

# Renewable Energy Realities

The Truth About Renewable Energy Models' "Success"

Christopher Horner

Topeka, Kansas

February 2013

# “We have to get rid of the Medieval Warm Period”

UN climate scientist in an email to OU professor David Deming

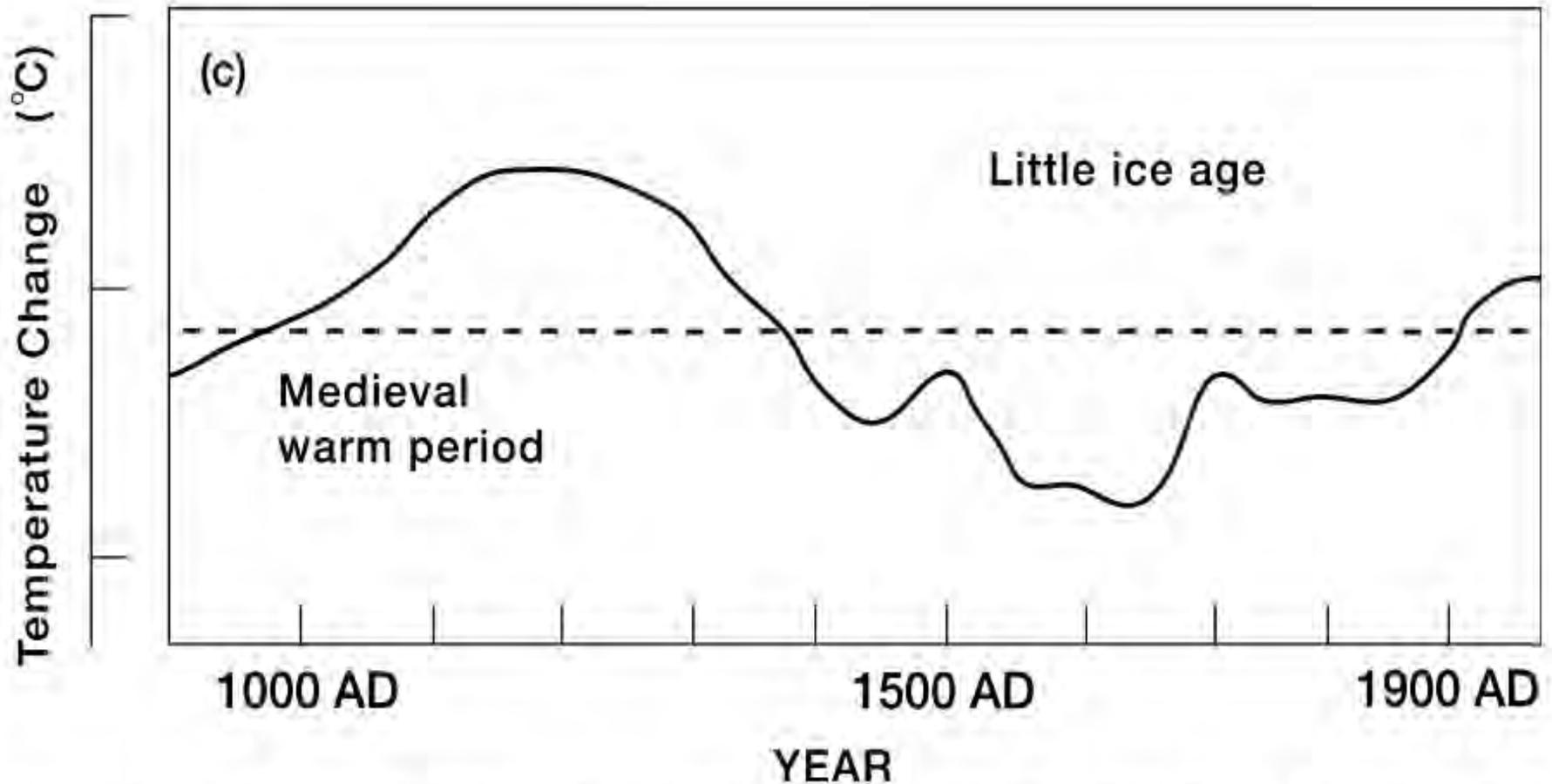


Figure 5.1. The Last 1,000 Years of Earth Temperatures from Tree Rings, Ice Cores, and Thermometers.

(Figure 2.2 in the IPCC's *Climate Change*, 1995.)

# Is it working?



❏ “Federal and state efforts to stimulate creation of green jobs have largely failed ....”

❏ *The New York Times*, August 18, 2011

❏ “[G]reen jobs’ offer a dubious rationale for federal support of clean-energy technology. To the extent that government creates jobs by subsidizing particular companies, it does so by shifting resources that might have created jobs elsewhere ....”

❏ *The Washington Post*, September 8, 2011.

# Zapatero asegura que se generarán un millón de empleos verdes en la próxima década

12/11/2010

Nacional



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El presidente del Gobierno, José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, ha señalado en la cumbre empresarial, previa a la del G-20, en Seúl, que los sectores de la economía sostenible tiene un alto potencial de crecimiento económico y de creación de empleo.

José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero ha asegurado que esta nueva economía es una gran impulsora del empleo.

"La economía verde representa un gran potencial de futuro para la generación de empleo, para el avance tecnológico y para la competitividad de las economías", ha señalado. El jefe del Ejecutivo ha asegurado que esta industria tiene potencial para generar en torno a **un millón de empleos en España en los próximos 10 años**.

## Crecimiento verde

El jefe del Ejecutivo español, que ha presidido una mesa redonda bajo el lema de "**Crecimiento verde**", ha destacado el diálogo abierto por el Gobierno con partidos y empresas para lograr un amplio acuerdo en política energética para la próxima década. Este acuerdo, ha asegurado José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, permitirá lograr un modelo sostenible "con el mínimo coste para los consumidores".

José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero ha asegurado, además, que este acuerdo será un buen modelo "para el conjunto de los países de la **OCDE** y traerá importantes beneficios en términos de estabilidad regulatoria, de favorecer la inversión y de aportar un impulso de nueva tecnología e innovación al conjunto del sistema".

Objetivos para el 2020

“Zapatero said he will generate one million green jobs over the next decade”

- “Zapatero said that this new economy is a major driver of employment. ‘The green economy is a *great future potential for employment generation, for technological advancement and competitiveness of economies.*’”
- Sounds familiar...



