

# European clean energy policy for the electricity sector

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**Salamanca Spain**

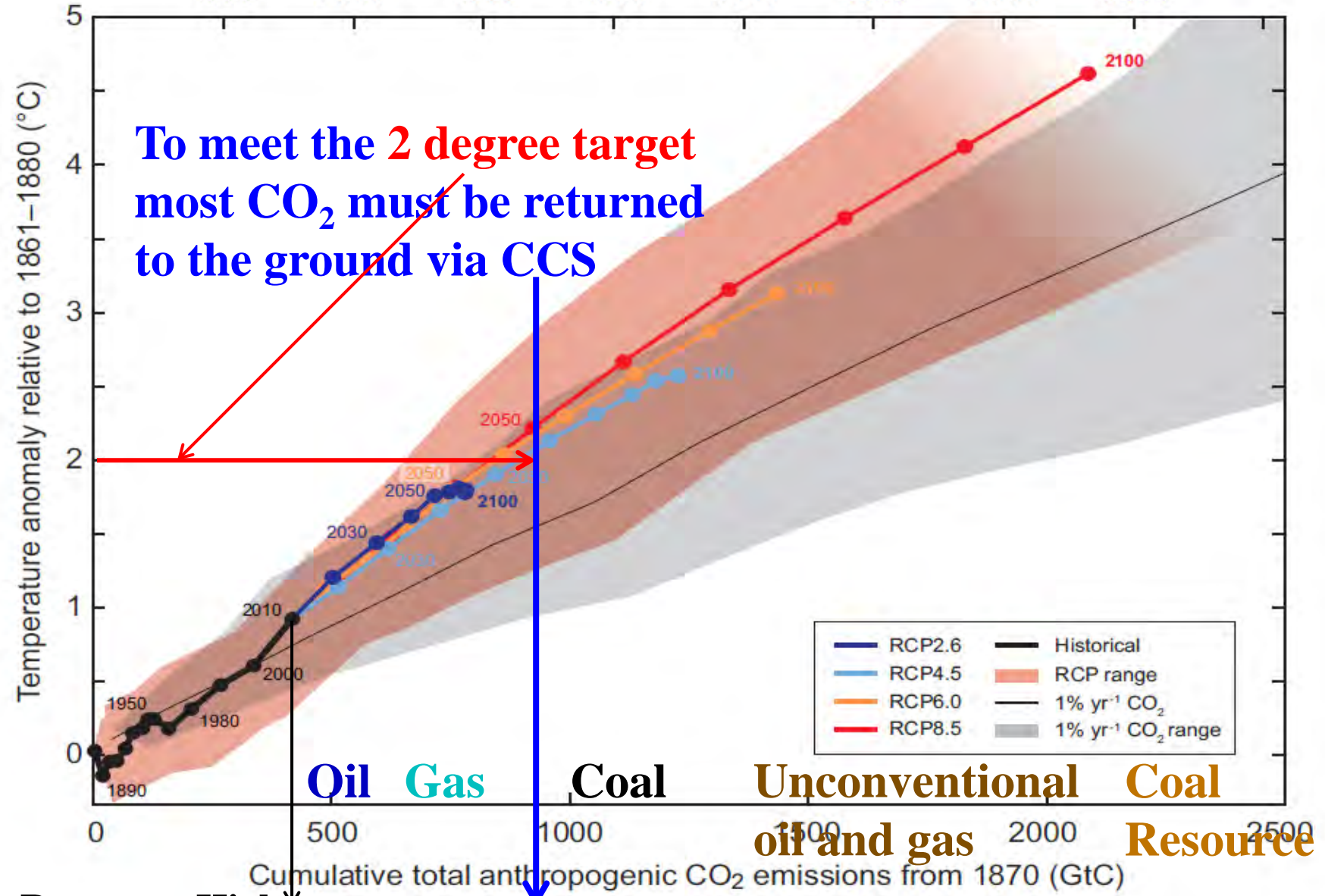
2<sup>nd</sup> February 2017



- The case for **decarbonizing power**
- The new **Clean Energy Directives**
- What implications for **RES-E support**?
- What implications for **market design**?
  - ⇒ long-term contracts, auctions
- What challenges for **regulation**?
  - growing divergence between marginal & average costs
  - **tariffs and cost-recovery can cause major distortions**
  - regulators need to be more agile and smarter

Cumulative total anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from 1870 (GtCO<sub>2</sub>)

1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 8000



To meet the 2 degree target most CO<sub>2</sub> must be returned to the ground via CCS

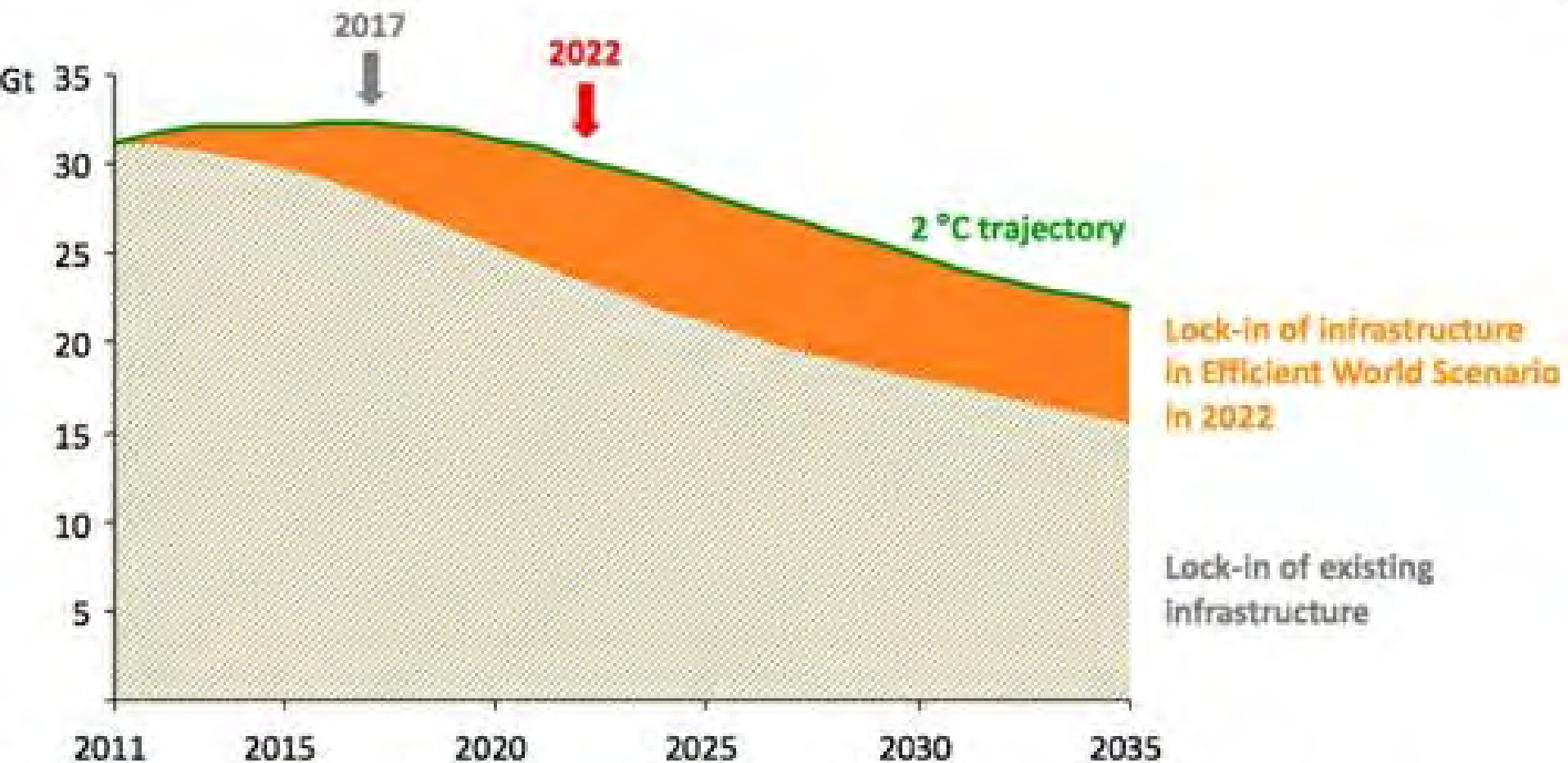
Oil Gas Coal Unconventional oil and gas Coal Resource

Cumulative total anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from 1870 (GtC)

