Global overview of Renewable Energy Policies

REFORM Group Meeting, August 2017-08-29

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Why RE-policies?

- External cost of fossil and nuclear
 - CO2 and other air pollution
 - Nuclear accidents and waste
- Public benefit of R&D and industrial learning

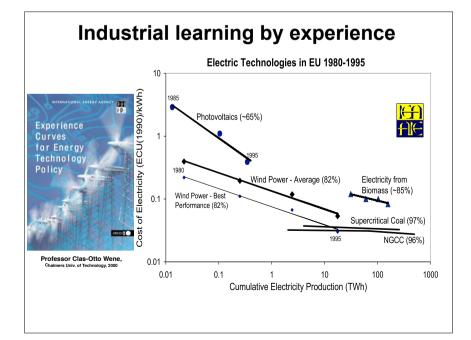
Push renewables to spur carbon pricing

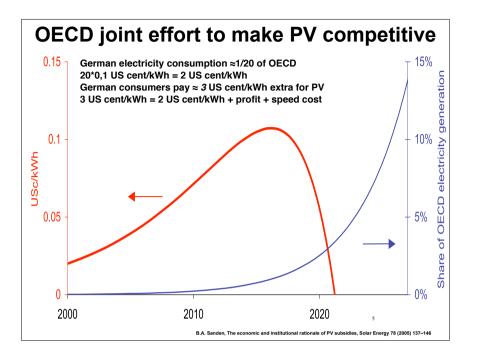
Make wind and solar power even cheaper by opening up access to the electricity grid and ending fossil-fuel subsidies, urge **Gernot Wagner** and colleagues.

Putting a price on carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases to carb emissions must be the centrepice of any comprehensive climate-change policy. We know it works: pricing carbon creates broad incentives to cut emissions. We the current price of carbon remains much too low relative to the hidden environmental, health and societal costs of burning a tonne of coal or a barrel of oil¹. The global average price is below zero, once half a trillion dollars of fossil-fuel subsidies are factored in. Momentum towards effective carbon pricing is building. California, joined by the Canadian province of Quebeck, leads by pricing 85% of such emissions at around US\$12 per tonne. Sweden applies the highest value globally on half of its carbon dioxide emissions, at up to \$125 per tonne. The European Union has the largest system in terms of tonnes covered, pricing 45% of its greenhouse-gas emissions at about \$8 per tonne. China is experimenting with regional cap- and-trade systems. And the US Clean Power Plan encourages states to meet emissions-reduction targets through market-based mechanisms. Yet global emissions continue to climb.

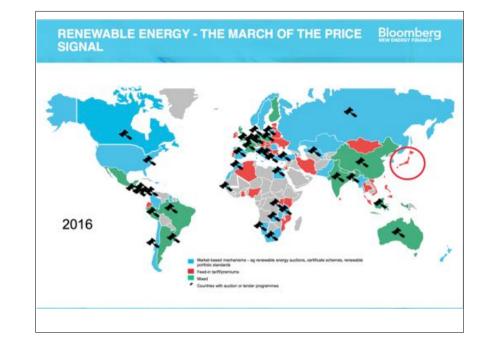
The current inadequacy of carbon pricing stems from a catch-22. Policymakers are more likely to price carbon appropriately if it is cheaper to move onto a low-carbon path. But reducing the cost of renewable energies requires investment, and thus a carbon price. In our view, the best hope of ending this logiam rests with tuning policies to drive down the cost of renewable power **>**

