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Richard Baron Head, ClimateChange Unit

UNFCCC Bonn, 14 June 2011

Climate and electricity challenge The goals

 Decarbonisation of electricity generation in the second half of the century

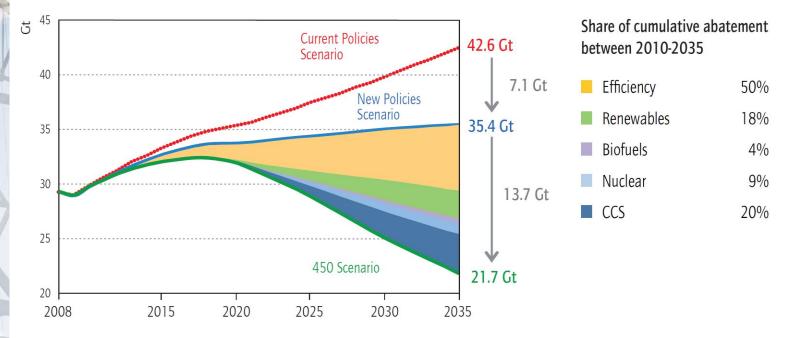
• Enhanced electrification of end-uses to improve energy efficiency performance

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Low-carbon power generation could deliver about half of CO₂ reductions needed globally

World energy-related CO₂ emission savings by technology in the IEA *World Energy Outlook 2010* 450 Scenario relative to the New Policies Scenario*



* The 450 Scenario describes an evolution of the global energy systems consistent with the 2°C goal, through limitation of greenhouse gas concentration to around 450 parts per million of CO₂ equivalent. The New Policies Scenario reflects national energy plans and pledges made by countries, including on their future emissions of greenhouse gases.

Source: IEA, 2010b.

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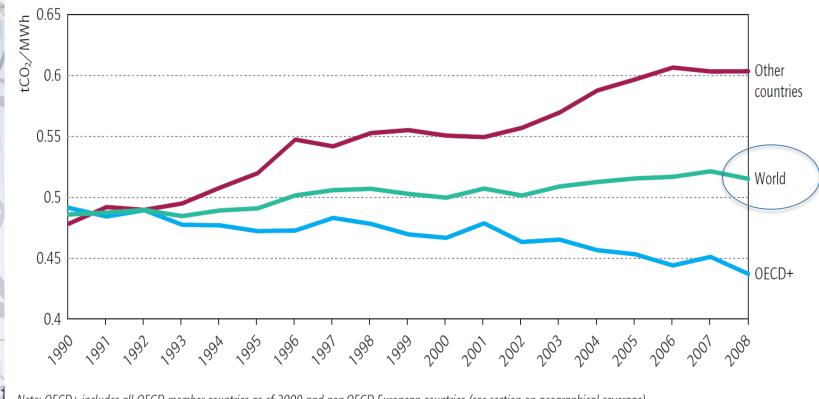


Climate and electricity challenge The current status

- Electricity is the largest and fastestgrowing source of CO₂ emissions
 40% of total in 2008
 + 65% between 1990 and 2008
- CO₂ intensity of power has been increasing globally (+6% 1990-2008)
- But new renewable sources of electricity had highest growth rate in recent years city

The CO₂ content of electricity is still increasing globally

Global evolution of the CO₂ intensity of power generation (1990-2008)



Note: OECD+ includes all OECD member countries as of 2009 and non-OECD European countries (see section on geographical coverage). Source: IEA statistics, 2011.

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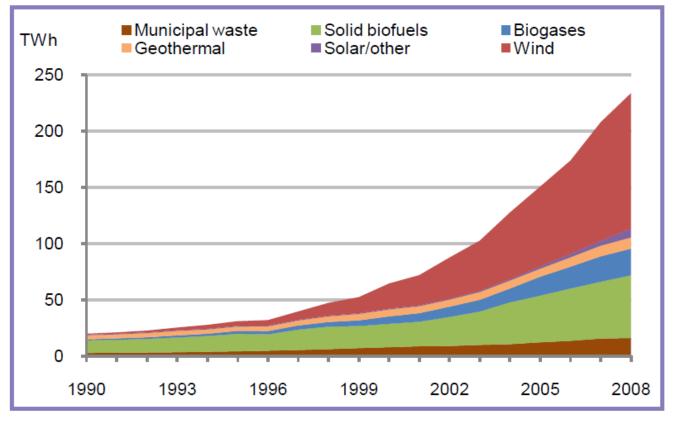
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DATA



Europe

Electricity from renewables (excluding hydro)



Source: IEA, 2010.