# 'Spain is our model': Claro!

## De 'Expansión' a la Casa Blanca



**> EXPANSIÓN**  
El pasado día 27 de marzo, el diario 'Expansión' publicó en primera las conclusiones del 'Study of the effects on employment of public aid to renewable energy sources', un estudio de investi-

gadores de la Universidad Rey Juan Carlos de Madrid en el que se pone de manifiesto que por cada trabajo que se crea en energías renovables se pierden 2,2 empleos, y que el coste de cada uno de ellos es de 570.000 euros. El balance del mismo es demoledor para los 'empleos verdes', y por ello el diario de Unidad Editorial le dedicó uno de sus editoriales.

**> THE ECONOMIST**  
El prestigioso semanario británico 'The Economist' recogió los resultados del informe en su edición de la primera semana de abril, destacando que el coste de cada puesto de trabajo es más del doble de lo que supondría si fuera el sector

privado el encargado, pues en ese caso el precio rondaría los 260.000 euros. La revista destaca también que los datos del estudio son de la Comisión Europea y del propio Gobierno español.



**> BLOOMBERG**  
La agencia de noticias Bloomberg hizo pública la noticia incluyendo una entrevista con Gabriel Calzada, profesor de la Universidad Rey Juan Carlos y coordinador del trabajo. En ella, Calzada aseguraba que la pérdida de empleos podría ser incluso mayor dada la gran cantidad de empresas que «se van del país por el alto coste de la energía».

**> WALL STREET JOURNAL**  
El diario dedicó su primer editorial de ayer viernes -en la edición europea- al estudio español, prestando especial atención a la advertencia que éste hace al presidente de Estados Unidos, Barack Obama, para



que no imite un modelo por el que ha manifestado en repetidas ocasiones una gran admiración. Para el 'Journal', el sistema de subvenciones de las renovables es una «burbuja a punto de estallar».

## Obama ya sufre por el 'empleo verde' de Zapatero

El alto coste de los puestos de trabajo vinculados a energías ecológicas en España desata la polémica en EEUU

Por el momento, el estudio español de la Universidad Rey Juan Carlos de Madrid, que se publicó en 'Expansión' el pasado 27 de marzo, ha causado un gran revuelo en los medios de comunicación de todo el mundo. El propio Gobierno español ha expresado su preocupación por el estudio, que ha sido respaldado por el 'Wall Street Journal' y el 'Economist', así como por el apoyo público a las energías renovables.

Pocas veces un informe español ha tenido tanto eco internacional, a pesar del casi nulo seguimiento que ha tenido en los medios nacionales (sólo 'Expansión' entre los diarios económicos le dedicó una página y un editorial en su edición del pasado 27 de marzo). Pero, aunque a su no haya llegado a la opinión pública española, sí lo ha hecho a la prensa internacional (destacan las reacciones de 'The Economist', 'Bloomberg' y 'Fox') y también a la Casa Blanca.

En el estudio, dirigido por un columnista de MERCADOS, Gabriel Calzada, se asegura que cada empleo en energías renovables creado en España desde el año 2004 ha costado 571.138 euros, lo que ha provocado la pérdida de 2,2 puestos de trabajo en otros sectores más eficientes. Además, en el editorial de ayer de 'The Wall Street Journal', se destacaba que las desastrosas cifras del estudio de la Universidad Rey Juan Carlos únicamente se reducen las ayudas directas (28.000 millones de euros) pero no las indirectas -como las concedidas para construir plantas solares- porque el Gobierno no sabe si



El portavoz de la Casa Blanca, Robert Gibbs, en una conferencia de prensa el pasado martes.

### LA RESPUESTA DE LA CASA BLANCA

## «Creo que es erróneo... pero no lo he leído»

El pasado martes, el portavoz de la Casa Blanca, Robert Gibbs, causó la sorpresa y risa de los periodistas que cubren los asuntos gubernamentales al responder sobre el estudio de la Universidad Rey Juan Carlos y las consecuencias que sufriría Estados Unidos en el caso de que la pri-

mostran que en España una burbuja a punto de estallar. El pasado martes, el portavoz de la Casa Blanca, Robert Gibbs, causó un gran revuelo en los medios de comunicación de todo el mundo. El propio Gobierno español ha expresado su preocupación por el estudio, que ha sido respaldado por el 'Wall Street Journal' y el 'Economist', así como por el apoyo público a las energías renovables. En el estudio, dirigido por un columnista de MERCADOS, Gabriel Calzada, se asegura que cada empleo en energías renovables creado en España desde el año 2004 ha costado 571.138 euros, lo que ha provocado la pérdida de 2,2 puestos de trabajo en otros sectores más eficientes. Además, en el editorial de ayer de 'The Wall Street Journal', se destacaba que las desastrosas cifras del estudio de la Universidad Rey Juan Carlos únicamente se reducen las ayudas directas (28.000 millones de euros) pero no las indirectas -como las concedidas para construir plantas solares- porque el Gobierno no sabe si

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### Cada puesto creado en energías renovables desde el año 2000 ha costado 571.138 euros

voz reconocimiento ante las ayudas de los programas que no lo había leído pero que, sin así, «es lo creía». La repercusión del informe puede tener consecuencias en el desarrollo del programa energético de EEUU, pues el estudio, si se confirma y expone, están presionando a Obama para que reconsidere el que ha sido uno de los pilares básicos de su programa, tanto en la campaña electoral como desde que es presidente. Esta misma semana, Robert J. Samuelson en 'The Washington Post', destacaba que Obama y su círculo cercano parecen no querer darse cuenta de que si suben las subvenciones a las renovables, tendrán que

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56

**REAL DECRETO**  
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**PARA QUE CON ARREGLO**  
**A LA INSTRUCCION,**  
**FORMULARIOS,**  
**Y PLANES,**  
**QUE LE ACOMPAÑAN,**  
**SE AVERIGUEN LOS EFECTOS,**  
en que puede fundarse una sola Contribucion, para el mayor  
alivio de sus Vassallos, en lugar de las que componen  
las Rentas Provinciales.

- The scheme “turns out to be unsustainable and has grave consequences since it deteriorates the security and financial capacity of the investments necessary for providing electricity at the levels of quality and security that the Spanish society demands.”



