Stimulating innovation in the electricity supply industry

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European Energy Forum 2015, London

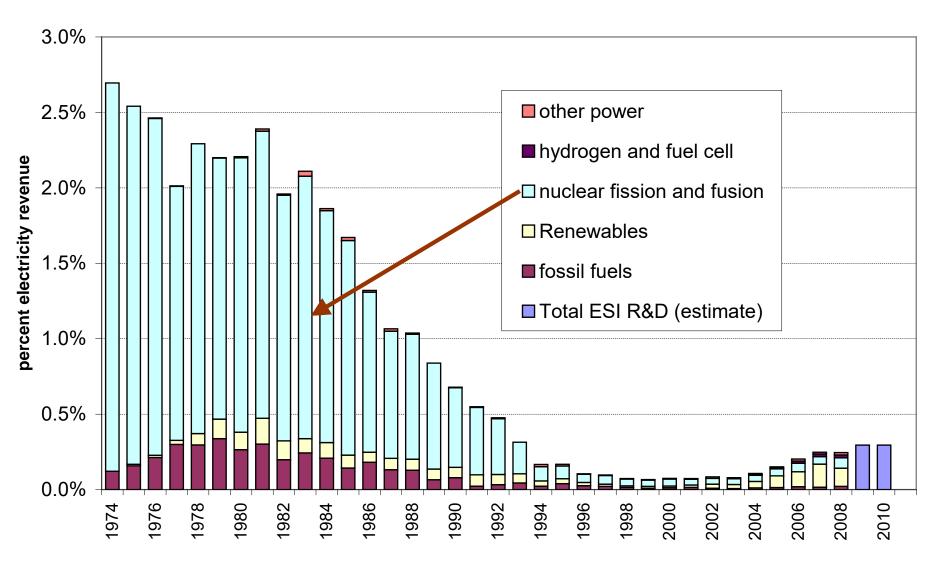
5th October 2015



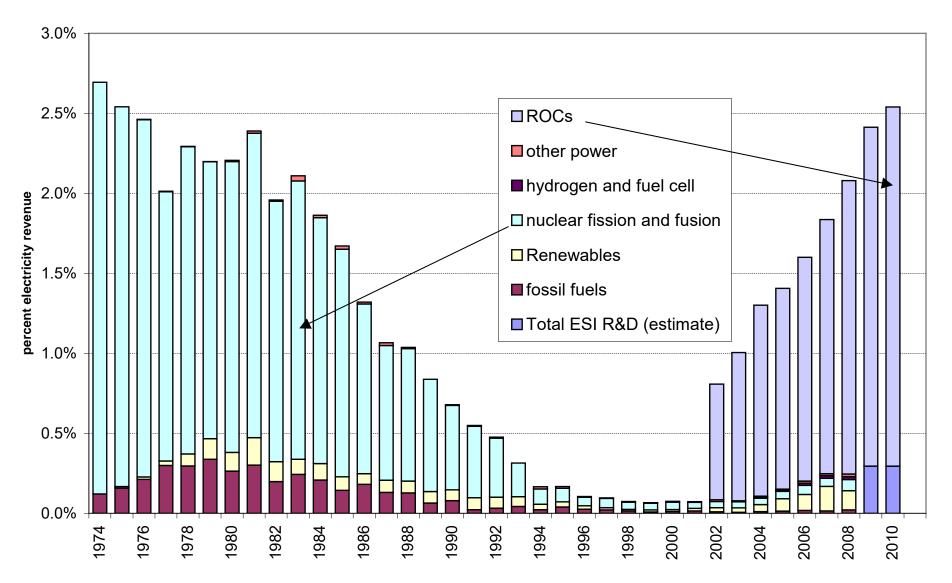
Outline

- Liberalisation and the collapse of R&D
- EU response: SET Plan
 - 2015 relaunched as Energy Union R&I strategy
- Allocating SET funds, past and future
 - Who pays?
- How to fund R&I
- Ofgem Network Innovation Competitions as model