Largest source excluding hydro (2008) 51.4% (Wind)
Largest growth over the last decade 108.9 TWh (Wind)
Growth (annual rate): 1998-2008 17.3% 1990-1998 11.4%

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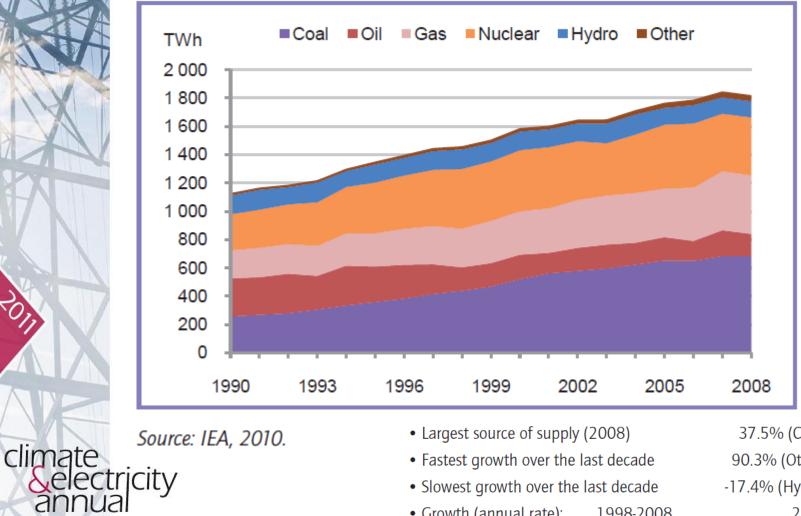
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Selectricity

OECD Pacific

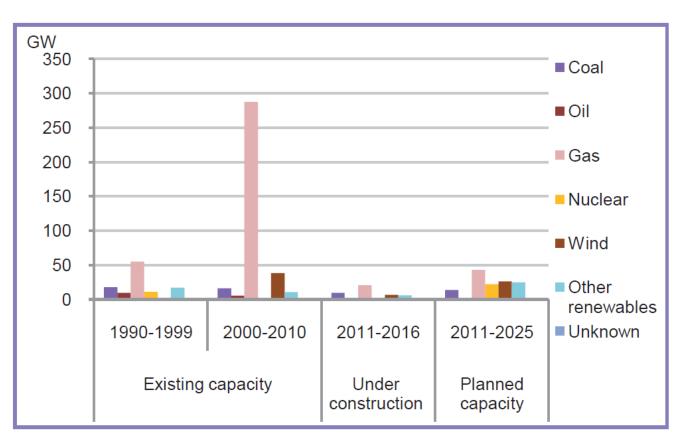
Generation mix in power sector



37.5% (Coal) • Fastest growth over the last decade 90.3% (Other) • Slowest growth over the last decade -17.4% (Hydro) • Growth (annual rate): 1998-2008 2.2% 1990-1998 3.3%

OECD North America

New capacity by installation date



Source: Platts, 2010. climate electricity

- Largest additions in 1990-2010
- Largest additions under construction
- Largest additions planned

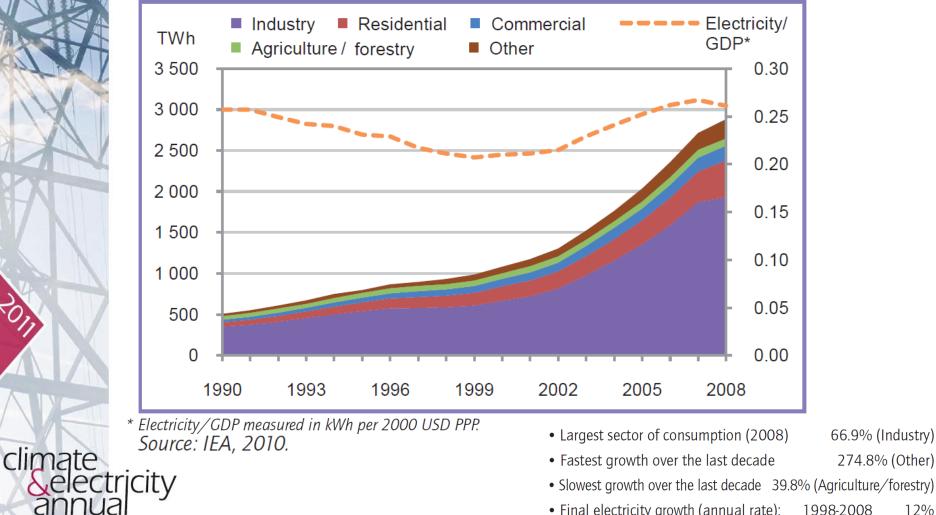
72.5% (Gas)

