

In what context will competition law be enforced in the future?

Directorate Comp/B Reflection Day

in Overijse:

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Take Home Messages

What will stay?

- Policy driven
- High concentration

What will come?

- Convergence of markets (electricity, gas, CO₂)
- New infrastructure

What might come?

- Sub-national markets
- Capacity market

What might go?

- Importance of day-ahead electricity price
- Importance of national borders



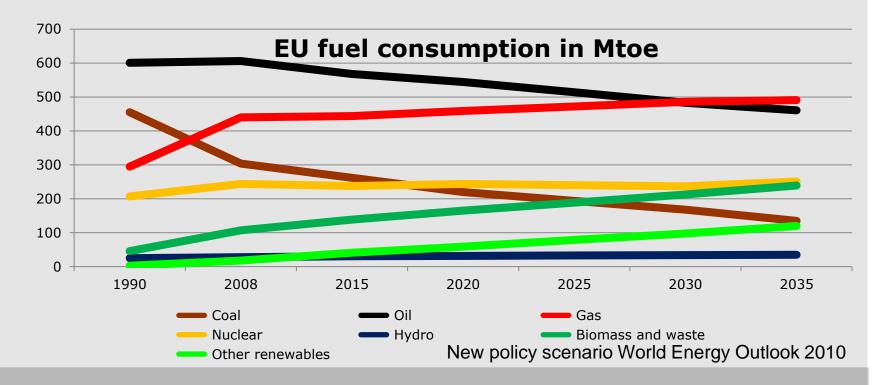
Agenda

- Long Term Demand and Supply outlook
- Electricity wholesale markets
- Gas Markets
- 20/20/20 and beyond
- Innovation and Investment



Energy Demand is going to decrease

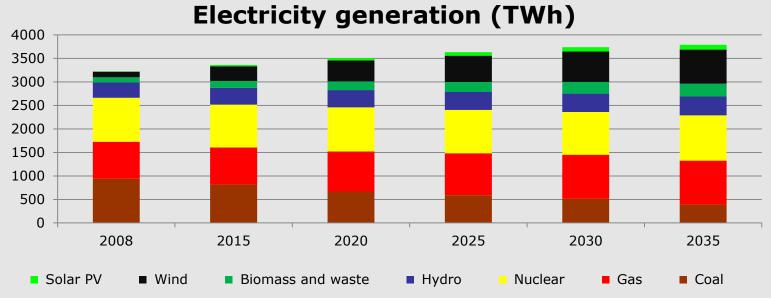
- Demand for oil and coal is going to decrease
- Demand for gas increases slightly
- Renewables and Nuclear will increase





Electricity demand increases slightly

Generation is predicted to increase by 0.6% pa



New policy scenario World Energy Outlook 2010

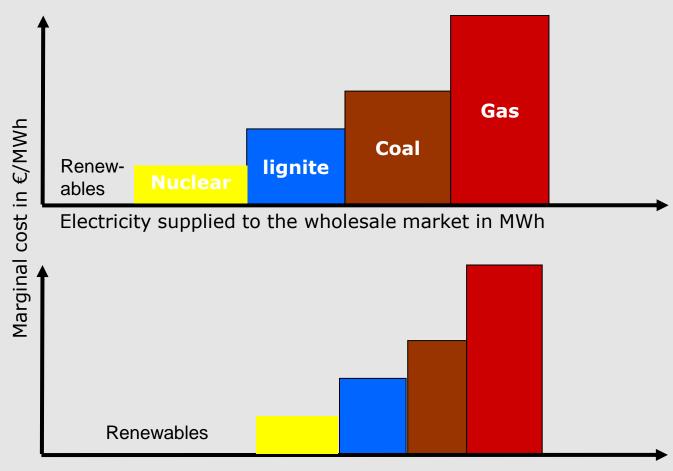
 But due to the intermittency of new sources, capacity has to increase twice as fast as generation (1.2% pa)



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Shrinking competitive segment