Manuel Froedel  
Wolfram Richter  
Christoph W. Schmidt  
Cedric Vrancea

**Economic Impacts  
from the Promotion of  
Renewable Energy Technologies**  
The German Experience

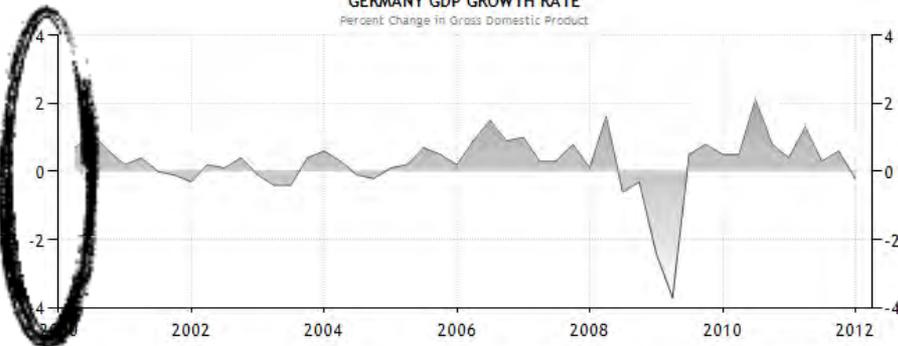


#156

# Re: Deutschland's 'Wirtschaftswunder'?

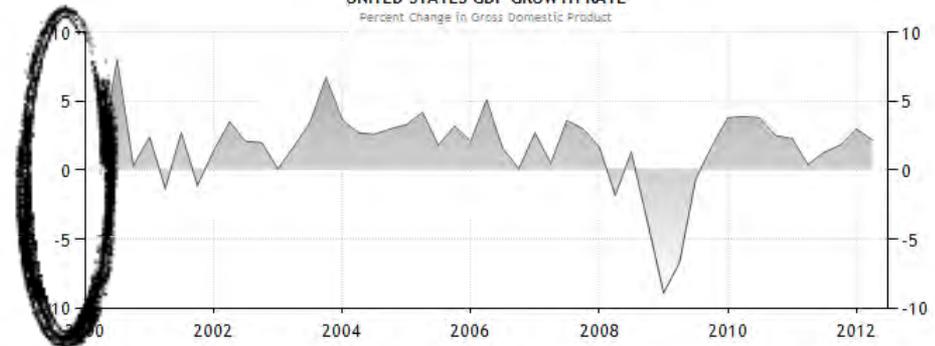
- Relative GDP Growth since enactment:

GERMANY GDP GROWTH RATE  
Percent Change in Gross Domestic Product



SOURCE: WWW.TRADINGECONOMICS.COM | GERMANY FEDERAL STATISTICAL OFFICE

UNITED STATES GDP GROWTH RATE  
Percent Change in Gross Domestic Product



SOURCE: WWW.TRADINGECONOMICS.COM | BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

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Ulm > Nachrichten > Wirtschaft > Strompreise elektrisieren Betriebe

## Strompreise elektrisieren Betriebe

Artikel

Berlin. **Steigende Energie- und Rohstoffpreise bereiten der Wirtschaft mehr Kopfweh als die Eurokrise. Manche Aktivitäten könnten verlagert werden.**

Jeder fünfte Industriebetrieb hat wegen der unsicheren Energie- oder Rohstoffversorgung bereits Aktivitäten ins Ausland verlagert, oder er plant dies. Das ergab eine Umfrage des Deutschen Industrie- und Handelskammertags (DIHK), an der sich 1520 Unternehmen

Autor: DIETER KELLER | 18.01.2012

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One fifth of every German industrial company has moved activities to foreign countries, or plans to do so, because of the uncertain energy and raw material supply. This is the result of a survey conducted by the German Chamber of Industry and Commerce (DIHK), in which 1520 companies participated. DIHK-President Hans Heinrich Driftmann finds this alarming: He fears that Germany is losing its appeal for foreign investors in the wake of it's energy supply transformation.--Dieter Keller, [Südwest Presse, 18 January 2012](#)

**THEMA**  
**Energiewende**  
 Alle Artikel und Hintergründe

## Green Energy Panic: German Government Fears Voter Anger About Electricity Price Explosion

Wednesday, 18 July 2012 12:54 | Philipp Wittrock and Florian Gathmann, Spiegel Online



Is the green energy transition crumbling? Within the German government doubts are emerging about its timetable. Electricity must remain affordable, warn key ministers. The government fears the price explosion - and punishment by voters.



**VERWANDTE THEMEN**

- Merkels Regierung**
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- Peter Altmaier**
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- Erneuerbare-Energien-Gesetz**

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**INTERAKTIVE GRAFIK**

So will Deutschland die Energiewende...

Is the green energy transition crumbling? The German government fears the price explosion - and punishment by voters. Concern about rising electricity prices is politically understandable. Because with all due sympathy for nuclear phase-out and green energy - if their own money is involved, many citizens do not care much about their green principles anymore. And since the green energy transformation is one of the key projects of Chancellor Angela Merkel, the voters' anger about price increases could also be expressed by withdrawing of support for those responsible in the general election in 2013. This is at least what many in the coalition government fear. Philipp Wittrock and Florian Gathmann, [Spiegel Online, 17 July 2012](#)

# Handelsblatt

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KOSTENEXPLOSION

## Merkels Strompreislüge

Trotz der Energiewende soll Strom bezahlbar bleiben, hat die Kanzlerin versprochen. Die Wirtschaft zahlt die Zeche - Deutschland droht eine schleichende Deindustrialisierung.

von Klaus Stratmann, Thomas Ludwig, Ulf Sommer und Ruth Berschens



“Merkel’s Electricity Price Lie”

As a result of Germany's green energy transition, electricity prices are exploding. Consumers and businesses are paying the price while Germany faces gradual de-industrialization. Economists estimate that the cost of the transition will be significant.

Unternehmen genauso wie die Bürgerinnen und Bürger. So klang Angela Merkel in ihrer Rede am 23. Mai 2012. "Die Energiepreise werden in Zukunft weiter ansteigen."

Handelsblatt, 23 May 2012

"Die

ANZEIGEN

# So, yes. Let's Look to Germany. Really.

28. Mai 2012, 11:35 24° | 10° Mobil | Apps | ePaper | Zeitung heute | Hilfe (FAQ) | Kontakt | Leider falsch

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27.05.12 SCHWARZ-GELB

### Bundesregierung glaubt nicht an ökologische Energiewende

Peter Altmaier soll die ökologische Energiewende vorantreiben. Doch plötzlich wachsen in der Koalition Zweifel und Kritik an dem Vorhaben.