- 44.8% (Gas)
- 32.4% (Gas)

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China

Electricity use by sector and per unit of GDP



• Final electricity growth (annual rate): 1998-2008 12% 1990-1998 7.9%

66.9% (Industry)

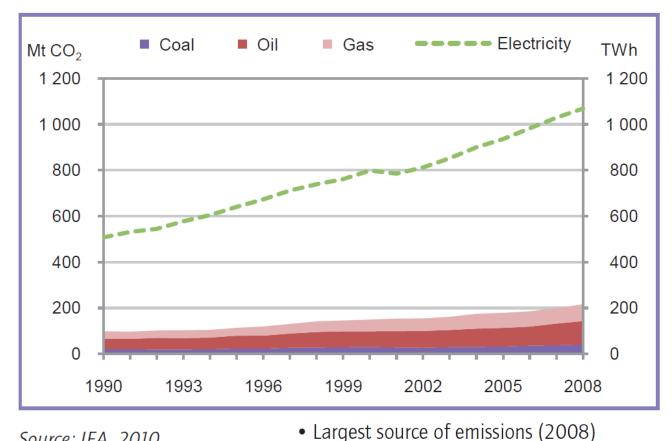
274.8% (Other)

• Final electricity intensity (annual rate, 1990-2008) 0.1%

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Latin America

CO₂ emissions by fuel in electricity generation



• Fastest growth over the last decade

• Slowest growth over the last decade

• Emissions (annual rate): 1998-2008

1990-1998

Source: IEA, 2010.

47.4% (Oil) 57.9% (Gas) 48.5% (Coal)

4.3%

4.6%

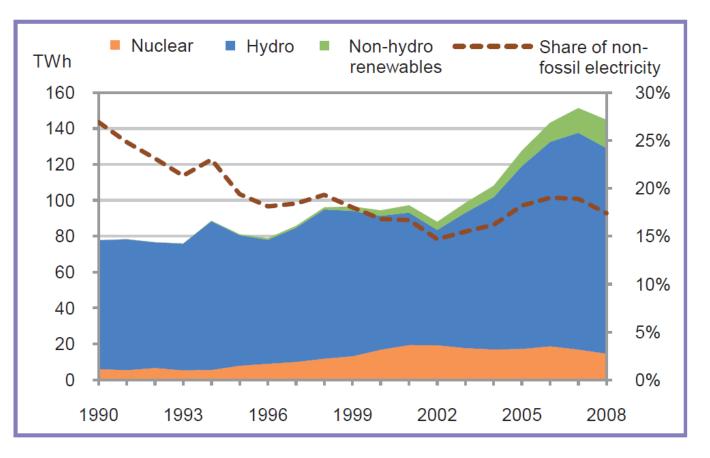
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India

Electricity generation by non-fossil fuels



Source: IEA, 2010.

- Share of non-fossil sources in total electricity (2008) 17.4%
- Largest source (2008)

- 79% (Hydro)
- TWh growth (annual rate): 1998-2008 3.6%
 - 1990-1998 0.6%

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ANALYSES

- Electricity markets and decarbonisation
- Financing schemes for energy efficiency
- Early decommissioning of coal
- Renewables and CO₂ policy interactions
- Electric vehicles and electricity
- The status of carbon capture and storage
- Carbon leakage in electricity?
- Estimating fuel-switching potential city

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Electricity markets and decarbonisation

- Wholesale electricity markets set price on the basis of the last, most expensive supplier of electricity, based on its fuel cost
- Other (cheaper) suppliers get a rent that will eventually cover capital and other costs
- Downsides: price volatility, uncertainty for investors, dis-incentive to investment in highcapital (low-CO₂) supply technologies
- Is a new reform of electricity markets needed to align investments with decarbonisation?