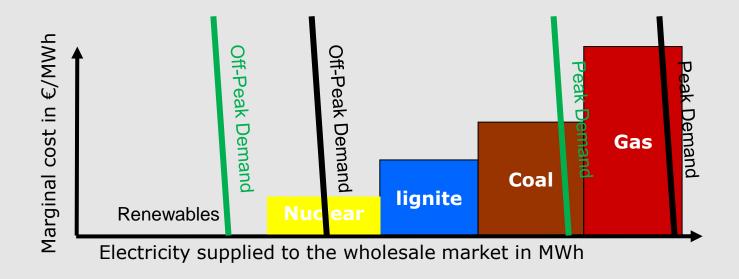
Supply side: Increasing share of renewables (2008:17% ->2035: 41%)

Less conventional power plants needed

- ⇒ overcapacity in the short run
- ⇒ more concentration in the long run

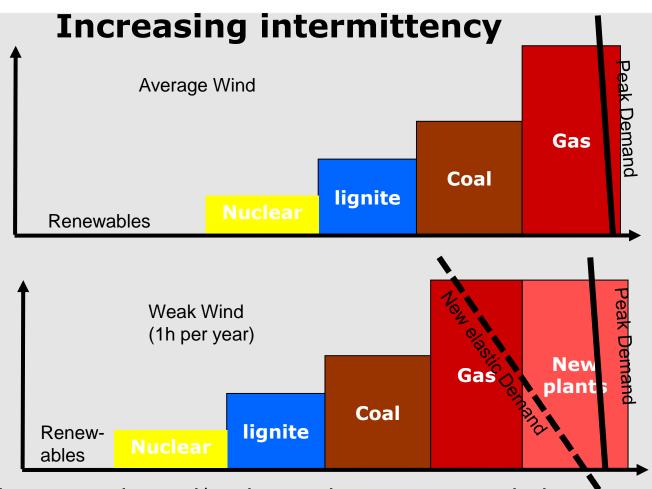


Administrative energy efficiency measures



Even less conventional power plants needed on average

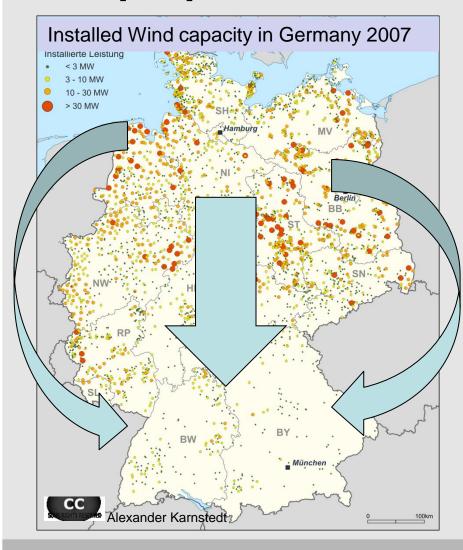




- More capacity and/or demand response needed
- => Possibly capacity markets will develop
- Real-time markets will become more important
- => Day-ahead electricity price will lose importance



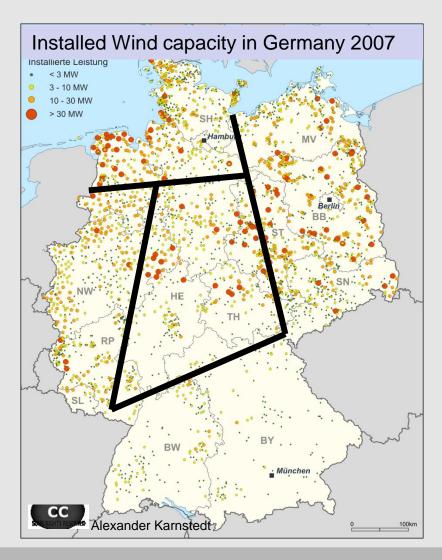
Unique price zones become unsustainable



- Intermittent power and local demand response might make large unique price zones become unsustainable
- Cross-border mergers of TSO a way to internalize