Reserves: High  
Low



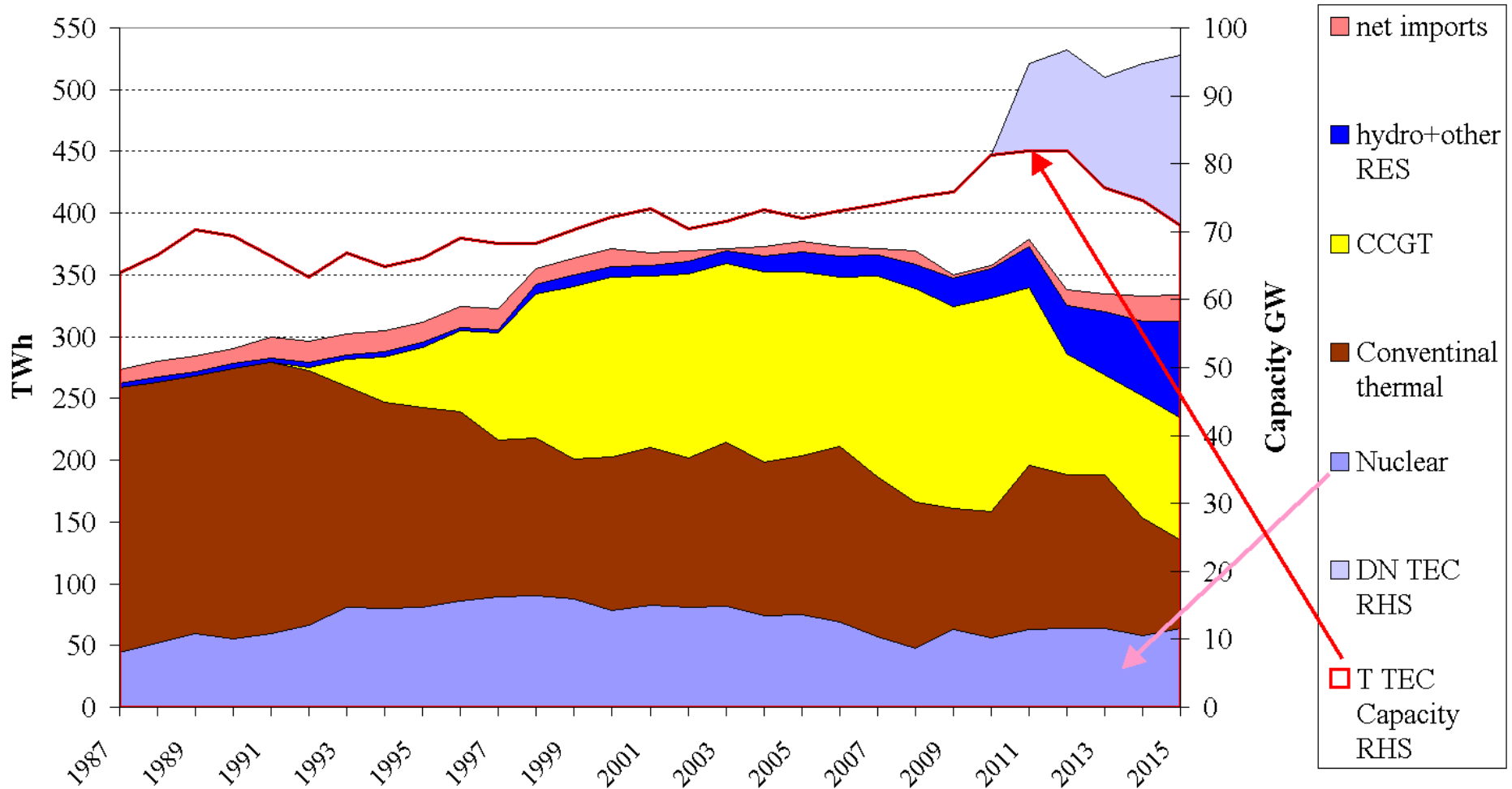
# We are already locked in to high carbon emissions from past fuel choices





- **Power sector** key to decarbonising economy
  - Large, easiest, and capital **highly durable**
- Coal-fired electricity has more than **twice** the GHG emissions of gas *and* far higher air pollutants
  - **gas as transition fuel to the low carbon future**
  - But there is lots of coal => **CCS a long-run priority**
- Deployment has dramatically lowered cost of wind, PV
  - justifies **support for R&D and deployment**
- Adequate carbon pricing could **lower fossil fuel prices**
  - ⇒ hard to set the “right” carbon price
  - ⇒ Need contracts and emissions standards?

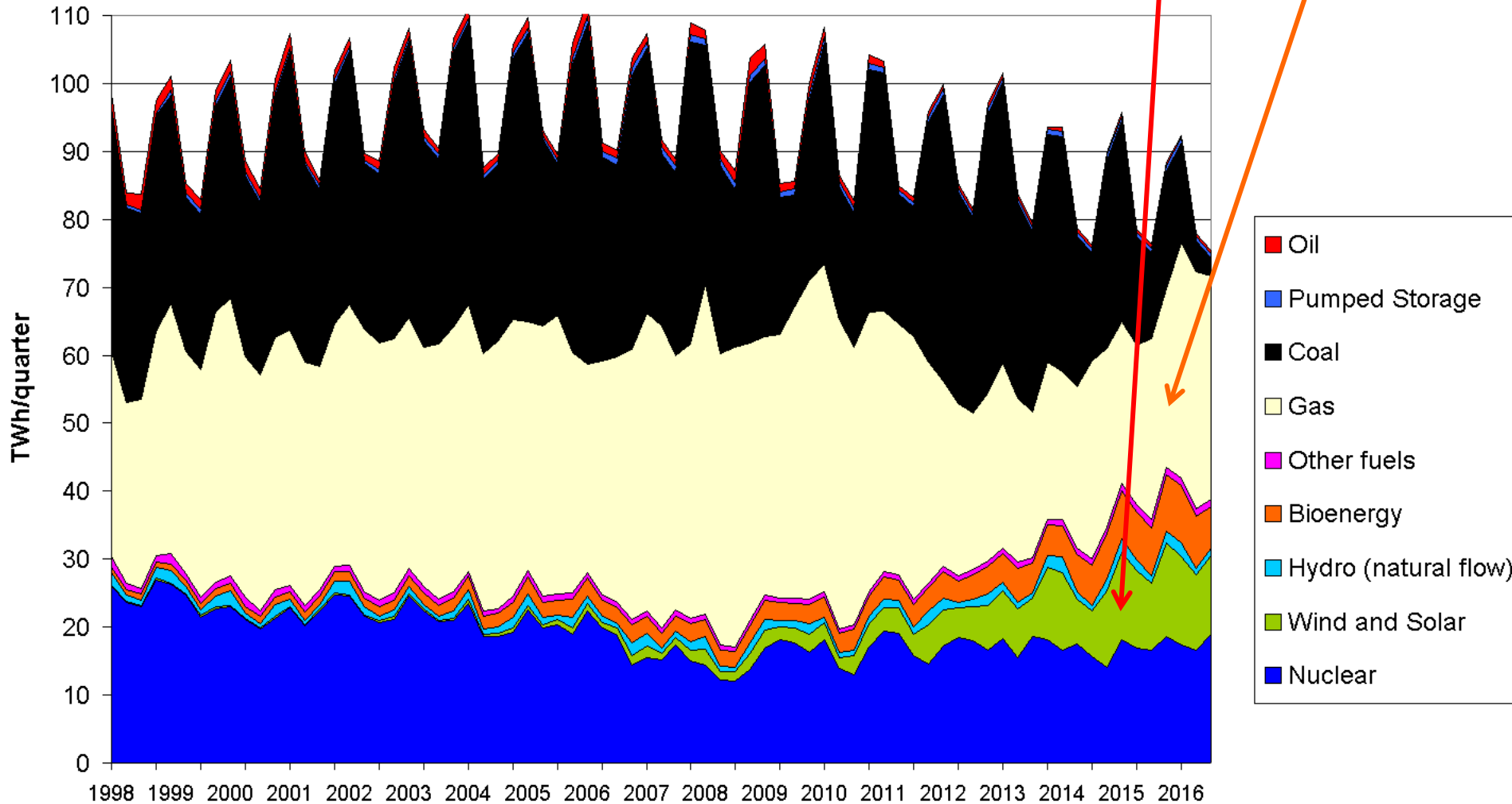
Electricity supplied by, and capacity of, UK generators, 1987-2015





# Coal displaced by wind & gas

Quarterly GB electricity generated by fuel





- 3 pillars of EU **Electricity policy**
  - **reliability**, **efficiency** and **sustainability**
- 3 pillars of EU **Climate change policy**
  - price CO<sub>2</sub> via **ETS**, **RES targets**, Strategic Energy Technologies (SET) Plan
- **Energy Union 2015** called for reforms:
  - **Clean Energy COM(2016) 860**;
  - **Renewables** Directive COM(2016) 767
  - Accelerating Clean Energy **Innovation** COM(2016) 763
  - Proposed **reform of ETS** post 2020
  - Others on energy efficiency, security, etc.





