

The Unpopular Truth... about Electricity and The Future of Energy Energy and material input to "produce" energy

IAEE Energy Policy



Switzerland, 17 April 2023 Dr. Lars Schernikau, energy economist, commodity trader shareholder HMS Bergbau AG









What are Key "Earthly" Challenges Today?

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Content





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Source: "IEA: Net Zero by 2050 - Analysis," May 2021. https://www.iea.org/reports/net-zero-by-2050, p57.

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Germany 2021: Renewable Installed Capacity vs. Power Generation and Primary Energy Wind & Solar: 55% Capacity Gave Germany 28% Electricity and 5% Primary Energy

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Note:: fooder = food, especially dried hay or feed, for cattle and other livestock.: Percent of GDP allocated to energy expenditure in the United Kingdom from 1300 to 2008. Energy sources are labeled in black; keystone innovations are labeled in red, and intellectual paradigms are in blue (Reproduced with permission from Fizaine and Court 2016). (Color figure online) Source: Day et al 2018 "The Energy Pillars of Society: Perverse Interactions of Human Resource Use, the Economy, and Environmental Degradation." *BioPhysical Economics and Resource Quality* 3, no. 1 (February 2018, <u>https://doi.org/10.1007/is41247-018-0035-6</u>





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Comparing eROI – illustrative (here focus electricity)











Source: Nominal electricity demand curve with photovoltaic production schematic by the author, adapted from EnergyMag accessed 4 Sep 2020 at this link.



Lazard April 2023: Levelized Cost of Energy Comparison—Unsubsidized Analysis

Lazard: "selected renewables are cost-competitive with conventionals under certain circumstances"

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Disclaimer: Other factors would also have a potentially significant effect on the results contained herein, but have not been examined in the scope of this current analysis. These additional factors, among others, could include: implementation and interpretation of the full scope of the Inflation Reduction Act ("IRA"); network upgrades, transmission, congestion or other integration-related costs; permitting or other development costs, unless otherwise noted; and costs of complying with various environmental regulations (e.g., carbon emissions offsets or emissions control systems). This analysis also does not address potential social and environmental externalities, including, e.g., the social costs and rate consequences for those who cannot afford distributed generation solutions, as well as the long-term residual and societal consequences of various conventional generation technologies that are difficult to measure (e.g., nuclear waste disposal, airborne pollutants, GHGs, etc.) Source: Lazard April 2023, <u>https://www.lazard.com/research-insights/2023-levelited-cost-of-energypus/</u>

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OECD confirms higher costs of wind and solar

0 **Steepness increases** O NEM Resid.LDC with higher VRE shares \$150 AUD / MWh (author's est.) Wide disparity of Integration costs estimates **PROFILE costs only** ts per MWh of Variable "Renewable" Significant costs for Brouwer et al., 2016 VRE above ~ 25% share Balancing costs Grid costs System specific Connection costs Based on a selection from \$100 · Mostly EU or USA more than 60 papers in Reichenberg et al. full literature review studies 2018 · Many studies report . S O %CO2 reduction: only Pietzcker et al., 2012 Sholz et al., 2018 b some report VRE share Hirth et al., 2015 n Ozdemir et al., 2017 • Few studies explore \$50 Brouwer et al., 2016 to shares > 60% Lamont., 2008 Sholz et al., 2017 Ueckerdt et al., 2017 Green et al., 2011 Blakers et al., 2017 Lower bound estimate: Õ \$25/MWh integration 0 Bushnell, 2010 F costs for Australia Boccard, 2010 Boccard, 2010 b \$0 0 Main scenario No IC, no No IC 20% 40% 60% 80% 100% VRE share 0% е flexible hydro 10% VRF 30% VRF 75% VRF 50% VRF

Note on profile cost <u>Profile Costs of Wind Energy: Why are Utilities Overpaying 2 - Master Resource</u>, profile cost measures the relative value of energy based on the time of day and how reliable it is to the electrical grid. Source: OECD: The Full Costs of Electricity Provision 1 En (OECD, 'June 2018, <u>https://www.cecd.org/publications/the-full-costs-of-electricity-provision-9789264303119-en.htm</u>, p48, Nuclear Energy Agency. 'OECD.' The Costs of Decarbonisation: System Costs with High Starses of Nuclear and Renewables.' OECD, Junuary 2018. <u>https://www.cecd.org/18/29/8826431118-en.</u>p19



Media and Politicians continue to Mislead (or be mislead?)

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NLINE



The cost of green energy like wind and solar has been falling for decades

Source: BBC Sep 2022 and Die Zeit Apr 2023

What Is the Cost of Energy? = NOT Levelized Cost of Electricity (LCOE)

... but Full Cost of Electricity (FCOE) ... to Society or a Country

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For Germany and Texas: Full Cost of Electricity is over 10x higher than LCOE at 100% VRE Idel 2022: Levelized Full System Costs of Electricity - LFSCOE Schernikau [only]

Idel 2022: "the function of supply in electricity markets is not to generate electricity... ... but to provide a specified amount of electricity to a specific place at a particular time."



LFSCOE with 100% share each (\$/MWh) VRE cost drop by more than half if 95% is assumed

Technology	LCOE [USD/MWh]	LFSCOE	
		Germany [USD/MWh]	Texas [USD/MWh]
Coal (USC)	76	78	90
Natural Gas CC	38	35	40
Natural Gas CT	67	39	42
Nuclear	82	105	122
Solar PV	36	→ 1380	413
Wind	40	483	291

Source: Idel, Robert. "Idel 2022: Levelized Full System Costs of Electricity." Energy 259 (November 2022): 124905. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.energy.2022.124905

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Example: Vietnam and Electricity production - realistic forecast?