Unique price zones become unsustainable

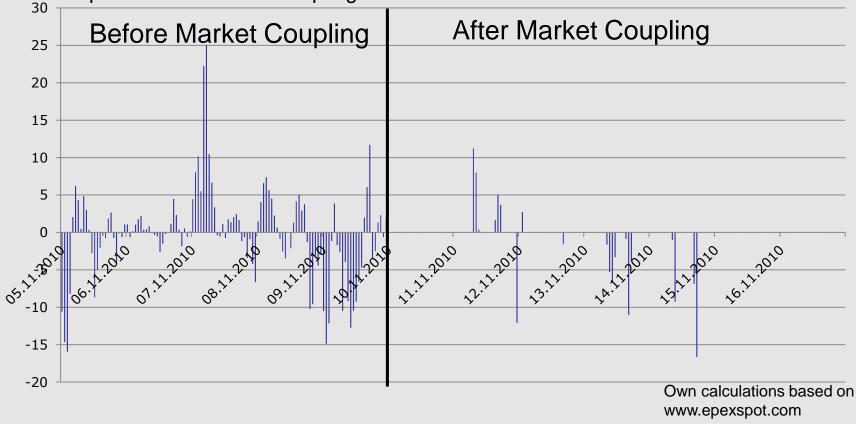


- Currently congestion is solved using intransparent rescheduling
- In smaller zones, high regional market concentration is revealed
- Transparency of price signals eases market power monitoring

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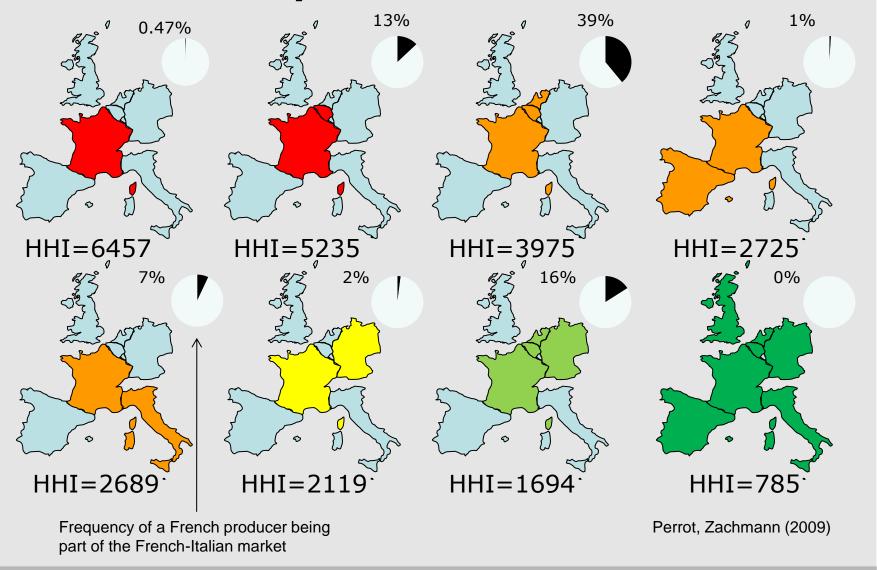
Changing congestion management schemes

Price Differential France-Germany after the introduction of the pentalateral market coupling last week



=> National borders lose importance for market definition

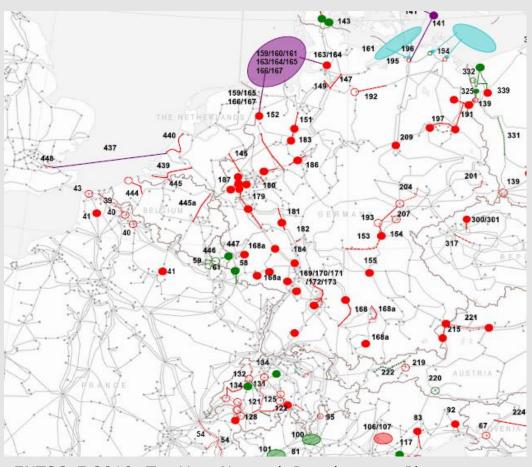
France is rarely the relevant market



Remedies based on international asset swaps are largly futile



Massive investments politically desired



- Large impact of networks on competition
- Network investments have many strategic components

ENTSO-E 2010: Ten Year Network Development Plan



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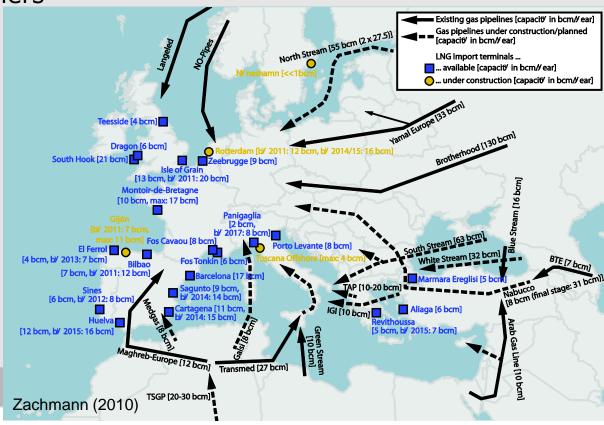