- ... **renewable** production needs to be supported through **market-based schemes that address market failures, ensure cost-effectiveness and avoid overcompensation or distortion.** Low-cost financing for capital intensive renewables depends on having a stable investment framework that **reduces regulatory risk.**”
- **Action Point 5:** Creating a seamless internal energy market that benefits citizens, ensuring security of supply, **integrating renewables in the market** and remedying the currently uncoordinated development of **capacity mechanisms** in Member States ***call for a review of the current market design.***



- Nov 2016: **Revised RES Directive** COM(2016) 767
  - 2016 29% of electricity is renewable (RES-E)
  - 2030 target 50+%; **€1 trillion investment needed**
  - price reductions 2009-15: PV 80%; wind 30-40%
- New RES-E has **non-discriminatory grid access**
  - **Priority access** rights grandfathered
- EU target RES energy share 27%, **no MS targets**
  - current plans will fall short => **needs continued support**
  - => **National** energy and climate plans monitored
  - => encourages MS to invest in RES in other MSs
  - MSs **cannot fall below** its 2020 target



- Aim to **increase investor confidence**:
  - Protection against retroactive changes (Art 6)
  - greater policy stability
  - market based cost-effective support (Art 4)
    - => Reduces risk that the support will need modification
  - mandatory move towards **investments aid**
  - mandatory **partial** cross-border participation (Art 5)
    - reflecting **physical** interconnection and regional support funds
  - while respecting MS right to choose energy mix and RES technologies to support



## Preamble to **revised RES Directive**

16. “When designing support schemes and when allocating support, Member States should seek to **minimise the overall system cost of deployment, taking full account of grid and system development needs, the resulting energy mix, and the long term potential of technologies.**”

26. ...”(allow) Member States to count energy from renewable sources **consumed in other Member States towards their own**”



- **Least system cost** to meet reliability and CO<sub>2</sub> targets
  - **Coordinate** generation, transmission, distribution
  - **Generation**: timely delivery at right place, size, technology
  - **Transmission**: built, sized and used for efficient dispatch
- Liberalized markets need good price signals
  - **Many of which are regulated (transmission, distribution)**
- Address missing markets to reduce missing money problem
  - Locational marginal pricing **LMP** - nodal not zonal pricing
  - Wholesale price = **SMC + CP** at each node (**LMP**)
  - **CP = LoLP\*(VoLL – SMC);  $\sum$ LoLP=LoLE**
  - Ancillary service prices to incentivise efficient quality
- Location signals: **long-term** financial contract on LMP
- **Revenue shortfalls: Ramsey pricing on final consumer**
- **Targeted subsidies, efficient risk sharing**

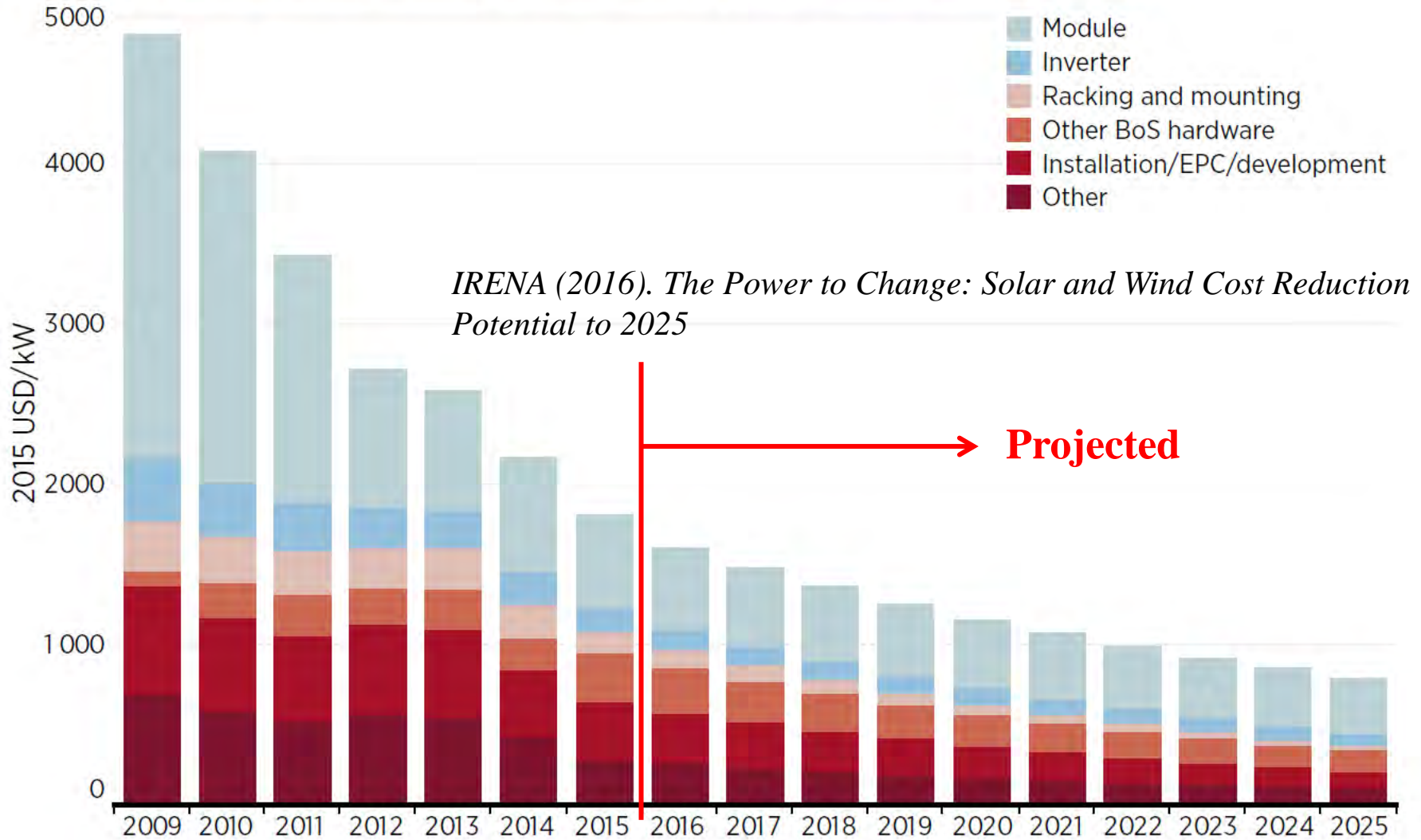


- Art 3 proposes Union funds (financial instruments) to **reduce cost of capital** for RES projects.
- Art 4: ensure RES **responds to market price signals** and support is granted in an open, transparent, **competitive**, non-discriminatory and **cost-effective** manner
- Art 5: support (10+% of new capacity) open to installations located in **other** Member States
- Art 21: Small RES-E self-generators are not deemed energy suppliers; are paid **market value of exports**