3 SEPTEMBER 2015 | VOL 525 | NATURE | 27



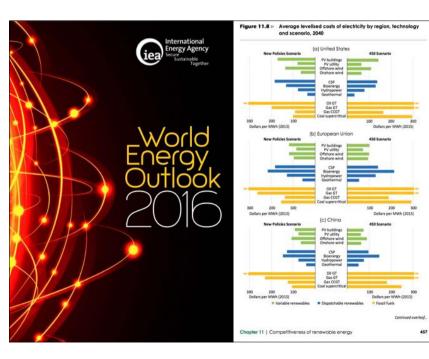


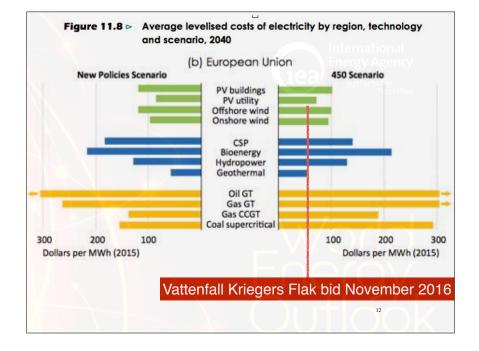




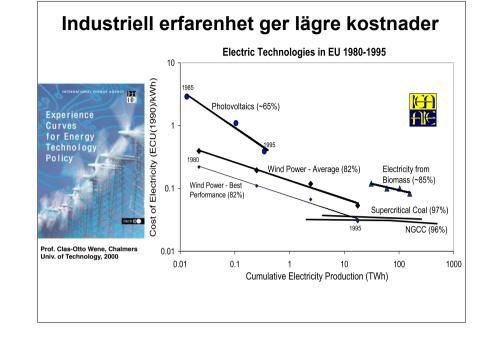


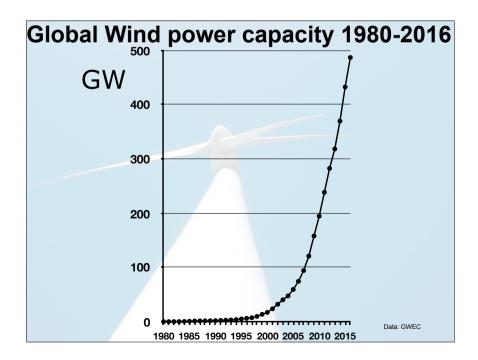


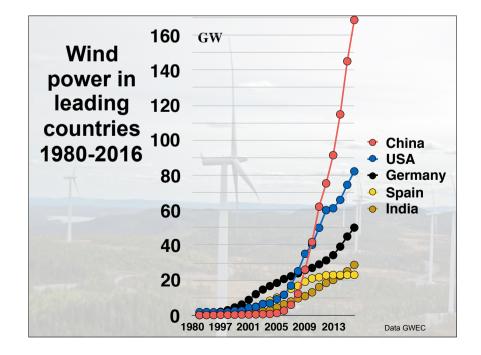


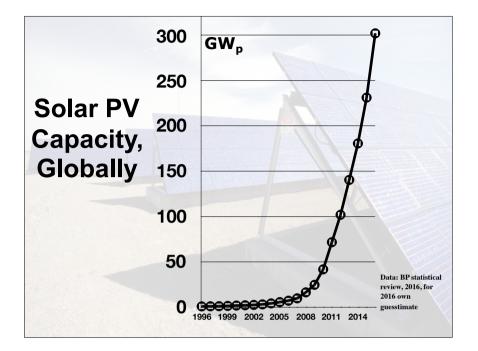


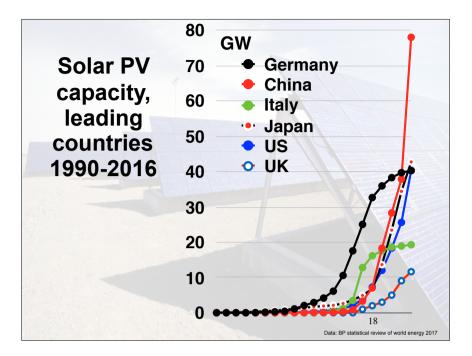


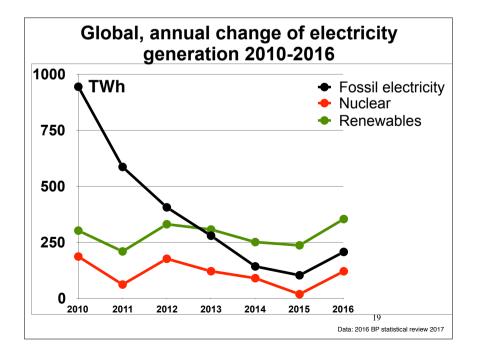


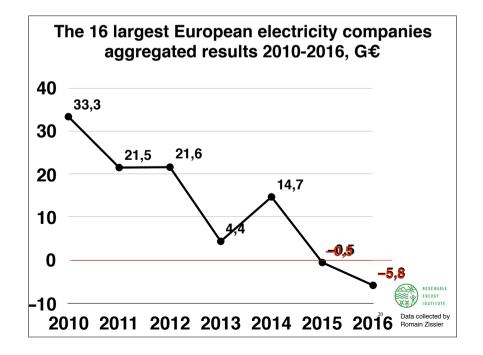












Rescuing power companies

- · Spain, retroactive reactionary legislation
- Germany, subsidiesed closing lignite plants, socialising nuclear waste cost, repayment of nuclear tax
- Sweden removing nuclear capacity tax, as well as hydropower real estate tax

21

- · Japan transmission fee to pay nuclear costs
- etc...

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Time to internalise externalities:

- Carbon taxes as public finance solution
- Nuclear Accident liability and payment capacity
- Nuclear Waste liability
- Now feasible as they are no longer increasing electricity prices!

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