Security of supply at increasing import dependency

- Demand constant or slightly increases
- Indigenous (+Norway) production declines

But, high world demand also stimulates new producers => diversity

of suppliers



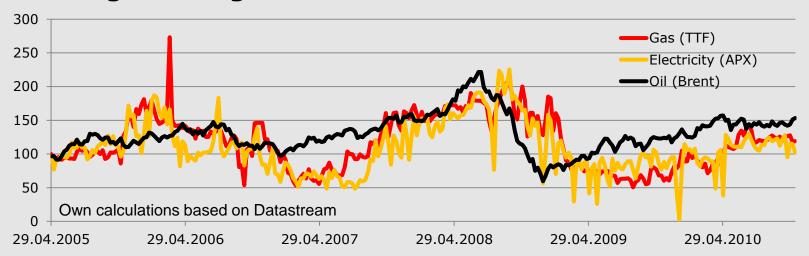


Convergence of electricity and gas markets

Increased substitutability

- Heat pumps
- Storing gas instead of electricity
- Transport electricity instead of gas

Divergence of gas and oil markets





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20/20/20 and beyond

- Massive state aid to renewables, energy efficiency and emission mitigation
- A wide portfolio of interacting measures: obligations, feed-in tariffs, preferential credits, grid connection, tax breaks, direct subsidies, ... (eg., potentially, a whole new CCS industry based on govt. support)
- Significant industrial policy motives
- Mistrust in markets (certificates, allowances)
 - Enforcing 20% renewables and 20% efficiency by administrative measures will make the ETS almost redundant
 - ETS: An indefinite extension of free allowances to leakage sectors will lead to strategic games
 - => Energy markets will remain largely climate and industrial policy driven



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Innovation and Investment

- Innovation and Investment are the big long-term drivers (Öttingers trillion)
- Large size of typical unit investments
 - + lack of deep forward markets
 - => difficult for new entrants
- Withholding of investment in capacity and innovation might be an individually profitable strategy
 - ⇒ Underinvestment in electricity generation capacity
 - ⇒ Underinvestment in transmission lines
 - ⇒ Underinvestment in carbon mitigation technology
- EU brings competitors around the table to discuss new technologies (SET Plan)



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Policy Conclusions

- Adopt geographic market definitions to changing realities
- Adopt product market definitions to changing realities
- Monitor newly developing markets
- Assist containing the distortions to competition due to green industrial policy

Both, merger control and antitrust will continue to be essential in the next decades.



Contact:

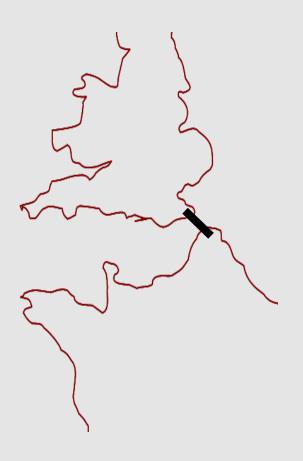
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Annex



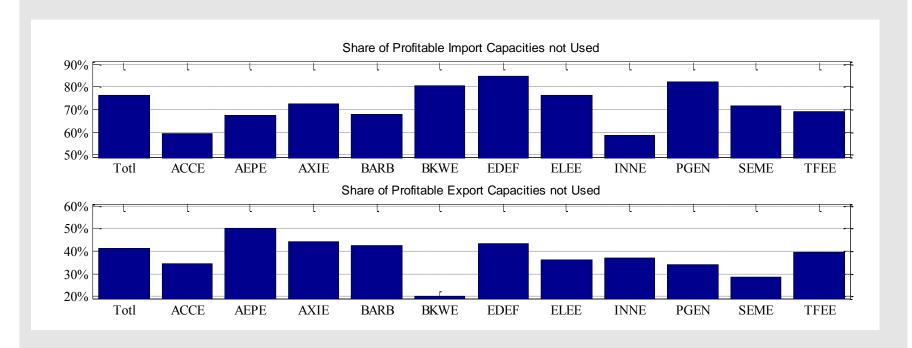
The Anglo-French Interconnector



- Theoretical Prediction: A dominant with low generation cost in one market withholds more importing transmission capacities relative to traders and its own export capacities.
- The dominant exports more often against the price differential relative to the traders behaviour and relative to its imports.