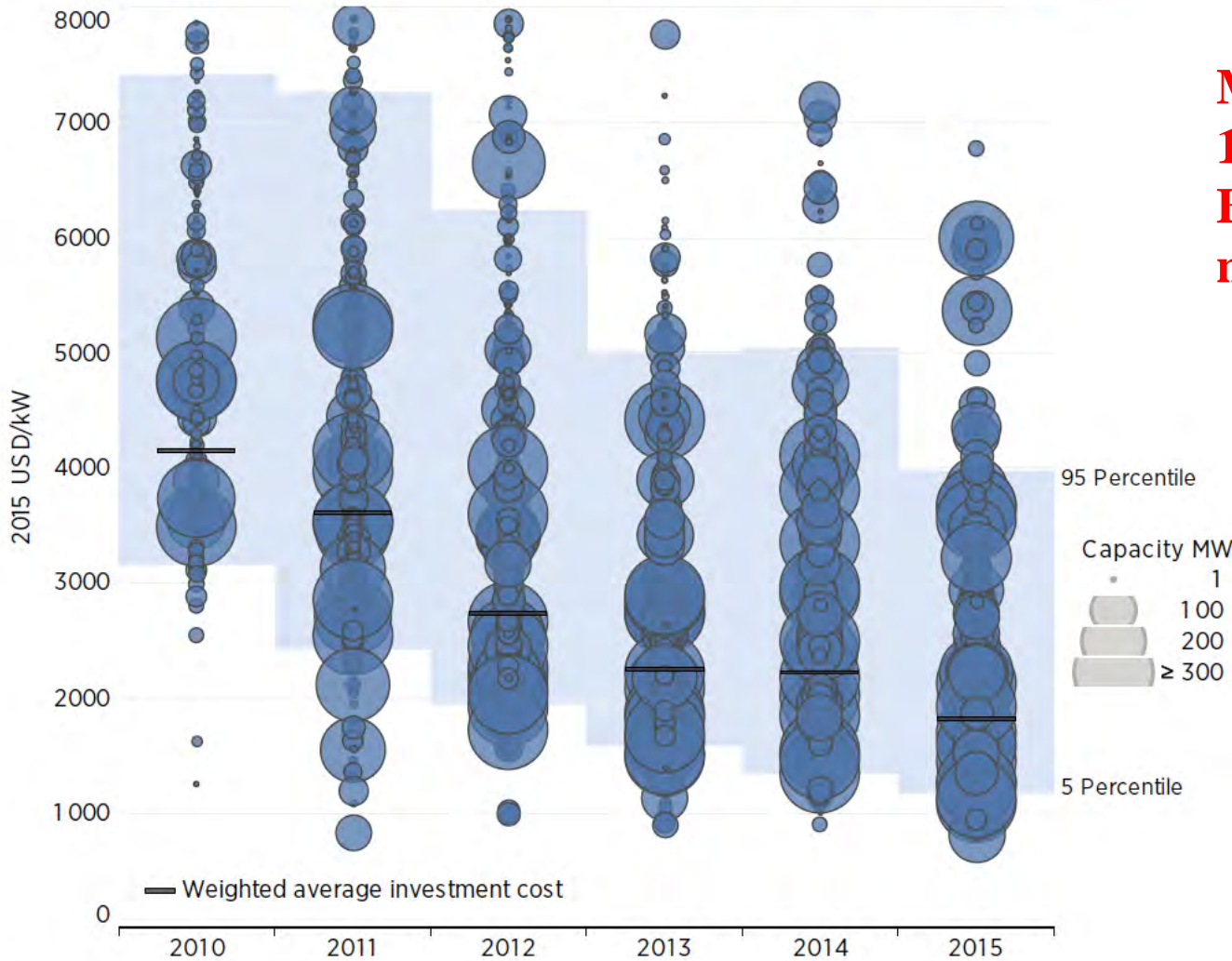
# Dramatic fall in solar PV prices

FIGURE ES 1: GLOBAL WEIGHTED AVERAGE UTILITY-SCALE SOLAR PV TOTAL INSTALLED COSTS, 2009-2025



# PV learning rates are high econs of scale important

FIGURE 4: TOTAL INSTALLED PV SYSTEM COST AND WEIGHTED AVERAGES FOR UTILITY-SCALE SYSTEMS, 2010-2015

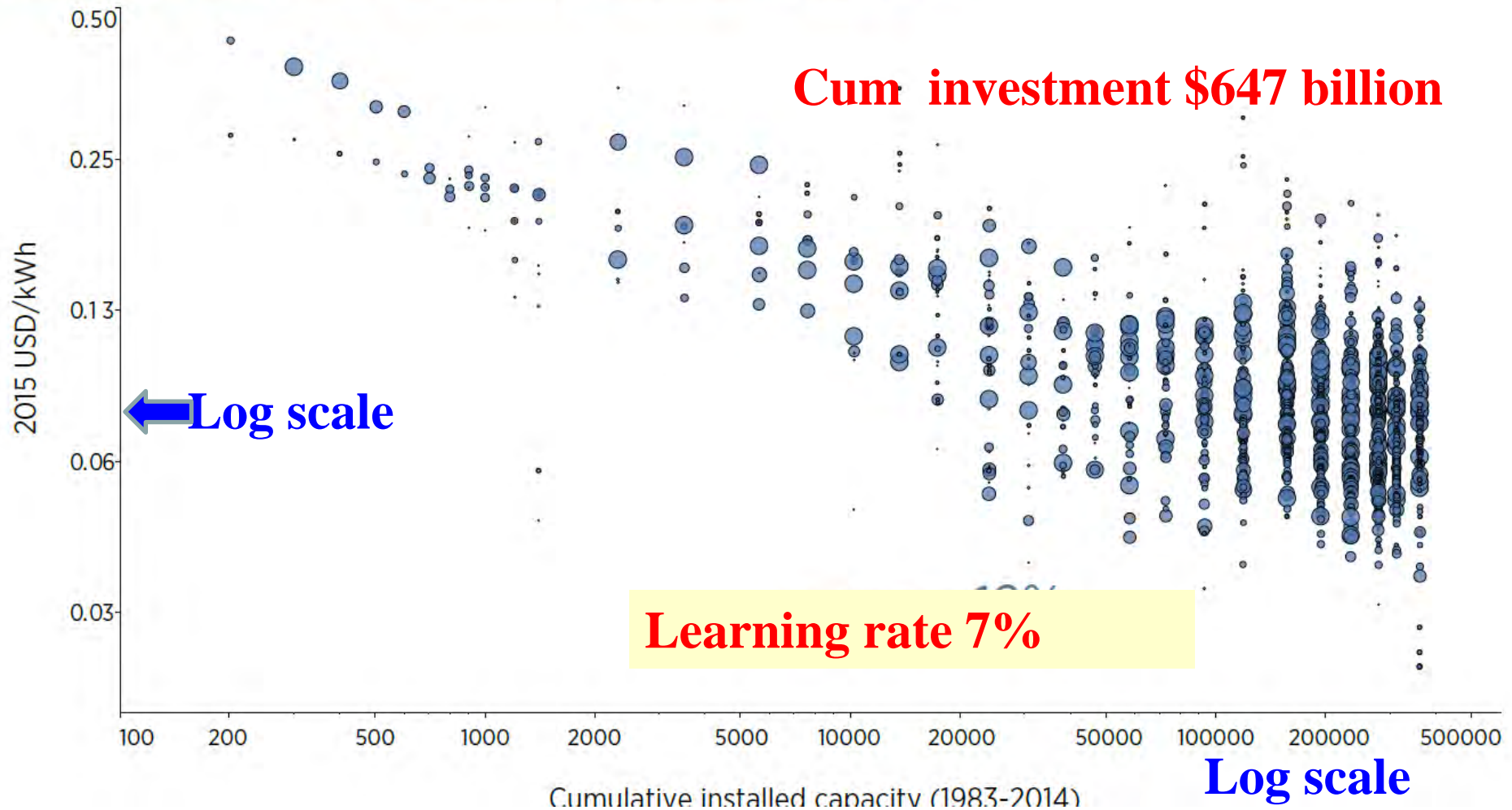


**Module learning rate  
18-22%**  
**BOS cost excl inverter  
now 60% of total**



# On-shore wind: taller towers give higher capacity factors

FIGURE ES 3: GLOBAL ONSHORE WIND LEARNING CURVE ANALYSIS, 1983-2014



Source: IRENA (2016)



- **Learning spill-overs** need remuneration
  - Almost entirely from **making and installing** equipment
- ⇒ Contract **€X/MWh** for **N MWh/MW**, **Auction** determines **X**
- Reasons:
  - Subsidy **targeted** on source of learning = **investment aid**
    - **Reduces cost** of capital and risk via **debt finance**
    - Addresses failure to set **right CO<sub>2</sub> price**
  - Exposes RES to **current locational spot price**
    - ⇒ incentivizes efficient **location, connection**
  - Does not amplify benefits of high wind/sun
    - Not over-reward favoured locations with same learning
  - **Auction** better than bureaucrats at minimizing cost



# RES CfD 2015 auction results

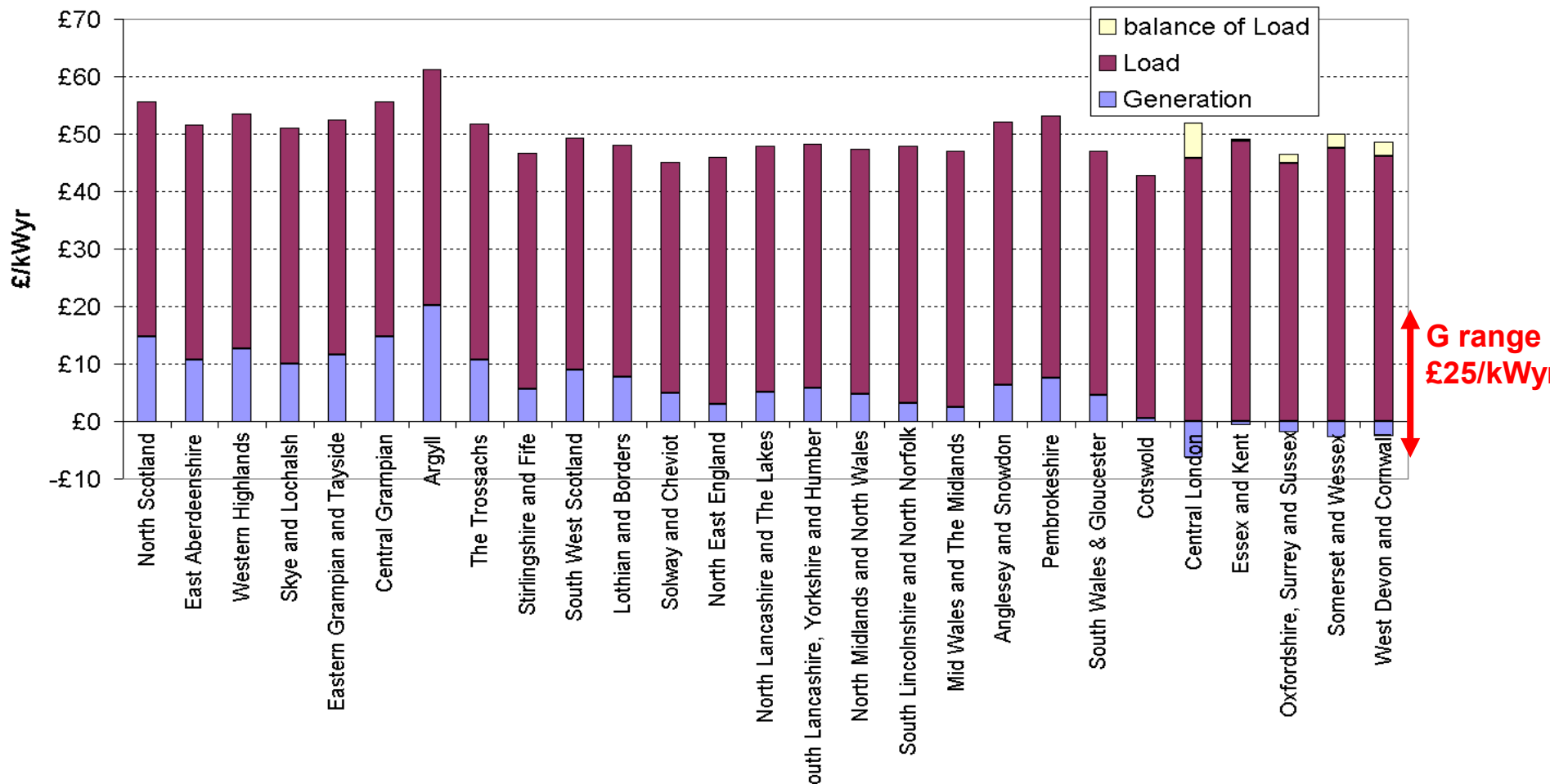
Technology		admin price	lowest clearing price	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	Total Capacity (MW)
Advanced Conversion Technologies	£/MWh MW	£140	£114.39			£119.89 36	£114.39 26	62
Energy from Waste with Combined Heat and Power	£/MWh MW	£80	£80				£80.00 94.75	94.75
Offshore wind	£/MWh MW	£140	£114.39			£119.89 714	£114.39 448	1162
Onshore wind	£/MWh MW	£95	£79.23		£79.23 45	£79.99 77.5	£82.50 626.05	748.55
Solar PV	£/MWh MW	£120	£50.00	£50.00 32.88	£79.23 36.67			69.55