© DPA



Bei der geplanten Energiewende ist längst nicht alles eitel Sonnenschein, das ehrgeizigste Projekt der schwarz-gelben Regierung steht auf der Kippe

MULTIMEDIA In der Regierungskoalition wachsen Zweifel am

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# “Energy-turn: Altmaier calls for emergency power prices”



**German Environment Minister Peter Altmaier yesterday presented proposals for an “emergency freeze” in green energy subsidies, paid for by consumers through their household energy bills, following steep increases in electricity prices.**

[FT](#) [Spiegel](#) [Handelsblatt](#) [FAZ](#) [Welt](#) [Welt 2](#) [Bild](#)

**Soli zahlen, die Industrie bittet der Minister ebenfalls zur Kasse.**

ANZEIGE

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Hamburg - "Strompreis-Sicherung" heißt das Konzept, mit dem der Bundesumweltminister die Kosten der Energiewende für die Verbraucher begrenzen will. Das Eckpunktepapier, das CDU-Mann Peter Altmaier am Montagvormittag vorstellt, soll dafür sorgen, dass die sogenannte EEG-Umlage bis Ende 2014 nicht mehr steigt - und ihr Anstieg ab 2015 auf 2,5 Prozent pro Jahr begrenzt wird.

Die EEG-Umlage ist das zentrale Förderinstrument für den Ausbau der erneuerbaren Energien. Wind-, Solar- und Biogasanlagen können am Markt noch nicht mit Kohle- und Atomkraftwerken konkurrieren. Damit sie trotzdem rentabel sind, wird solchen Kraftwerken der Strom zu einem fixen Preis abgenommen. Dieser liegt deutlich über dem Preis an der Strombörse. Die Differenz von Börsenpreis und fixem Abnahmepreis zahlen die Verbraucher über ihre Stromrechnung.

Durch die Energiewende gehen verstärkt Ökostromanlagen ans Netz, in den vergangenen Jahren vor allem viele besonders förderintensive Solaranlagen. Folge des Öko-Booms war ein rascher Anstieg der EEG-Umlage. Im Jahr 2006 zahlten Verbraucher pro Kilowattstunde Strom noch einen Aufschlag von 0,88 Cent, im laufenden Jahr sind es 5,28 Cent.

Um den Kostenschub künftig zu begrenzen, fordert Altmaier mehrere Maßnahmen:

- Die **Einspeisevergütung für Neuanlagen** soll flexibilisiert werden. Investoren müssen demnach damit rechnen, dass sie eine Anlage in

# “Altmaier wants emergency brake against rising electricity prices”

28.01.2013 - 13:45 UHR | ABO | RSS | NEWSLETTER TRAHIMHAUS

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**NEWTICKER - DIE AKTUELLESTEN NACHRICHTEN**

## Altmaier will Notbremse gegen steigende Strompreise

**Berlin (dpa) - Im Kampf gegen steigende Strompreise will Umweltminister Peter Altmaier die Ökostrom-Umlage einfrieren und die Industrie stärker belasten**

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**dpa** 28.01.2013 - 16:36 Uhr

Berlin (dpa) - Im Kampf gegen steigende Strompreise will Umweltminister Peter Altmaier die Ökostrom-Umlage einfrieren und die Industrie stärker belasten. Dazu schlug er überraschend die Einführung einer «Strompreis-Sicherung» vor. Unklar ist allerdings, ob die Verbraucher so tatsächlich entlastet werden können. Die Chancen des Vorstoßes scheinen zudem klein: SPD und Grüne warfen Altmaier postwendend Aktionismus vor. Harsche Kritik kam auch von der Ökostrom-Branche. Der Bundesverband Erneuerbare Energie warnte vor einer massiven Bremse für den weiteren Ausbau.

# “Emergency brake on electricity prices”

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## Notbremse bei Strompreisen

Öko-Umlage für zwei Jahre eingefroren. Altmaier: "Belastungsgrenze erreicht"

Private Haushalte und der Mittelstand sollen um 500 Millionen Euro entlastet werden

**WELT KOMPAKT**

Dieser Artikel erschien in der Zeitung WELT KOMPAKT.



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- Immobilienmarkt:** Deutschland baut mehr Wohnungen als benötigt
- Atomanlage:** Es muss mächtig geknallt haben

Mit einem umfangreichen Gesetzespaket will Bundesumweltminister Peter Altmaier (CDU) den weiteren Anstieg der Strompreise in **Deutschland** stoppen. "Wir haben inzwischen eine Belastungsgrenze erreicht", sagte Altmaier bei der Vorstellung seiner Vorschläge für eine "Strompreissicherung" in **Berlin**. Die Ökostrom-Umlage soll erstmals gesetzlich festgeschrieben und für zwei Jahre auf dem heutigen Niveau eingefroren werden. Danach soll sie um maximal 2,5 Prozent im Jahr weiter ansteigen dürfen.

Zudem will Altmaier die Ausnahmen für Unternehmen bei der Ökostrom-Umlage reduzieren und damit private Haushalte, Mittelstand und Handwerk um bis zu 500 Millionen Euro im Jahr entlasten. Auch für den Eigenverbrauch produzierter Ökostrom soll künftig mit einer Umlage belastet werden. Die Kosten für den Ausbau der erneuerbaren Energien sollen so auf mehr Schultern verteilt werden. Mit dieser Notbremse will Altmaier die Finanzierung der Energiewende "gerechter und berechenbarer" machen. Sollten diese Maßnahmen nicht ausreichen, will der Minister vorübergehend einen "Energie-Soli" erheben, der noch einmal bis zu 300 Millionen Euro einbringen soll. Noch vor der Sommerpause sollen die Neuregelungen in Kraft treten. Eine grundlegende Reform des Erneuerbare-Energien-Gesetzes (EEG) soll nach der Bundestagswahl folgen.

