Bringing support schemes in line with EU law

The German experience

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Continuously developed policies have fostered the deployment of renewables.
Cornerstones of the Renewable Energy Sources Act (EEG)

- Guaranteed grid access; priority transmission and distribution
- Fixed price (tariff or premium) for every kWh produced, granted for 20 years
- Price is set for each type of technology and with regard to further provisions (e.g. site and size)
- Additional costs for renewable energy production are offset through the EEG surcharge (2016: ~ 6.35 ct/kWh; 2017: ~ 6.88 ct/kWh; 2018: ~ 6.79 ct/kWh), paid by suppliers
- Additional costs are offset via grid operators and independent of the public budget, as they are funded by all electricity consumers, with reductions for energy-intensive industries
- Regular monitoring and evaluation; accompanying research
Legal certainty: Bringing the EEG in line with EU law

- GER notified non-aid measure for legal certainty
- EU COM considers state aid and assessed on the basis of EEAG
- Approval regarding the compliance of the EEG 2014 and 2017 with state aid provisions
  - Exemptions for energy intensive industries
  - From FiT to FiP
  - Auctions
- Legal framework for RES support is set for the next years
Special Equalization Scheme ensures competitiveness of energy intensive industries

Eligibility criteria

- Electricity intensity: Companies that work in electricity-intensive sectors
- International trade: additional sectors prone to international competition

Contribution

- Minimum contribution: full EEG surcharge for the first GWh
- Additional contribution: 15% of the EEG surcharge for every kWh beyond, cap at 0.5% / 4% of gross value added
EEG 2014: FiP becomes the rule

- All electricity from RES installed after August 2014 has to be traded (FiP)
- Small operators can still use FiT
Premium system increases market integration of renewables

Remuneration under EEG 2017

Feed-in Tariff

Feed-in Premium
Reference value is defined administratively

Auctions
Participants bid on the reference value

Support payments

Market revenues

€

Fixed Feed-in-Tariff

Market premium
Monthly average market revenues
Low market price

Market premium
High market price

Market premium
Monthly average market revenues

Source: Ecofys 2017
EEG 2017: introducing auctions

Switching the RES support scheme from administratively determined prices to prices set by **competitive auctions**
EEG 2017: introducing auctions

Guiding principles

- Cost efficiency
- Stakeholder Diversity
- Quantity control

Auctions for all major renewable technologies

Source: Ecofys 2016 based on EEG 2017
Deployment corridor EEG 2014 / EEG 2017

Overall target corridor:
RES share in gross electricity consumption

- In 2025: between 40% and 45%
- In 2035: between 55% and 60%

Capacity additions

- PV 2.5 GW per year (600 MW in auctions),
- Wind onshore 2.8 GW (2.9 GW from 2020)
- Offshore wind 15 GW by 2030
- Bioenergy 150 MW (later 200 MW) per year
Specific capacity addition targets make deployment of renewables more plannable

Annual capacity addition targets per technology in MW

- **2017-2019**
  - Onshore wind (auction)
  - Offshore wind* (auction)
  - Solar PV (auction)
  - Solar PV (other**)
  - Biomass (auction)

- **2020-2022**
  - Onshore wind (auction)
  - Offshore wind* (auction)
  - Solar PV (auction)
  - Solar PV (other**)
  - Biomass (auction)

- **2023-2025**
  - Onshore wind (auction)
  - Offshore wind* (auction)
  - Solar PV (auction)
  - Solar PV (other**)
  - Biomass (auction)

- **2026-2030**
  - Onshore wind (auction)
  - Offshore wind* (auction)
  - Solar PV (auction)
  - Solar PV (other**)
  - Biomass (auction)

*500 MW to be added annually in 2021 and 2022 (not in 2020)

**EEG 2017 defines 2500 MW of yearly brutto capacity additions. 600 MW are allocated via auctions, 1900 MW via administrative FIT/FIP
Auctions: eligible technologies

- **Auctions** started in 2017 for
  - Wind onshore
  - Wind offshore
  - Photovoltaic (pilot auctions for ground mounted PV installations were already conducted before 2017)
  - Biomass

- Installations < 750 kW (biomass: < 150 kW ) are **exempted**.