Source: DECC (2015)

Foolish bid - withdrew



## Generation and Load TNUoS 2016/17



# Location choices under LMP and spot pricing for wind

**N: 2,500 hrs/yr**      **With ROCs wind farm inefficiently locates at N**  
 $P_N \text{ } \pounds 35/\text{MWh}$   
**=>  $\pounds 87.5\text{k}/\text{MW}/\text{yr}$**   
**=>  $\pounds 212.5\text{k}$  with ROC**      **ROC =  $\pounds 50/\text{MWh}$**

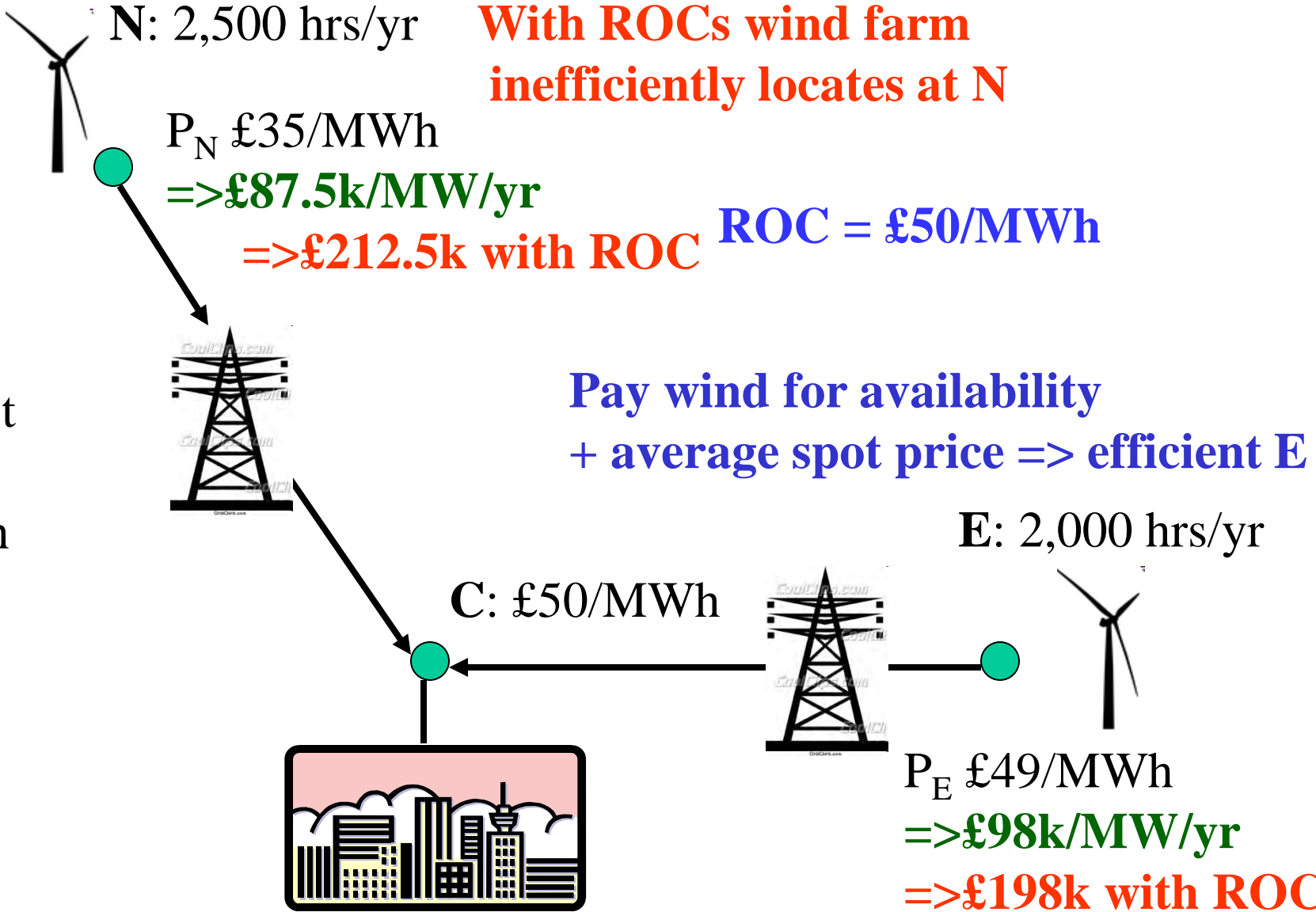
**Pay wind for availability + average spot price => efficient E**

T cost  
 $\pounds 15/\text{MWh}$

**C:  $\pounds 50/\text{MWh}$**

**E: 2,000 hrs/yr**

$P_E \text{ } \pounds 49/\text{MWh}$   
**=>  $\pounds 98\text{k}/\text{MW}/\text{yr}$**   
**=>  $\pounds 198\text{k}$  with ROC**





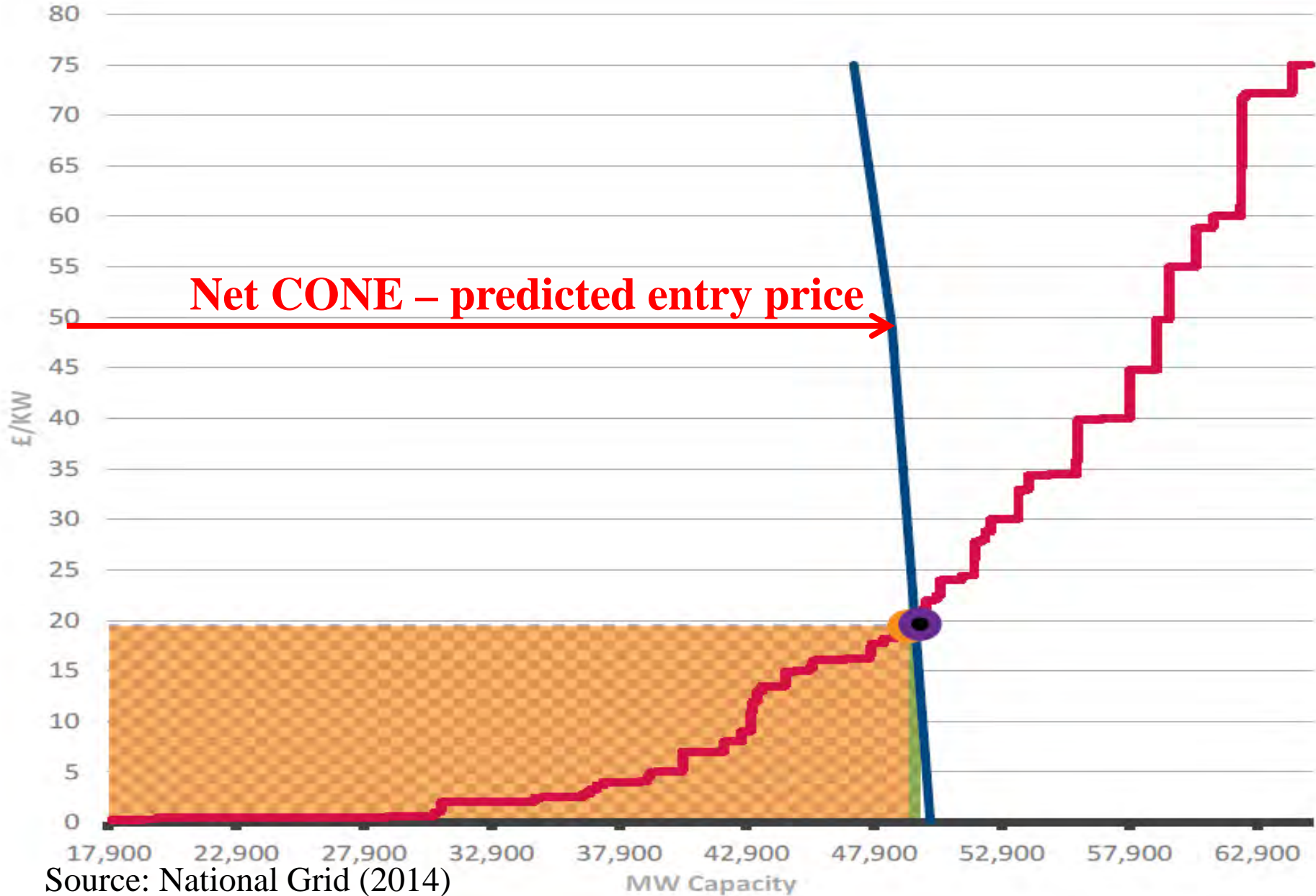
- Ambitious RES targets need **flexible back-up**
  - Normally comes from old high-cost plant = coal
    - EU Large Combustion Plant Directive 2016 limits coal
    - Integrated Emissions Directive further threat to coal
    - GB Carbon price floor + hostility to coal => close old coal
  - high (pre-2015) EU gas prices and low load factors
    - gas unprofitable, new coal prohibited by GB EPS
- **Future prices** now depend on **uncertain policies**
  - on carbon price, renewables volumes, other supports
  - on policy choices in UK, EU, COP21, ...