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Externalities of Energy Systems

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Recommended Papers and Books (www.unpopular-truth.com)

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Appendix Scherikau

Global Material/Mineral Extraction Reaches Close to 100 Billion Tons p.a.

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Embodied energy for selected industrial materials, or better "base products"



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US: 2 TWs of generation and storage capacity sits in interconnection queues

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US Installed Capacity vs. Active Queues

Source: Rand, Joseph, Mark Bolinger, Ryan Wiser, Seongeun Jeong, and Bentham Paulos. "Queued Up: Characteristics of Power Plants Seeking Transmission Interconnection As of the End of 2020," April 2023. https://doi.org/10.2172/1784303



(1) ~550 EJ (~ 160.000 TWh p.a.) = has the capacity of melting 1.500 km³ ice, or 1m ice layer of 1.530.000 km² which translates to an approx. area size of France, Spain & Germany and b) melting 10 cm of ice layer of 15.300.000 km² which translates to an approx. area size of Australia & Brazil; (2) assuming one sunny day increased temps by 5 °C, this would translate to 5/365 = 1,4 °C in 100 years Source: Schernikau research and analysis based on Dr. Bodo Wolf 2020 "Eine Expertise über die Energetik der Biosphäre"; book Sustainable Materials Without the Hot Air (2015 by Jonathan M. Cullen, Julian M. Allwood)



Lazard 16.0: Levelized Cost of Energy – First Rise in 2023



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Source: Lazard April 2023, https://www.lazard.com/research-insights/2023-levelized-cost-of-energyplus,

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Includes all forms of renewables

such as

Bloomberg NEF on Electricity: Solar was half of all capacity installed in 2021



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Share of Global Capacity Additions by Technology

Source: Bloomberg NEF, Nov 2022, https://global-climatescope.org//, excluding capacity retirements

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IEA Jan 2022: Coal Largest Contributor to Growth



Note: Other non-renewables includes oil, waste and other non-renewable energy sources. Source: IEA analysis based on data from IEA (2022), Data and statistics.: IEA: Electricity Market Report - January 2022 – Analysis, January 2022. https://www.iea.org/reports/electricity-market-report-january-2022

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What is Global Warming Potential – GWP?

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Airborne: Comparing CO₂^{eq} Coal vs. Gas (2019 data)

Global CO₂ CO2eq @GWP20 from measured Global total CO2eq emissions from combustion only methane emissions only @ GWP₂₀ 3.530 Mt CO2eq primarily from 14.360 Mt CO2 less 54% 10.000 Mt CO2eq airborne leraround minin = 7.600 Mt CO₂ airborne • 43.850 TWh PES 43.850 TWh PES Coal • 43.850 TWh PES Ratio = 0,08 Mt/TWh Ratio = 0,23 Mt/TWh Ratio = 0,15 Mt CO₂/TWh Surface-mined coal ~15% "better for climate" than average natural gas 7.130 Mt CO2eq airborne 7.620 Mt CO₂ less 45% 3,440 Mt CO2eq 3.500 Mt CO₂ airborne 39.290 TWh PES Natural Gas • 39.290 TWh PES 39.290 TWh PES Ratio 0,18 CO₂^{eq} Mt/TWh Ratio 0,09 Mt/TWh Ratio 0.09 Mt/TWh 16,5 Bt CO₂ airborne 49,5 Bt CO2eq (590 Mt CH4) **Global Sum** 66 Bt CO2eq airborne (total emissions 36 Bt CO₂) Coal share = 7,1 % Coal share = 15 % (inc. natural. oil. Coal share = 40 % agriculture, other) Gas share = 6,9 % Gas share = 11 % Gas share = 21 % Gas better **Coal better** Gas better Coal/Gas = 1,7x Coal/Gas = 0,9x Coal/Gas = 1,3x

Coal has lower CH₄ emissions @GWP₂₀: Gas/Coal "climate" breakeven if ~2% or more CH₄ is lost along the value chain

Note: PES = Primary Energy Supply 2019:; Note 2: Airborne = After 50% natural ocean and plant uptake of CO2 as per IPCC AR6 p89 it is actually 54% Source: Schernikau/Smith 2021, Climate Impacts of Fossil Fuels, SSRN Electronic Journal, Nov 2021, (link, DOI 10.2139/ssrn.3968359)

... How Move from Coal to LNG Effect Developing Nations?

3 minute read- October 5, 2022 12:30 AM GMT+2- Last Updated 9 days ago Bangladesh plunged into darkness by national grid failure

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Cost of the Energy "Transition"...

ORIZONS No pain, no gain: The net-zero The economic consequences of accelerating the energy transition transition ter Martin, Head of Economics nting Zhou, Principal Economis Mackenzie What it would cost, what it could bring McKinsey & Company The cost of "Net-Zero": US\$75 trillion economic loss by 2050 Global capital spending in the transition could rise in the short term before falling back Less developed and low-income economies will bear a disproportionally high burden. Cumulative spending of around \$275 trillion or about 7.6% of global GDP across 2021-2050 keeping warming to 1.5 °C would shave 2% off our basecase GDP forecast for 2050 Poorer countries and those reliant on fossils are This translates to 10% per capita GDP loss by 2050 most exposed to the shifts in a net-zero transition

Source: The Net-Zero Transition: Its Cost and Benefits | Sustainability | McKinsey & Company," January 2022. ink; WoodMac: No Pain, No Gain – the Economic Consequences of Accelerating the Energy Transition, January 2022. ink

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