Herbert Reul (CDU), der Vorsitzende der deutschen Unionsabgeordneten im Europaparlament, nannte die Vorschläge Altmaiers "überfällig". "Das EEG ist derzeit ein Selbstbedienungsladen

ANZEIGE

# “Altmaier shocks the Eco-lobby”

The screenshot shows the homepage of the German newspaper DIE WELT. At the top, there is a Vimeo advertisement for action sports videos. Below that is the newspaper's logo and navigation menu. The main headline is "Altmaier schockt die Öko-Lobby" (Altmaier shocks the Eco-lobby) by Daniel Wetzel. The article text is partially visible, discussing the impact of rising electricity prices and the government's plan to freeze the Ökostrom-Umlage. A sidebar on the left contains a "WELT KOMPAKT" section and a promotion for a 4-week subscription. A right sidebar contains a Google Ad for a lawyer.

**WELT KOMPAKT**  
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**Altmaier schockt die Öko-Lobby**  
Förderung erneuerbarer Energien soll gedeckelt werden. Verbraucher profitieren  
Von Daniel Wetzel

Betreiber von Solar- und Windanlagen sind bestürzt

Angesichts steigender Strompreise will Bundesumweltminister Peter Altmaier mit harten Einschnitten bei der Ökostrom-Förderung die Belastung der Verbraucher deutlich dämpfen. Noch vor der Bundestagswahl soll ein Gesetespaket beschlossen werden, das die Ökostrom-Umlage einfriert und von den Anlagebetreibern Sonderlasten für die Energiewende verlangt. "Es ist nicht vertretbar, dass das Kostenrisiko für die Zukunft weiterhin einseitig und ausschließlich beim Stromkunden liegt", sagte Altmaier. In diesem und im nächsten Jahr ...

# “Altmaier puts the brake on power prices”

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ENERGIEWENDE 28.01.2013, 10:34 Uhr, aktualisiert 28.01.2013, 13:44 Uhr

## Altmaier zieht die Strompreis-Bremse

Peter Altmaier will die Ökostrom-Umlage für zwei Jahre einfrieren und so die Verbraucher vor steigenden Kosten schützen. Zur Kasse bittet der Umweltminister Unternehmen und Industrie. Die SPD nennt den Plan „unseriös“.

Altmaier will Strompreis-Bremse noch vor Wahl



**Berlin.** Bundesumweltminister Peter Altmaier (CDU) hat auf die gestiegenen Stromkosten reagiert: Er will die Ökostrom-Umlage – die der Verbraucher bezahlt – deckeln und kündigt gesetzliche Obergrenzen an. Noch vor der Bundestagswahl soll ein Gesetzespaket beschlossen werden, das die Ökostrom-Umlage einfriert und von den Anlagebetreibern Sonderlasten für die Energiewende verlangt. „Es ist nicht vertretbar, dass das Kostenrisiko für die Zukunft weiterhin einseitig und ausschließlich beim Stromkunden liegt“, sagte Altmaier am Montag in Berlin.

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KOSTENEXPLOSION

## Merkels Strompreislüge

Trotz der Energiewende soll Strom bezahlbar bleiben, hat die Kanzlerin versprochen. Die Wirtschaft zahlen die Zeche - Deutschland droht eine schleichende Deindustrialisierung.

von Klaus Stratmann, Thomas Ludwig, Ulf Sommer und Ruth Berschens



As a result of Germany's green energy transition, electricity prices are exploding. Consumers and businesses are paying the price while Germany faces gradual de-industrialisation. Economists estimate that the cost of the green energy transition will total 170 billion Euros by 2020. This is more than double of what Germany would have to write off if Greece were to withdraw from the monetary union. "The de-industrialization has already begun," the EU Energy Commissioner Guenther Oettinger has warned. --Handelsblatt, 23 May 2012

... im Juni 2011: "Die  
... und Bürger in Deutschland  
... mit bezahlbarem Strom versorgt werden."

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ENERGY

## Brown coal makes a comeback amid protests

Twenty-three new coal-fired power plants are being built across Germany, with the capacity to generate 24,000 megawatts. The German Environment Minister, Peter Altmaier of the conservative Christian Democrat Party, supports the construction of further coal-burning power plants. In order not to jeopardize the German economy, one would have to "be in a position to be able to offer energy at prices that can compare with that of the main power competitors in other industrialized countries." --[Deutsche Welle](#).

# The worst part about still touting Germany...

## The downside of inventing the Internet

The screenshot shows the SPIEGEL ONLINE INTERNATIONAL website interface. At the top, there is a red navigation bar with the site name and a search bar. Below this, a secondary navigation bar lists categories like 'NACHRICHTEN', 'VIDEO', 'THEMEN', 'FORUM', 'ENGLISH', 'DER SPIEGEL', 'SPIEGEL TV', 'ABO', and 'SHOP'. The main content area features a 'TOPIC' section for 'German Energy Revolution' with a sub-header 'Related articles, background features and opinions about this topic.' The date '02/24/2012' and options for 'Print', 'E-Mail', and 'Feedback' are visible. The article title is 'Merkel's Switch to Renewables' and the main headline is 'Rising Energy Prices Endanger German Industry' by Frank Dohmen and Alexander Neubacher. A large image shows a worker in a white protective suit and helmet in a steel mill. Below the image is a 'Photos' button. The text of the article discusses Chancellor Angela Merkel's policy shift towards renewable energy and the impact on the steel industry. A sidebar on the left features a 'DER SPIEGEL' magazine cover with the headline 'Der unvermeidliche Rücktritt' and a 'Photos' button. At the bottom, there are social media sharing options for Twitter (18) and Facebook (95).



## German Energy Revolution

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## Doubts Rising over German Switch to Renewables



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Germany's revolutionary switch to renewable energies is stalling and the country's new environment minister has now admitted as much by casting doubt on the ambitious goals set last year. -- [Spiegel Online, 17 July 2012](#)



dapd

High-voltage lines in western Germany. The country's energy revolution is stalling.

**Germany's revolutionary switch to renewable energies is stalling and the country's new environment minister has now admitted as much by casting doubt on the ambitious goals set last year. Media commentators say that he**



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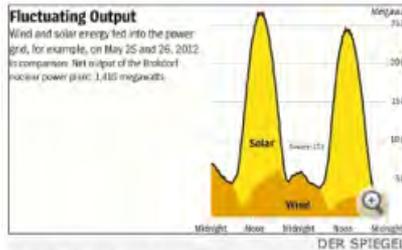
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Graphic: Fluctuations in the power grid.

The World from Berlin

Germany Hits Brakes on Race to Renewable Energy Future



dapd

Germany's switch to renewables has hit some snags.