***Long-term contracts the solution?***

***=> Auctions for contracts***



# GB 2014 Capacity Auction



Source: National Grid (2014)

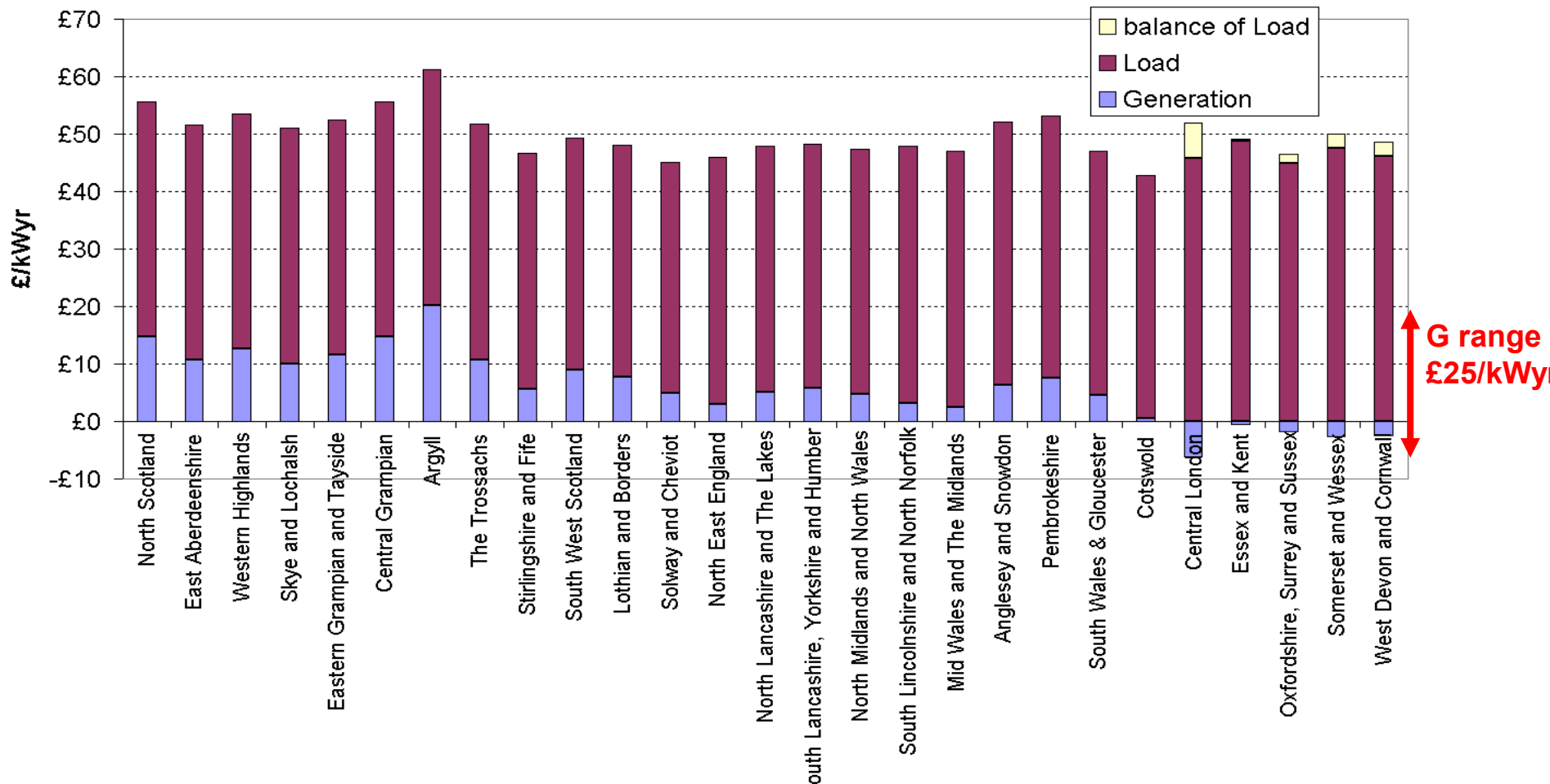
- Transmission-connected generation TG **pays** G TNUoS
    - And 50% of BSUoS
  - Distribution-connected generation DG **receives** L TNUoS
    - And avoids BSUoS
  - TNUoS G + L charge **roughly constant** across zones
    - Rapidly rising from £20/kWyr to £66/kWyr
- => represents **extra** £53/kWyr embedded benefit in 2018/19
- => DG gets £73/kWyr and TG gets £20/kWyr
- => **efficient** locational charge = 10-20% total charge?
  - Rest is revenue levy to pay for grid
- => should be levied on **gross not net final consumption**

***Massive distortion***





## Generation and Load TNUoS 2016/17





- Distinguish **efficient price** and resulting short-fall in **required revenue**
  - Efficient peak T price is marginal expansion cost
  - At best 30% average cost, less if demand falling
- Ramsey-Boiteux pricing => “tax” inelastic demand
- Diamond-Mirrlees: **tax only final consumers**
- ⇒ T&D revenue shortfall on final consumption **not** net demand (at GSP or premises)
- ⇒ reduces embedded G benefit from £60 to < £10/kWyr
- ⇒ **Regulators** need to compute **efficient T&D tariffs**
- ⇒ **and move faster. Auction in 1 day grants 15-yr contract**



- ETS CO<sub>2</sub> price is neither **adequate, durable nor credible**
  - Reforms to date had no impact
- setting the right CO<sub>2</sub> price is **difficult**
  - **social cost** of future harm **hard to estimate**
  - **break-even price highly sensitive to price of fossil fuel**
- Ideally fossil generation should pay corrective tax
  - GB has **carbon price support**- brings EUA price up to “right” level
- If not use emissions performance standards?
- Or, RES subsidy = shortfall in efficient wholesale price?

***But auctioned capacity subsidy simpler***



## For supporting zero-carbon generation:

- CO<sub>2</sub> intensity of natural gas is 0.19 tonnes/MWh<sub>th</sub>
- Gas price ↓ \$1/MWh<sub>th</sub> => CO<sub>2</sub> price ↑ \$5.3/tonne
- CO<sub>2</sub> intensity of coal is 0.34 t/MWh<sub>th</sub>
- Coal price ↓ \$1/MWh<sub>th</sub> => CO<sub>2</sub> price ↑ \$2.9/tonne
- Prices of both coal and gas very volatile
  - UK 2020 gas price range: £15.7/MWh<sub>th</sub> => CO<sub>2</sub> range £82/t