- Thereby, **80% of new RES deployment** are covered.
Tendering scheme in general

Technology specific, but common features:

• Tendering of total amount of installed capacity (MW);
  1-4 auction rounds per year conducted by Federal Network Agency

• Only price is decisive for awarding support

• Bids will be accepted, starting with the lowest until the amount of capacity that is being auctioned is reached. In principle, the amount of funding corresponds to the individual bid (pay as bid)
PV: Significant reduction in support costs since the introduction of auctions in 2015

Values correspond to the average award values

Source: BMWi 2017 based on BNetzA

- Apr. 2015: 9.17 ct/kWh
- Aug. 2015: 8.48 ct/kWh
- Dec. 2015: 8.00 ct/kWh
- Apr. 2016: 7.41 ct/kWh
- Aug. 2016: 7.25 ct/kWh
- Dec. 2016: 6.90 ct/kWh
- Feb. 2017: 6.58 ct/kWh
- June 2017: 5.66 ct/kWh
Onshore wind: The first auctions have shown declining average reward values

- Auctioned volumes were clearly exceeded
  - Round 1: 2.137 MW offered v. 800 MW auctioned
  - Round 2: 2.927 MW offered v. 1000 MW auctioned

- At least 90% of awarded bids came from citizens’ energy cooperatives

Source: BMWi 2017 based on BNetzA
Thank you for your attention!

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Tendering scheme for onshore wind

• In 2017, 2018 and 2019, 2,800 MW and from 2020, 2,900 MW (gross) will be auctioned each year, in 3 rounds (1st of May, 1st of August, 1st of November)

• Prequalification: Approval pursuant to Federal Immission Control Act (final administrative decision)

• Bid bond: 30 €/kW or bank guarantee to discourage non-realisation

• Realisation period: 30 months
Tendering scheme for photovoltaics

- PV installations > 750 kW; eligible are:
  - Ground-mounted installations
  - Installations on buildings and on other constructional facilities (e.g. waste disposal sites)

- 600 MW will be auctioned each year, in 3 rounds (1st of February, 1st of June, 1st of October)

- Prequalification: admission by local authorities and/or area development plan (early planning stage)

- Bid bond: 50 €/kW to discourage non-realisation

- Realisation period: 24 months
Tendering scheme for biomass

- **Existing installations** (including those < 150 kW) can take part in the auctions in order to receive **10-year follow-up funding**, provided that they generate electricity in a flexible and demand-based manner.

- **New installations** < 150 kW receive statutory feed-in tariff

- Bid bond: 60 €/kW; Realisation period: 24 months

- Maximum price for new installations: 14,88 ct/kWh; Maximum price for existing installations: 16,9 ct/kWh

- Prequalification: Approval

- Flexibility Obligation: Biogas plants will only be granted funding for half of the hours of a year. This is to encourage these plants to generate electricity at times when the wholesale price is high as little wind and sun is available and demand is high.
Tendering scheme for offshore wind

The central ‘Danish’ target model will be introduced for offshore wind as of 2026:

- Area Development Plan 2019 is the focal planning instrument and will replace Offshore Grid Development Plan and Spatial Offshore Grid Plan as of 2026
- Government examines in advance the sites to be auctioned for wind farms. This ensures optimal dovetailing with the grid connections.
- In every other model, a stock of grid connections would have to be built. Otherwise there would be no competition. This would entail massive extra costs.
- First auction according to the central model: 1. Sept. 2021; bid bond: 200 €/kW

Transition phase 2021 to 2025; Deadlines April 2018/2019; 3.100 MW in total for advanced projects

- Synchronisation with grid expansion: 500 MW in the Baltic Sea by 2021, 500 MW Baltic Sea/North Sea by 2022, 2023-2025: 700 MW per year; Start with market premium (Federal Network Agency)
- Maximum price: 10 ct/kWh; Bid bond: 100 €/kW; Bids on „minimum volume“ and „underpinning bids“ are possible
- Not awarded bidders have the “right for admittance” to the central model from 2026 in case of surrender of data
Auctions for wind offshore

- The EEG 2014 offshore aims are still valid: until 2030, an offshore capacity of 15,000 MW shall be installed.