**The share of renewable energies in Germany's power mix has shot up so high that the electricity grid and the subsidy framework has been unable to keep up. Now, the government wants to slow down the process. German commentators say that the current chaos endangers the entire project.**

Many scoffed at the initial target that Chancellor Angela Merkel set last June, when she announced that Germany was turning away from nuclear power and toward renewable energies. Her government decided that by 2020 renewables would make up a 35 percent share of the energy mix. It was, said many experts at the time, an impossible goal.

In the 14 months since then, however, the situation has changed dramatically. In the first half of 2012, the country generated fully 25 percent of its electricity needs via wind, solar and other alternative power sources. Doubts as to whether the 35 percent target is attainable have virtually vanished.

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FROM DER SPIEGEL

Stress on the High Seas

### Germany's Wind Power Revolution in the Doldrums

By *Frank Dohmen* and *Alexander Jung*



The article you are reading originally appeared in German in issue 51/2011 (Dec. 17, 2011) of DER SPIEGEL.

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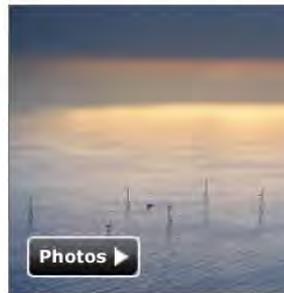
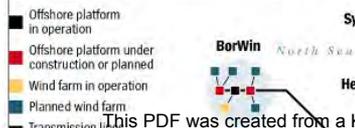
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#### Winds of Change

Selected offshore wind farm locations in the North Sea



The energy industry is currently under more stress than almost any other sector of the German economy. The country's utilities are being forced to completely change their focus: away from nuclear power; away from their centralized structure; and away from their accustomed business models. The quartet of E.on, RWE, EnBW and Vattenfall, which for so long have been spoilt by enormous profits, has had to implement tough cost-cutting measures, and countless jobs have been sacrificed. E.on alone is shedding up to 11,000 of its workers, and the industry as a whole could ax more than 20,000 jobs in all.

The construction of offshore wind parks in the North Sea has hit a snag with a vital link to the onshore power grid hopelessly behind schedule. The delays have some reconsidering the ability of wind power to propel Germany into the post-nuclear era.

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The generation of electricity from wind is usually a completely odorless affair. After all, the avoidance of emissions is one of the unique charms of this particular energy source.

But when work is completed on the Nordsee Ost wind farm, some 30 kilometers (19 miles) north of the island of Helgoland in the North Sea, the sea air will be filled with a strong smell of fumes: diesel fumes.

The reason is as simple as it is surprising. The wind farm operator, German utility RWE, has to keep the sensitive equipment -- the drives, hubs and rotor blades -- in constant motion, and for now that requires diesel-powered generators. Because although the wind farm will soon be ready to generate electricity, it won't be able to start doing so because of a lack of infrastructure to transport the electricity to the mainland and feed it into the grid. The necessary connections and cabling won't be ready on time and the delay could last up to a year.

In other words, before Germany can launch itself into the renewable energy era Environment Minister Norbert Röttgen so frequently hails, the country must first burn massive amounts of fossil fuels out in the middle of the North Sea -- a paradox as the country embarks on its energy revolution.



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## Industrialists call on EU to halt the decline



A worker at carmaker Peugeot's Mulhouse plant (Photo: PSA)

Published 21 January 2013

Tags: carmakers, closures, de-industrialisation, industrial policy, Steel



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**SPECIAL REPORT /** After a year of closures, sackings and cut-backs, arguments about how to turn European industry around will be to the fore this year as debate intensifies around the correct policy response, and doubts linger over the EU's ability to deliver.

A fall in the demand for steel of 8% during 2012 saw permanent closures of furnaces across Northern Europe, whilst others were mothballed in an attempt to stave off

Between 2008 and 2012, 6.8 million jobs in construction and industry were lost across the EU, according to BusinessEurope. Heavy industries like steel and chemicals say much can be achieved by adjusting existing policies on energy and climate which they claim has been destructive. --[EurActiv, 21 January 2013](#)

Industrial Policy for the Globalisation Era" put forward in 2010 as part of the 'Europe 2020' Strategy.

It focused on strengthening industrial competitiveness to support economic recovery and to enable the transition to a low-carbon and resource-efficient economy.

Between 2008 and 2012, 6.8 million jobs in construction and industry were lost across the EU, according to BusinessEurope, the group representing the member states' largest business federations.

"The severity of the crisis is producing a painful hangover," said the group's director-general, Markus Beyrer.

Antonio Tajani, European commissioner for industry, in October acknowledged "we've made mistakes in the past, we've let industry and SMEs fend for themselves for too long," as he presented a review and re-launch of the Commission's 'Integrated Industrial Policy for the Globalisation Era' first launched in 2010.



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## EU energy chief Oettinger warns of deindustrialisation

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Mon Jul 16, 2012 8:17am BST

**\* Says Europe should focus on regaining industrial force**

**\* Energy policy major element of supporting industry**

(Reuters) - Policies governing the European Union's drive towards a low-carbon economy should not lose sight of the need to retain the bloc's

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Oettinger, a German national, echoed rising concern about runaway power prices in his home country, where subsidising of fast-expanding green power is burdening industrial and household consumers.



## TOPIC German Energy Revolution

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### Merkel's Blackout

## German Energy Plan Plagued by Lack of Progress

By SPIEGEL Staff



The rising cost of electricity is also a burden on businesses. According to Oettinger, energy costs now represent the biggest liability for Germany as a place to do business, especially in light of the marked increase in the number of blackouts and voltage fluctuations in the grid.



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The article you are reading originally appeared in German in issue 33/2012 (August 13, 2012) of DER SPIEGEL.

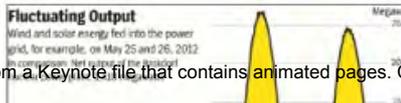
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## Energy Revolution Hiccups

### Grid Instability Has Industry Scrambling for Solutions

By Catalina Schröder



DPA

Even a millisecond in voltage fluctuation can cause major damage at large industrial firms.