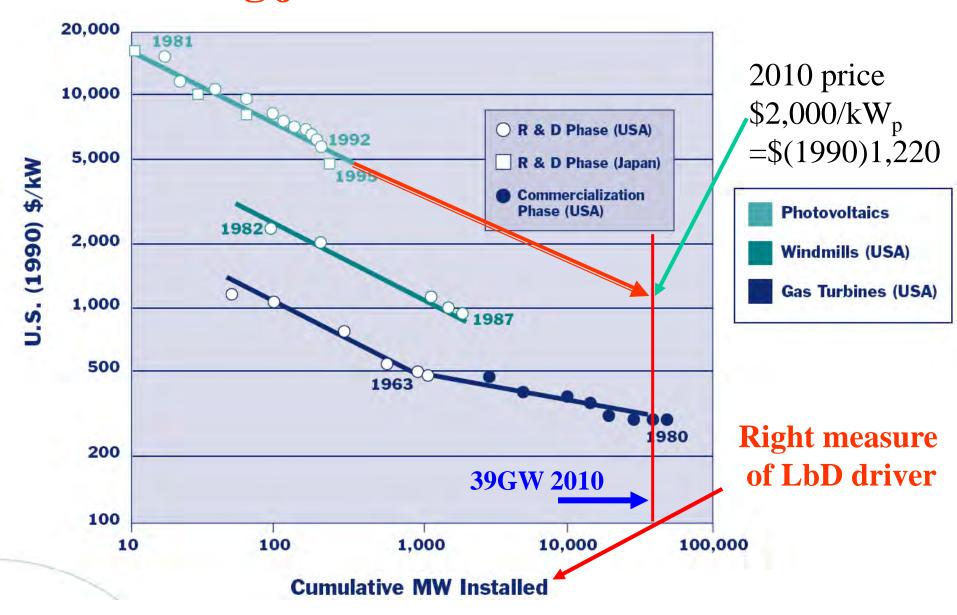
UK Electricity R&D intensity



UK Electricity R&D intensity



Learning justifies Renewables Directive



Source: N. Nakicenovic, A. Grübler, and A. McDonald, eds., *Global Energy Perspectives* (CUP, 1998).



Supporting R&D

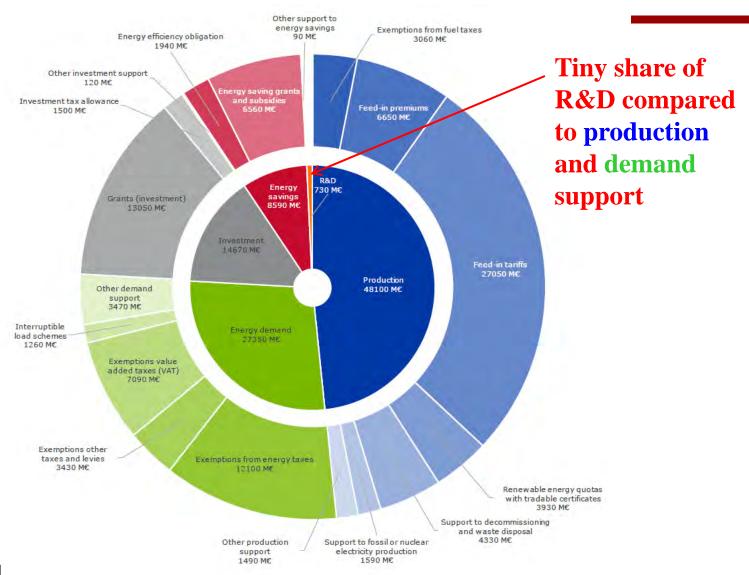
- Renewables Directive stimulated RES deployment
- Not all low-C technology is ready for deployment
 - Excessive deployment, insufficient R&D?
- R&D collapsed at end of 1980s
 - liberalisation and pessimism over nuclear economics?
- R&D is a public/club good
 - => need collective action to increase low-C R&D
 - => Need to share IPR benefits contrary to MS interests
- => Strategic Energy Technology (SET) Plan

 SET plan to leverage MS's R&D, steer choices

 Ensure adequate size and diversity of portfolio



Breakdown of 2012 support by type of intervention



SET Support schemes

- 2007 SET R&D non-nuclear ≈ €2.4bn (Nuclear €0.94)
 - 70:30 private:public; 80:20 MS:EC
- SET plan to 2020 total €70 bn or double 2007 rate
 - Grid: €2bn; fuel cells + H₂: €5bn; Wind: €6bn;
 - nuclear fission €7bn; bio-energy €9bn;
 - smart cities €11 bn; CCS €13 bn; Solar: €16bn;
- Joint programming to amplify MS R&D
 - -CCS as an example, disappointing to date
- 2015: Energy Union Package 25 Feb COM(2015) 80:
 - A new strategy for Research and Innovation (R&I) (including updated SET Plan) ... should accelerate energy system transformation

