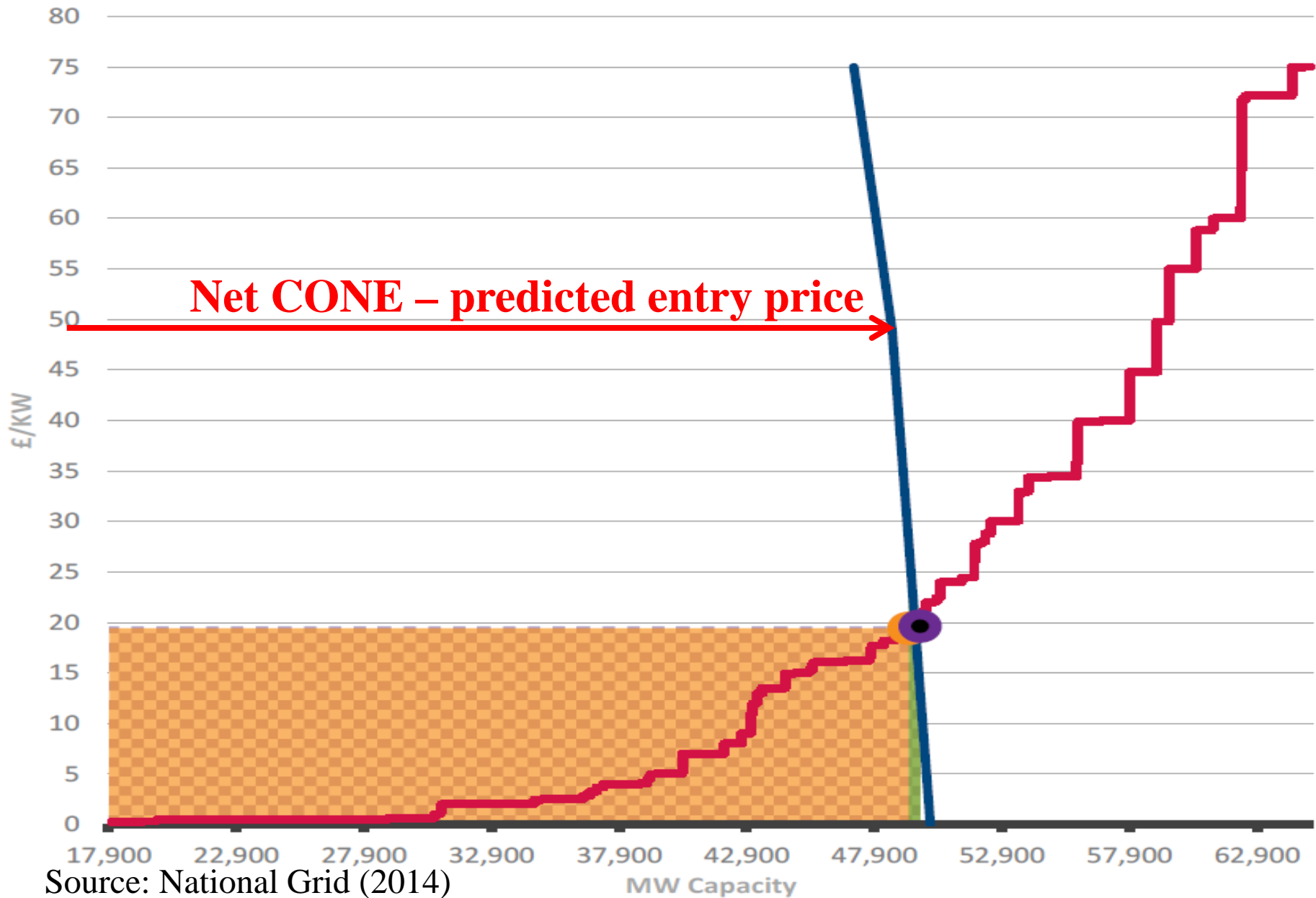
On-shore wind: taller towers give higher capacity factors

FIGURE ES 3: GLOBAL ONSHORE WIND LEARNING CURVE ANALYSIS, 1983-2014



Source: IRENA (2016)

GB 2014 Capacity Auction



Source: National Grid (2014)

- Transmission-connected generation TG **pays** G TNUoS
 - And 50% of BSUoS
 - Distribution-connected generation DG **receives** L TNUoS
 - And avoids BSUoS
 - TNUoS G + L charge **roughly constant** across zones
 - Rapidly rising from £20/kWyr to £66/kWyr
- => represents **extra** £53/kWyr embedded benefit in 2018/19
- => DG gets £73/kWyr and TG gets £20/kWyr
- => **efficient** locational charge = <10% total charge?
 - Rest is revenue levy to pay for grid
- => should be levied on **gross not net final consumption**

Massive distortion

The good, the bad and the ugly

- **Good:** Auctions can dramatically reduce costs
- Each jurisdiction is facing similar problems
 - *and trying out a variety of solutions*
- **Learning** from elsewhere and experimenting essential
 - ⇒ challenge funds to try new ideas and test regulations
 - ⇒ copy **Ofgem's Network Innovation Competitions**
- **Bad:** Auctions + new technology => **rapid irreversible decisions**
 - need smarter, quicker responses to ensure tariffs are suitable
- **Ugly:** tension between efficient and “fair” pricing can led to inefficient **and inequitable outcomes**