**Sudden fluctuations in Germany's power grid are causing major damage to a number of industrial companies. While many of them have responded by getting their own power generators and regulators to help minimize the risks, they warn that companies might be forced to leave if the government doesn't deal with the issues fast.**

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It was 3 a.m. on a Wednesday when the machines suddenly ground to a halt at Hydro Aluminium in Hamburg. The rolling mill's highly sensitive monitor stopped production so abruptly that the aluminum belts snagged. They hit the machines and destroyed a piece of the mill. The reason: The voltage off the electricity grid weakened for just a millisecond.

Workers had to free half-finished aluminum rolls from the machines, and several hours passed before they could be restarted. The damage to the machines cost some €10,000 (\$12,300).

times, each time for a fraction of second. Since the machines were on a production

## Stromversorgung

# Es wird dunkel in Deutschland

Samstag 22.01.2011, 10:10

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### Autonome Energiesysteme

Speicher für erneuerbare Energien für Büros, Häuser und ganze Inseln

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As is so often the case in winter, all solar panels more or less stopped generating electricity at the same time. To avert power shortages, Germany currently has to import large amounts of electricity generated at nuclear power plants in France and the Czech Republic. To offset the temporary loss of solar power, grid operator Tennet resorted to an emergency backup plan, powering up an old oil-fired plant in the Austrian city of Graz.



Die Stromversorgung in Deutschland wird immer instabiler  
allzweckjack/photocase

gibt noch mehr Probleme.

Der neue Elektrizitäts-Bericht von Bundeswirtschaftsminister Rainer Brüderle (FDP) warnt vor massiven Problemen mit den deutschen Stromnetzen. Es fehlten neue Überlandleitungen vor allem infolge politischer Blockaden, berichtete die „Bild-Zeitung vom Samstag. Das schon jetzt

Damian Reece  
Autumn Statement:  
the funds are there  
but is the  
confidence?



## Green energy could trigger 'Unstable' renewable energy source blackouts with multi-billion pound



Renewable energy is volatile and risks triggering blackouts, warned. Photo: Alamy

By **Matthew Holehouse**  
4:55PM GMT 23 Nov 2011  
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Solar panels and wind turbines are a source of fluctuation in the electricity supply network, triggering wide-scale blackouts

lights may go out sooner than we

closer to extinction than predicted, and wind power says Christopher Booker.

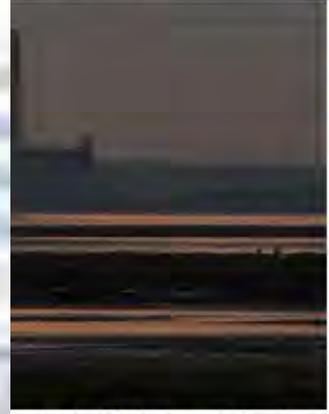


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at the moment when Britain's power supply is closer than previously predicted. The country took in the abnormal cold of winter, and power stations which supply a fifth of the country's electricity now used up more than half of the carbon allowance each allowed under the EU's emissions trading scheme. When they reach that limit they will be forced to close. The Government's new "carbon tax" will make power more expensive to run. Their aim is to use up as many of the allowances as possible. A charge of £16 for every ton of CO2

## lights may go out sooner than we

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at the moment when Britain's power supply is closer than previously predicted. The country took in the abnormal cold of winter, and power stations which supply a fifth of the country's electricity now used up more than half of the carbon allowance each allowed under the EU's emissions trading scheme. When they reach that limit they will be forced to close.

Government's new "carbon tax" will make power more expensive to run. Their aim is to use up as many of the allowances as possible. A charge of £16 for every ton of CO2

# What other unseens are being seen?

*Really* travel that two-way street of externalities, social costs...

---



Remember  
'win-win'  
*social costs*  
affordable



at these  
*dress the*  
ble

13.10.12 | EEG-Umlage

## Preisexplosion beim Strom beginnt gerade erst

Den Deutschen droht eine Strompreiserhöhung wie seit zehn Jahren nicht mehr. Und das ist erst der Anfang: Bis zum Jahr 2030 kostet sie die Ökostrom-Förderung laut Studie mehr als 300 Milliarden Euro.

Von Daniel Wetzel

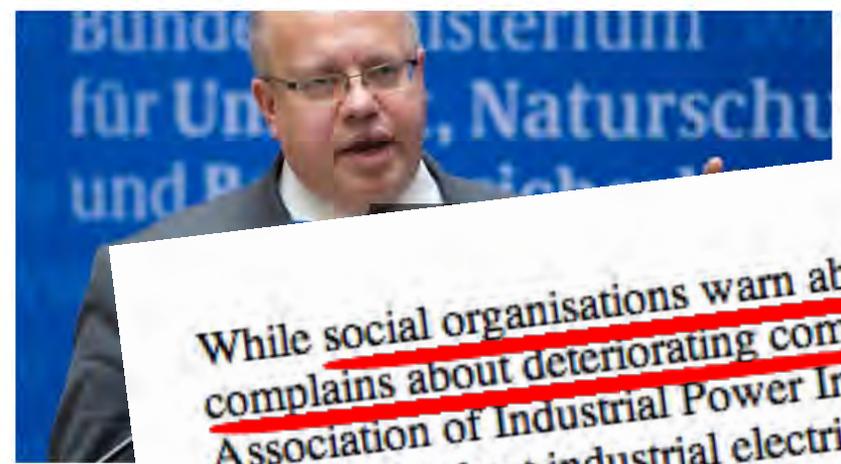
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Altmaier stellt Reformen für das EEG vor



Bundesumweltm. Prozent erhöhen.

While social organisations warn about "fuel poverty" rising in Germany, the industry complains about deteriorating competitiveness. According to a recent survey by the Association of Industrial Power Industry, Germany already occupies the fourth place on the list of highest industrial electricity prices in the world. In many Asian and European countries, electricity is more than 30 percent cheaper for companies, in the U.S. or Russia it is cheaper by more than 50 percent. Investment decisions, the industry association warns, therefore, increasingly threaten to go against Germany. -- [Welt am Sonntag, 14 October 2012](#)

WEITERFÜHRENDE LINI

Energiewende: Höhere Ökostrom-Umlage macht Lebensmittel teurer



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### Merkel's Blackout

## German Energy Plan Plagued by Lack of Progress

By SPIEGEL Staff



Consumer advocates view the electricity price as a social issue, not unlike the price of bread in ancient Rome. The Paritätischer Gesamtverband, an umbrella association for social-welfare groups, estimates that about 200,000 recipients of benefits under the Hartz IV welfare reform program for the long-term unemployed saw their power shut off last year because of unpaid bills. The VdK, Germany's largest welfare organization, uses the term "electricity poverty" and is sharply critical of what it sees as a "glaring violation of basic social rights." According to the VdK, it is unfair that citizens are being asked to bear much of the burden of costs and risks associated with the energy