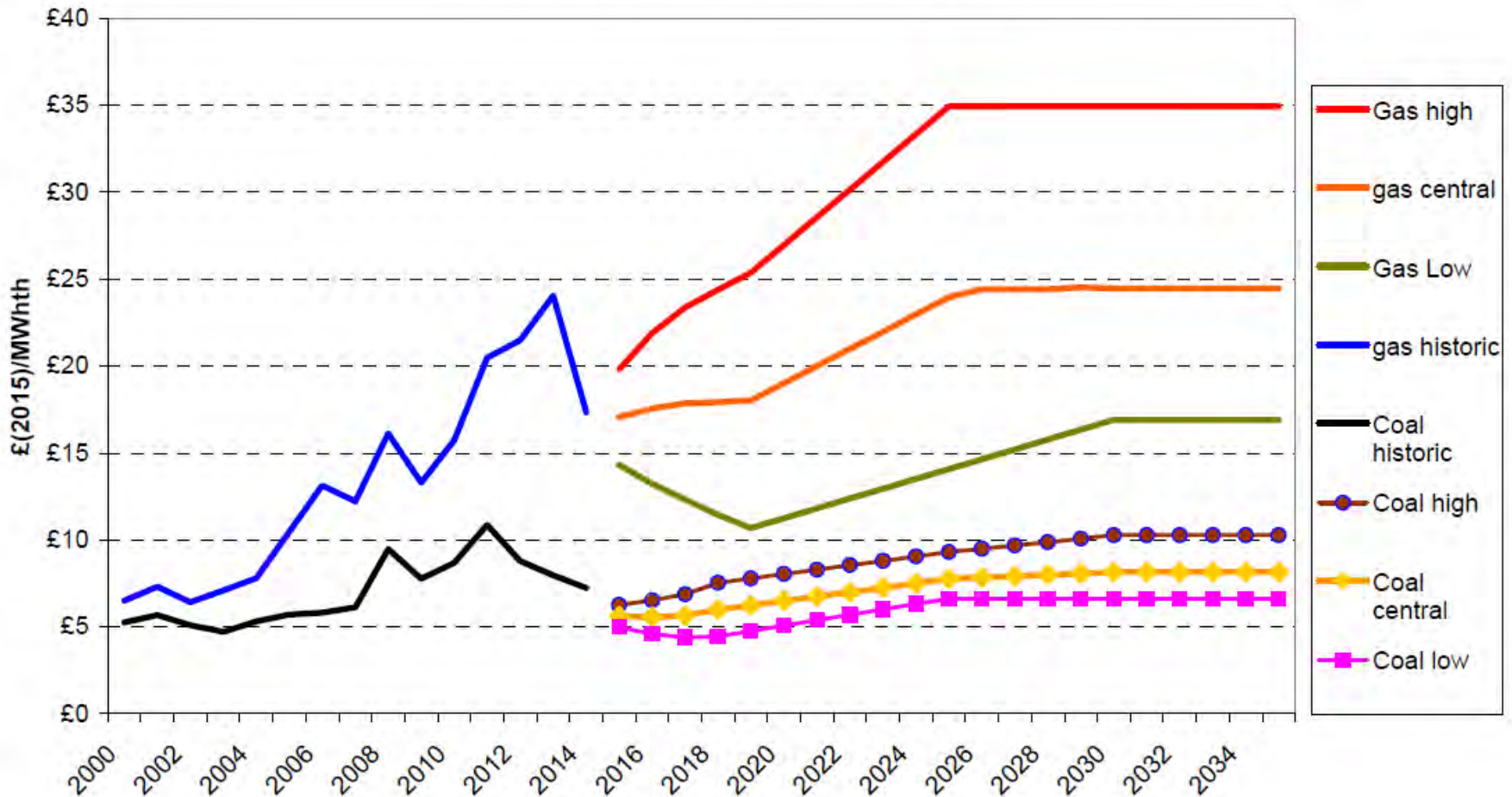
⇒ setting a CO<sub>2</sub> price highly sensitive to fuel price