- Transition period (2021 – 2015):
  - In 2021 and 2022, additional capacity of 500 MW per year and in 2023 – 2025 of 700 MW per year is planned.
  - Offshore wind farms that are already planned may take part in the auctions.
  - In 2021, only wind farms in the Baltic Sea are eligible for the auction.

- Central model (from 2016 onwards):
  - From 2026 onwards the deployment increases to 840 MW per year. They will be auctioned in the so-called „Danish model“: The state investigates possible sites before the auction and ensures an optimal linkage to grid connection.
Linkage to grid expansion

- Until sufficient transmission system capacities are available, we take three measures to reduce redispatch costs:

  1. To reduce curtailments an instrument for power-to-heat is introduced as "optional load"

  2. Limitation of deployment for wind onshore in areas with grid bottlenecks
     - A so-called "grid expansion area" is determined since 1st March 2017
     - In this area deployment for wind onshore is limited to 58 per cent of the average deployment in the years 2013 – 2015

  3. Steering offshore deployment
     - 2021: 500 MW in the Baltic Sea; 2022: 500 MW in North and Baltic Sea
     - 2023 – 2025: 700 MW per year and from 2026 onwards 840 MW per year in North and Baltic Sea
Stakeholder diversity

- Aim: To maintain a high degree of stakeholder diversity.

- This aim is reached by e.g.:
  - The *de minimis* threshold of 750 kW – thereby *inter alia* small and middle-sized PV installations are exempted from the auction scheme.
  - The simple and transparent design of the auction scheme.

- The Federal Government will also initiate special consultancy and support offers for small stakeholders.

- Furthermore, auction requirements for wind onshore are lowered for local so-called „citizens‘ energy communities“.
Stakeholder diversity (2/3)

- Definition of a citizens’ energy projects:
  - Companies, which consist of at least 10 private persons and where these private persons (located on site) have the majority of voting rights.
  - No shareholder has more than 10 per cent of the voting rights.
  - Maximum project size of 6 installations with an electrical capacity of no more than 18 MW.
  - Municipalities have the chance to invest up to 10 per cent in the project.
Stakeholder diversity (3/3)

- Easier conditions of participation, so that these projects do not have to pre-finance high costs:
  - No permit according to the Federal Immission Control Act (BImSchG) is required, when a bid is submitted. It is sufficient to document that the site is reserved and to present a certified wind report.
  - Half of the usual security deposit needs to be paid only after the BImSchG permit.
  - Extension of the realisation dead line to max. two years.
- Furthermore, the support rate for citizens’ energy projects is not determined by the value of its bid, but by the value of the highest bid that was accepted. Thus, they are privileged financially.
Technology-specific payments reflect the varying cost of different types and sizes of renewables.

Set support levels (based on degression) July 2017 in € cent/kWh

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Technology</th>
<th>Support Level (€ cent/kWh)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>solar PV</td>
<td>8.84, 12.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wind onshore</td>
<td>4.42, 7.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wind offshore</td>
<td>3.9, 19.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>geothermal</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>biomass</td>
<td>5.73, 23.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>landfill, sewage &amp; mine gas</td>
<td>3.69, 8.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hydropower</td>
<td>2.95, 12.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Average award level at the solar PV auction in June 2017 was 5.66 €cent/kWh.

Auctions will be open to pan-European competition for 5% of newly installed capacity each year.

Requirements:
- Cooperation agreement
- Reciprocity
- Physical import effect

Open auction with Denmark:
- 50 MW of solar projects in Denmark
- Projects to be built at 5.38 € cent/kWh
Cooperation pilot with Denmark

- Cooperation agreement for mutually opened auctions for ground mounted PV installations signed in July 2016
- First cooperation of its kind
- German and Danish opened auctions conducted in 4th quarter of 2017
  - Volume of German auction: 50 MW, fully opened for installations in Denmark
  - Volume of Danish auction: 20 MW, of which 2.4 MW were opened for installations in Germany
## Results of the German opened pilot auction with Denmark

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bidding deadline</strong></td>
<td>23.11.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tendered volume</strong></td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bids (volume)</strong></td>
<td>297 MW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Successful bids</strong></td>
<td>5 bids with 10 MW each, all successful projects located in Denmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ø reference value ct/kWh</strong></td>
<td>5,38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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