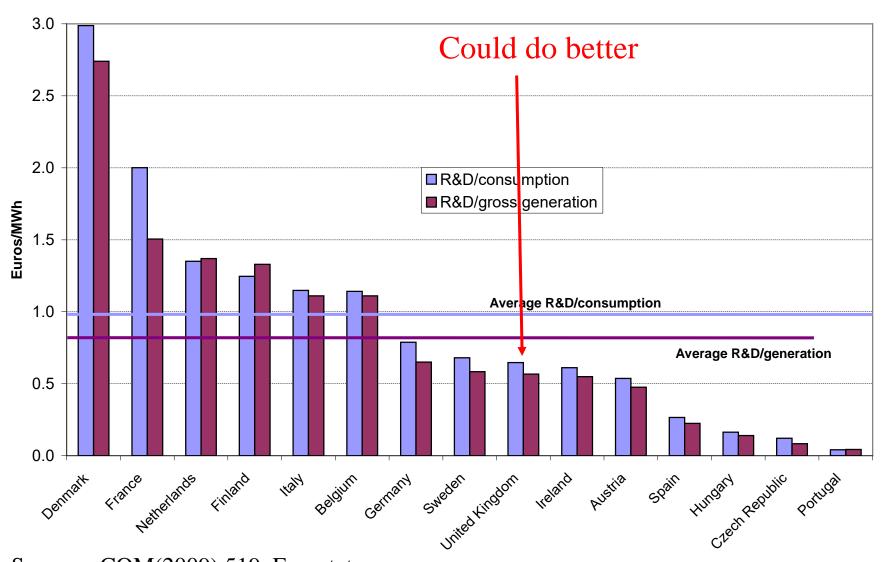


Role of EU funding

- Encourage R&D in under-researched areas
- rebalance EU R&D portfolio
- support high-risk high-cost long-term R&D
 - particularly where too costly/risky for one country
- cross-border collaboration to disseminate skills
- encourage open access/reduce restrictive IPR
- create credible commitments by joint agreement
- amplify under-resourced MS R&D

Who should finance SET-Plan?

R&D intensity 2008



Sources: COM(2009) 519, Eurostat



Funding R&I

- Renewables Directive solved club good problem
 - allocate MS targets, MSs solve what & how
 - but: hard to trade RES, learning benefits vary widely
- Post 2020: no MS RES targets
- Possible solution: MS targets % GDP for R&I
 - decide value of learning benefit of each RES technology
 - counts towards target expenditure, balance => EC
 - R&D and demos allocated by EC competition

Ofgem's innovation competitions as model

Increasing value

IFI: Allowance focused on R&D

£20m p.a.

LCN Fund

First Tier: Allowance for trialling new technologies and commercial arrangements to better prepare for low carbon economy.

£16m p.a.

Second Tier: DNOs compete for central fund. Allows trialling new technologies and commercial arrangements to better prepare for low carbon economy.

£64m p.a.

PLUS £100m discretionary reward

- Accelerates development of low-carbon future
 - has direct impact on operation of DN
- DNOs co-fund (>10%) for commitment
 - involves other partners and external funds
- Involves risk, generates new knowledge
 - => disseminate all findings
- Project is robust, ready, relevant and timely
- has potential to deliver customer benefits
 replaced by Network Innovation Competitions



Conclusions

- LCNF/NIC: DNO's proved very responsive
 - incentives and competition matter
- Wide range of partners involved
 - encourages learning, transfer of IT from other sectors
 - innovative ways of overcoming local inertia
- Universities involved in data analysis
 - ensures wide dissemination and independence
- EU R&I could adopt this model
 - requires funding and competitive allocation



Acronyms

DNO Distribution Network Operator

LCNF Low Carbon Network Fund

NIC Network Innovation Competition

MS Member State

R&I Research and Innovation

R&D Research and Development

RES Renewable Energy Supply

SET Strategic Energy tehnology