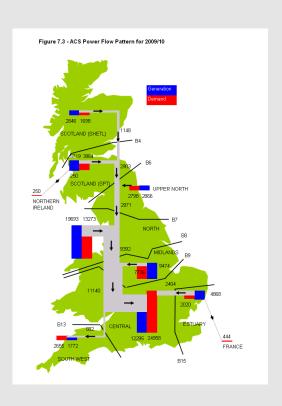
Company-level import/export decision at the Anglo-French interconnector

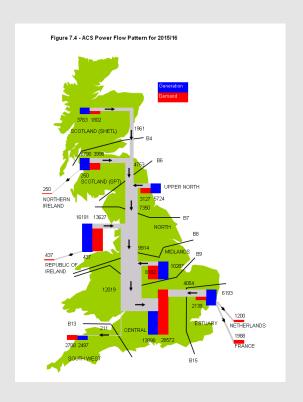


- Powergen and EDF export more irrespective of price differences and other players trading decisions
- They react less on price differences
- They trade less in line with all other market participants



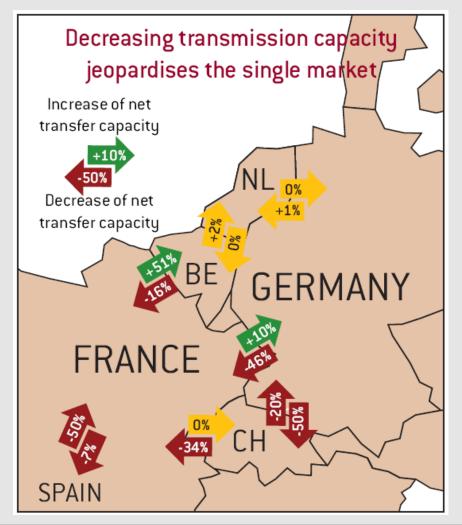
Changing Pattern in electricity flows due to renewables require new transmission







Limited network extension



decrease in net transfer capacity in continental Europe (ENTSO-E) by ~15% from 2004/05 to 2009/10

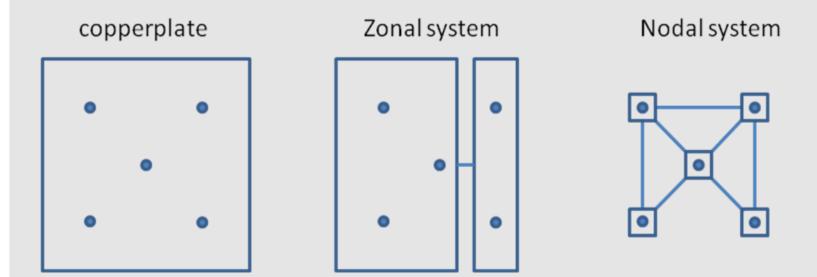
Source: ENTSO-E. Figure shows change in net

transfer capacities between winter 2004/05 and winter 2009/10 in direction of arrow



Three Alternatives to linking national copperplates

- a centrally optimized European copperplate,
- a centrally optimized system of subnational zones
- or a centrally optimized nodal pricing system





Smart Grid

 "Smart grid" is the upgrading of transmission and distribution grids with information and communication technology.

Economic benefits:

- Demand Response: Reducing demand at certain moments and certain locations can provide extraordinary savings
- System cost: Optimizing system operation with respect to system losses, maintenance, metering, ... could be beneficial
- Integrate new technologies: renewables, electric vehicles

But:

- Net benefits of end user demand response are difficult to prove
 - Unclear demand elasticity
 - Comparatively high cost of meters



Stylized Effects of Asymmetric Cost Pass- Through





Russian gas cut might decrease Belgium electricity prices