## For switching from coal to gas:

- Gas price ↑ \$1/MWh<sub>th</sub> => CO<sub>2</sub> price ↑ \$3.9/tonne

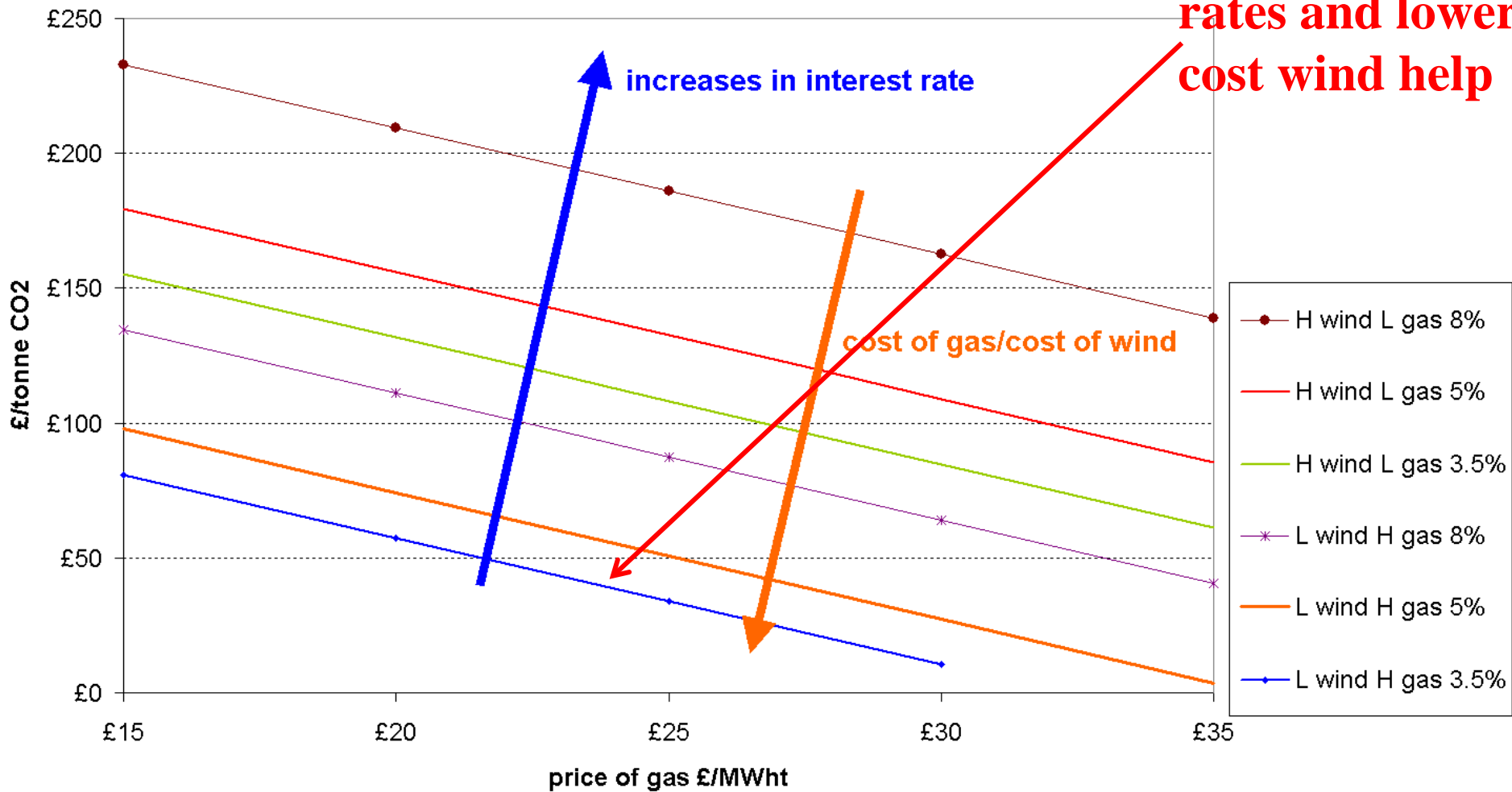


## UK major generators: real fuel prices

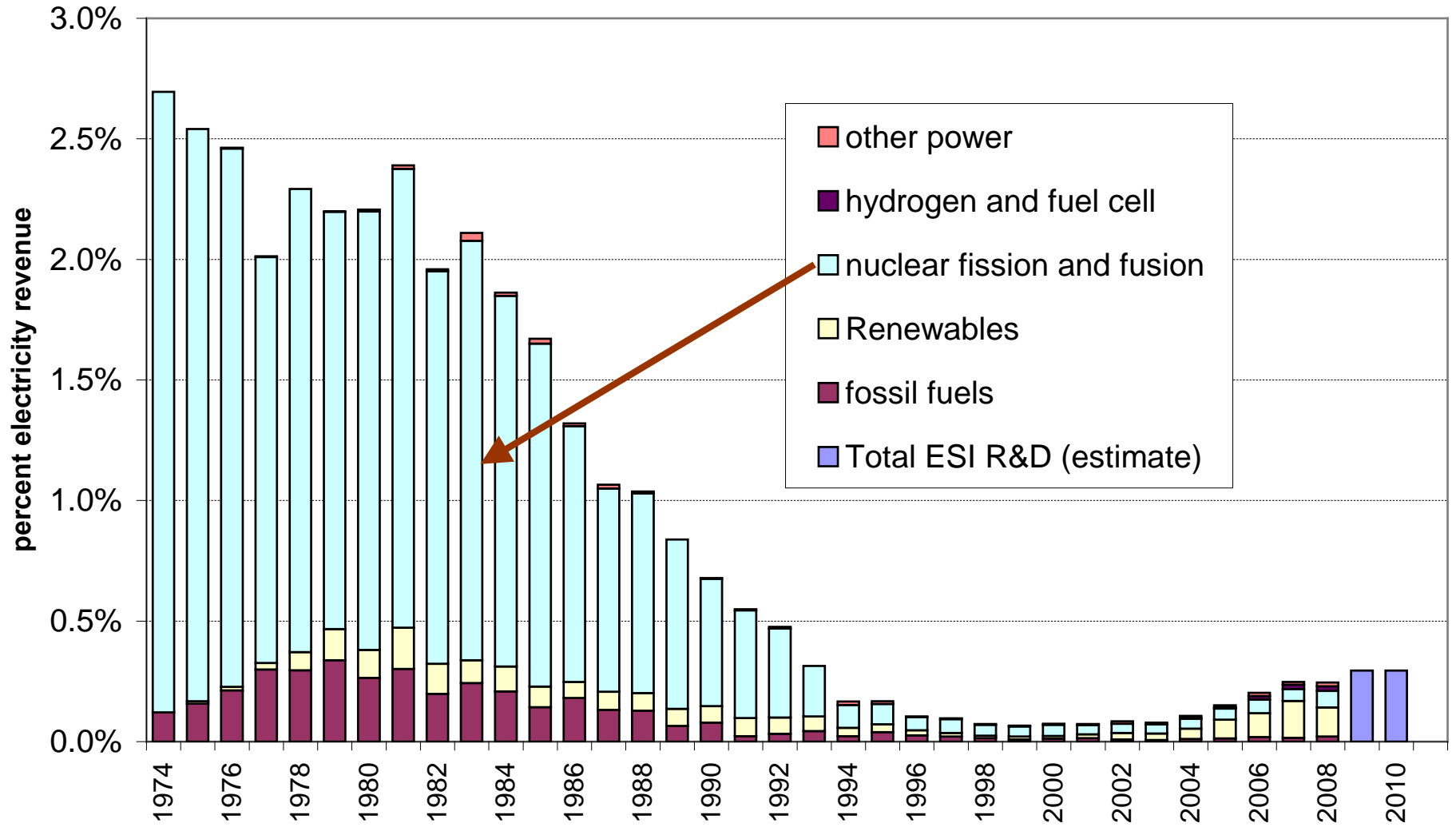


# Hard to set the “right” carbon price

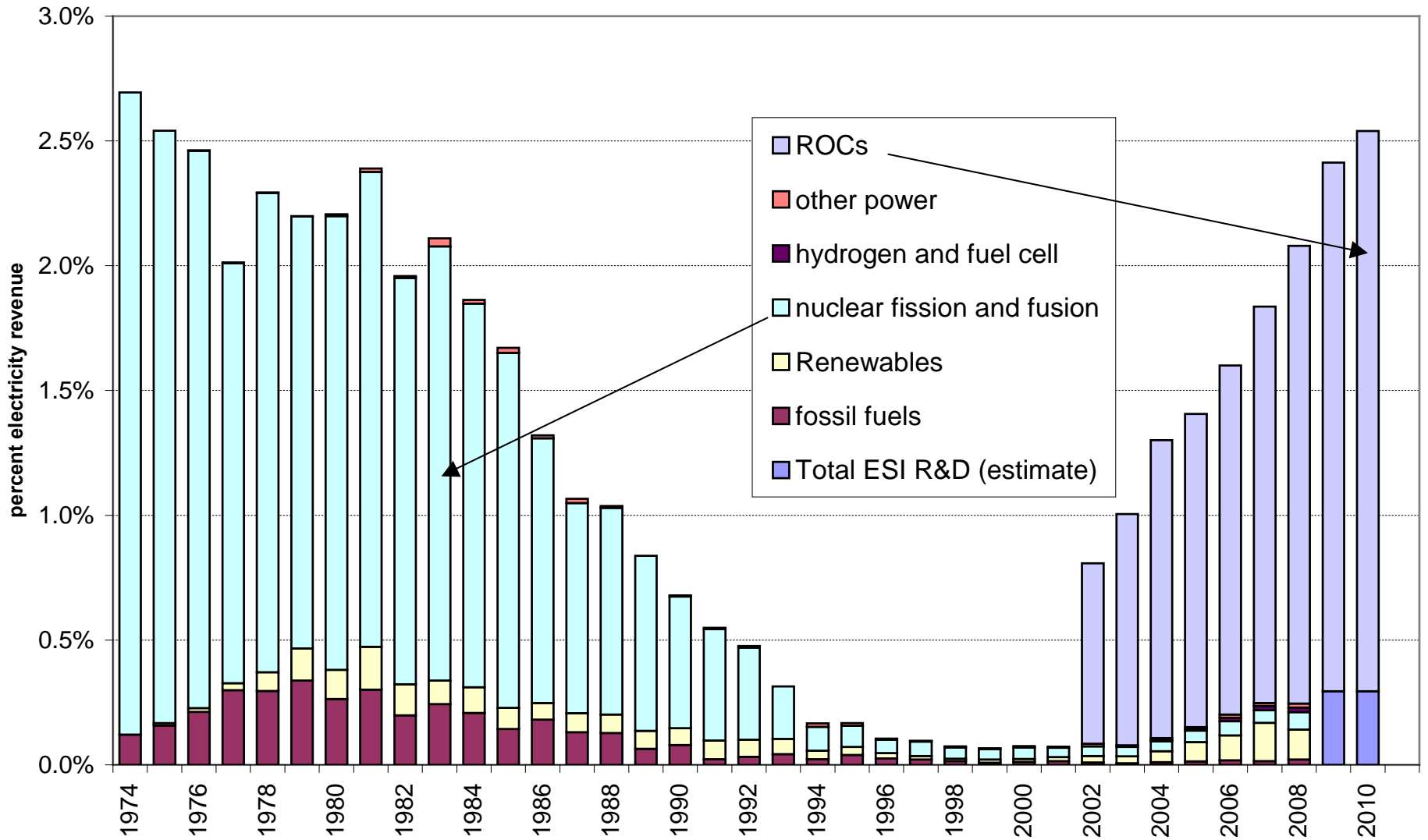
## Breakeven CO2 price vs gas price



# UK Electricity R&D intensity



# UK Electricity R&D intensity







- Third pillar of climate policy was the **Strategic Energy Technology (SET) Plan**, updated 2015
  - **Doubled** low carbon innovation spending 2007-15 (from low level)
  - supported via Horizon 2020 (Energy Demo projects), European Fund for Strategic Investments, NER, etc.
  - prospective **2021 Innovation Fund** to imitate ARPA-E
  - but **too little funding** - **€1 trillion for RES** investment, **€ 10 bn for clean energy research**
- success of original **20-20-20 Directive** was **club funding**
  - Each MS allocated a target RES share and then funds it
- Do the same for clean energy funds **including innovation**  
**Specify share of GDP, funds allocated by competition**
  - support cost for RES as well as R&D – **EU-wide auction**



# Public economics applied to cost recovery

- Need an efficient way of raising **revenue shortfall**
  - => Ramsey mark-up: cause **equi-proportional demand fall**
  - => Diamond-Mirrlees: distortions on **final consumption**
- Efficient retail tariffs more often closer to wholesale prices
  - => cost-recovery mark-ups on less elastic demand
  - => embedded generation (e.g. PV) paid same as other RES  
**adjusted for marginal T&D costs and losses**
  - => **avoid net metering**: domestic generation paid efficient price, consumption pays additional cost-recovery charge
- encourages **efficient scale/location of RES**



# The good, the bad and the ugly

- **Good**: Each jurisdiction is facing similar problems
  - *and trying out a variety of solutions*
- Learning from elsewhere and experimenting essential
  - ⇒ challenge funds to try new ideas and test regulations
  - ⇒ copy Ofgem's Network Innovation Competitions
- **Bad**: Auctions + new technology => **rapid irreversible decisions**
  - need smarter, quicker responses to ensure tariffs are suitable
- **Ugly**: tension between efficient and “fair” pricing can led to **inefficient and inequitable outcomes**



- The priority is to **decarbonise electricity**
  - To avoid long-term lock-in
  - EC Clean Energy Directive identifies **good principles**  
**=> clear guidance for good policy instruments**
- Setting **a carbon price** is problematic
  - complementary instruments and contracts needed
- Subsidiarity – MS's design RES & CRM policies
  - market responsive requires auctions and good network tariffs
  - **auctions and contracts** avoiding trade distortions between MSs
- Solidarity – MS agree **joint funding for innovation**
  - fund public goods like innovation, learning from general taxation
  - allocated funds raised competitively across all MSs

CCS	Carbon Capture and Storage
CfD	Contract for Difference
CONE	Cost of New Entry
CP	Capacity payment
CRM	Capacity Remuneration Mechanism
DG	Distribution-connected Generation
ETS	Emissions Trading System
FTR	Financial Transmission Right
GHG	Greenhouse gas
GSP	Grid Supply Point (connection to grid)
G	Generation
L	Load
LMP`	Locational Marginal Pricing (Nodal pricing)
LoLP	Loss of Load probability
LoLE	Loss of load expectation in hrs/yr = reliability standard
MS	Member State
R&D	Research and Development
RES	Renewable energy/electricity supply
RES-E	Renewable energy supply in electricity
ROC	Renewable Obligation (i.e. green) Certificate
SMC/P	System Marginal Cost/Price
T&D	Transmission and Distribution
TG	Transmission-connected generation
TNUoS	Transmission Network Use of System, G =Generation, L=Load
VOLL	Value of Lost Load



# References to the EU *Clean Energy* proposals

- <http://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/news/commission-proposes-new-rules-consumer-centred-clean-energy-transition> gives links to the various directives
- Clean Energy For All Europeans, COM/2016/0860 final at <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1481278671064&uri=CELEX:52016DC0860>