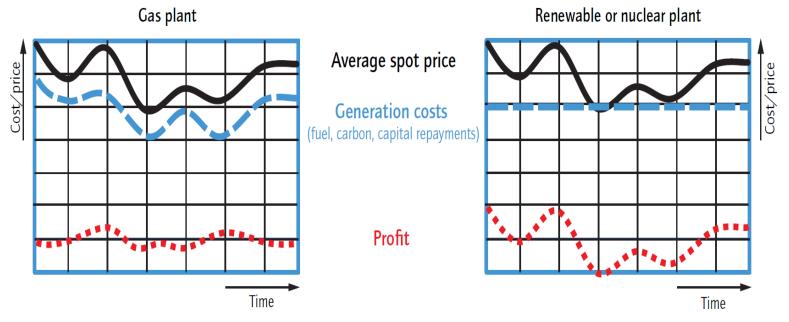
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How electricity markets affect the profitability of various generation technologies

Schematic representation of profit variability from electricity generation



- Risk 1: Investor exposure to uncertainty in fossil fuel and carbon prices (*see above figure*)
- Risk 2: Investor exposure to low market price driven by decarbonisation (near zero and negative prices)
- Risk 3: Rising consumer prices (CO₂ intensive generation sets the price whereas it accounts for a dwindling share of supply...)

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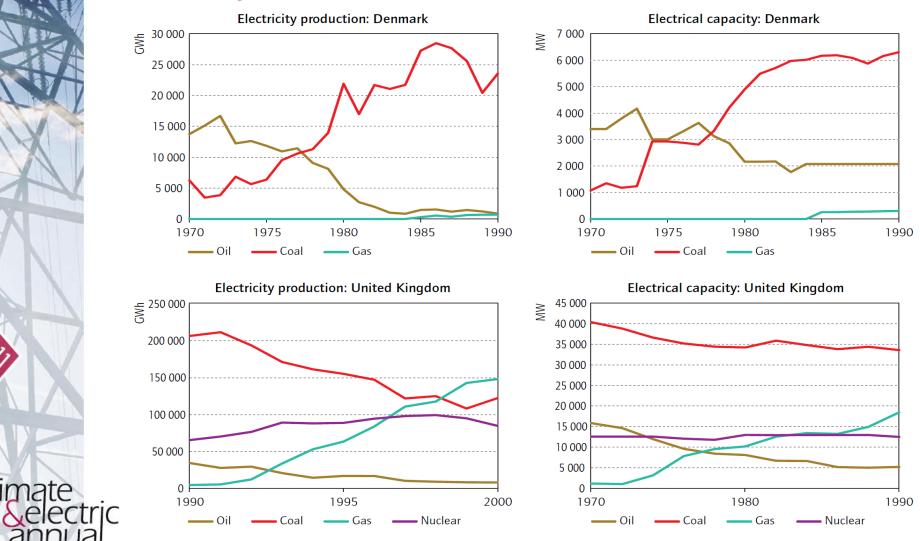
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Early retirement of coal-fired generation

Historical electricity production and electrical capacity by fuel in Denmark and the United Kingdom



Source: IEA statistics, 2011.

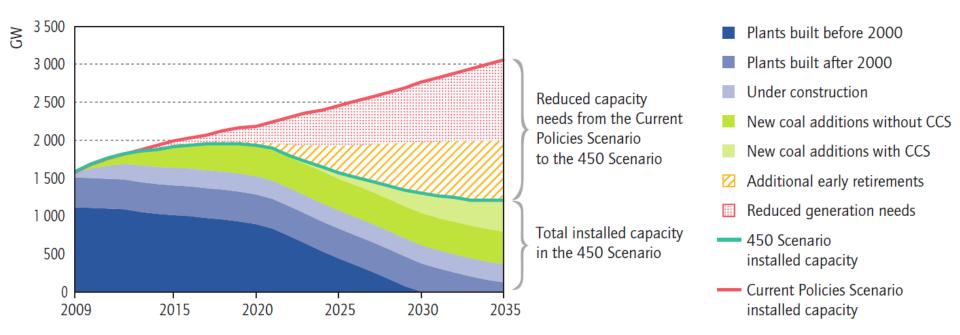
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Early retirement of coal-fired generation

Global installed coal-fired generation capacity to 2035 in the 450 Scenario relative to the Current Policies Scenario from *WEO 2010*



Source: IEA, 2010. Note: CCS = carbon capture and storage.



• Will market factors, a CO₂ price and demand side savings drive old coal plants out of the market? At what cost?

- What other measures could be envisioned to target decommissioning of old inefficient fossil-fuel plants?
- Should compensation measures be envisioned to mitigate 'stranded costs'?

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Thank you

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