

Emissions Trading A view from the Electricity Industry

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EURELECTRIC – a pan-European and Internationally Oriented Association







The Voice of the European Electricity Industry:

- Carbon-neutral and secure
 electricity supply
- Competitive and well-functioning European market
- Electricity as the solution



EURELECTRIC CEO Declaration 18 March 2009



- 1. Carbon-neutral power in Europe by 2050
- 2. Cost-efficient, reliable supply through an integrated market
- 3. Energy efficiency & electricity use as solutions to mitigate climate change



Development of electricity generation in the EU 25 between 2000 and 2030



- ✓ Need for huge investments up to 2030 (750 GW)
- ✓ Costly investments (€1 trillion)
- No technology revolution in sight within 10 years
- Create an attractive business environment

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The need for new capacity

- To replace existing plants and meet increasing demand, about 750 GW new capacity to be built in the EU-25 by 2030 (according to IEA)
- 750 GW equals:
 - -5800 CHP plants (130 MWe each)
 - -1250 coal-fired plants (600 MWe each)
 - -470 nuclear units (1,600 MWe each)
 - -190 000 large wind turbines (4 MW each)



Reasons for investment

- Many European power plants are old and will be retired within 10-15 years
- New stricter environmental regulation will force much plant to close
- Liberalised electricity markets mean keener competition and some power plants will not be profitable
- Electricity companies do not want to keep costly reserve capacity if not paid



Impact of CO₂ emissions trading

- The burden of CO2 reductions has fallen mainly to the electricity industry
- As in most commodity markets, prices are set by the marginal plant
- CO2 is one of the many factors that influence shortterm marginal operational costs and hence wholesale prices
- Ultimately, and in the longer term, electricity prices must cover long-term marginal costs, including capital costs
- Signal to invest in low carbon technologies



Impact on electricity companies

Key elements to be addressed:

- Climate strategy and risk management system
- Financial and accounting arrangements
- Taxation requirements (Corporate, capital gains, VAT)
- Legal, permitting issues
- Investment planning
- Production planning
- Organisation and administration (monitoring, reporting, verification, allowance recording, trading)
- IT systems
- Communication



Company compliance strategies

- Internal abatement Efficiency improvements, fuel switching (if portfolio allows) in short term. Repowering, restructuring plant portfolio, carbon capture and storage in longer term
- Use of ETS market Spot trading of EU allowances (active / passive)
- Hedge EU allowance forward contracts / derivative products CERs and ERUs : bilateral, funds
- Balance for each company based on own circumstances



EU ETS Issues

- Unequal implementation 27 NAPs
- Electricity prices
- Windfall profits



Auctioning – key points

- Price discovery is not a requirement
 - A functioning market for EUAs exists. Therefore the auction design should be simple.
- Most important is that auction parameters do not undermine normal price formation in the market
 - e.g. timing, frequency, participation, transparency arrangements

• Need early auctions (by mid-2011 at the very latest)

- To ensure orderly functioning of carbon AND electricity markets and avoidable (risk induced) electricity price increases
- Strongly recommend a centralised, common EUauction platform
 - Most cost effective and efficient mechanism to release EUAs.
 - At minimum auction rules must be the same in every Member State



Thank you for your attention.

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