Strom- und Heizkosten überfordern Verbraucher

Seite 1 / 5 [weiter](#)

# Wenn das Geld nicht mehr zum Heizen reicht “If the money is not enough to heat”

Montag, 15.10.2012, 12:49 · von FOCUS-Online-Redakteurin Danuta Szarek

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Heizen wird in Deutsch

Auf Deutschlands Stromverbr  
kommen Rekordprei  
Heizöl- oder  
Sei

Germany's consumers are facing record price rises for green energy. Especially for small household budgets – with real incomes more or less stagnant for many years – energy costs are becoming increasingly intolerable. In 2009, Germans spent about 100 billion Euros for energy – an average of 2,500 Euros per household. Social campaigners and consumer groups complain that up to 800 000 households in Germany can no longer pay their electric bills. If the rise in energy prices continues, this “second rent” could soon exceed the main rent in some parts of Germany. --Focus Magazin, 15 October 2012

# Germany's Experiment Continues to Harm Germans

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## Hunderttausenden Haushalten wird der Strom gesperrt

Viele Haushalte in Deutschland sind nicht mehr in der Lage, ihre Stromrechnung zu bezahlen. Daher sitzen gut eine halbe Million Bürger im Dunkeln.

ARTIKEL TEILEN

*Many households in Germany are no longer able to pay their electricity bills. As a result, around half a million households are sitting in the dark. -- [Die Welt, 21 February 2012](#)*



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FOTO: BAPF

Nach dem Ablesen des Stromzählers kommt für viele der Schock. Die Rechnung ist nicht

# 'Almost 800,000 Germans Cannot Pay for Electricity'

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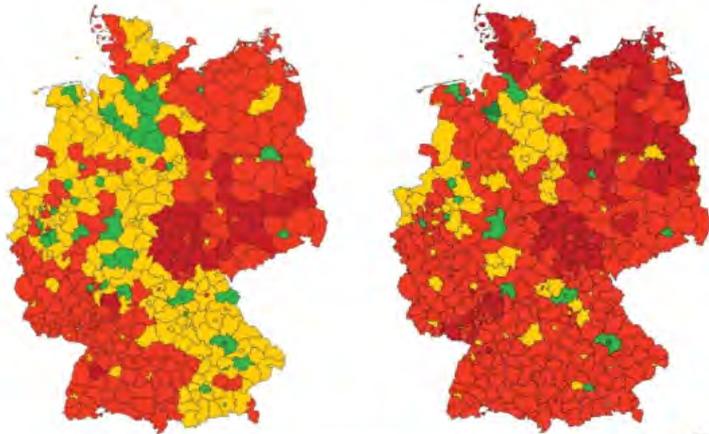
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Home > Wirtschaft > Energie > 800.000 Deutsche können Strom nicht bezahlen

26.06.12 | Teure Energie

## 800.000 Deutsche können Strom nicht bezahlen

Der Ruf nach Rabatten beim Strompreis wird lauter: SPD-Politiker und Verbände wollen einkommensschwache Haushalte unterstützen. Ein aktueller Vergleich zeigt, wo es in Deutschland besonders teuer ist.



Methodik: monatliche Strompreise des lokalen Versorgers, bei einem Jahresverbrauch von 2800 kWh. Preise mit Steuern, Vorläufe und einmaligem Bonus wurden nicht berücksichtigt.

Foto: DPA

Immer mehr rote Flecken: Laut stromauskunft.de sind die Preise zwischen Oktober 2011 und Juni 2012 vielerorts gestiegen. Vergleichen Sie auch die interaktive Karte am Ende des Artikels

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Mögliche Kostensteigerungen im Zuge der Energiewende haben Forderungen nach einem Strompreiserabatt für einkommensschwache Haushalte verstärkt. Energieunternehmen sollten verpflichtet werden, die ersten 500 Kilowattstunden pro Haushalt zum günstigsten eigenen Tarif anzubieten, fordert SPD-Fraktionsvize Ulrich Kelber in einem

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welfare for its citizens – 800,000 have had their electricity cut off!

## German Poles Now Demanding Energy Welfare For Its Citizens – 800,000 Have Had Their Electricity Cut Off!

By P Gosselin on 26. Juni 2012

Energy poverty is sweeping over modern Germany like never before.

Flagship German newspaper **Die Welt** has an online report titled: *Fast 800.000 Deutsche können Strom nicht bezahlen*. In English: Almost 800,000 Germans cannot pay for electricity.



Green energy leaves Germans in the dark.

As Germany subsidizes wealthy homeowners and businesses owners to install solar panels on their homes and commercial buildings, low income families living in rented apartments are getting stuck footing skyrocketing electric bills. Many can no longer afford to pay for electricity, and so the utilities are cutting off their power.

Indeed high energy prices are causing *everything* else to get more expensive as well - all this while the euro is threatened to collapse under the weight of massive debt due to financial ineptitude.

# Europe

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October 16, 2011 10:37

## EU faces 20 years of rising energy bills

By Pilita Clark, Environment Correspondent

European businesses and consumers face at least 20 years of electricity price rises, according to a leaked European Commission report on how the region can meet its green energy targets.

It also forecasts a huge growth in the number of wind farms, which would push up prices even higher.

### More

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In an assessment that examines a range of ways in which fossil fuels such as coal can be replaced with cleaner sources of energy, the 112-page report says all scenarios point to wind farms becoming the biggest source of electricity in the bloc by 2050, outstripping both coal and nuclear power.

Wind farms could provide as much as 49 per cent of EU electricity by that date, the report suggests, up from just 5 per cent today.

Average electricity prices for households and businesses would rise “strongly up to 2020-2030” under all scenarios, the document says, and the highest prices would occur after 2030 if renewable sources of power, such as wind and solar, make up a large share of energy production. For example, average prices for households could jump by more than 100 per cent by 2050 if this were the case but only by 43 per cent under a scenario that assumed more nuclear

# Econom

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October 10, 2011 9:31 pm

## Average ho

By David Blair, Energy



to spend £200bn wind power.

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Rising fuel bills to hit p

### Money

## Fuel poverty 'will claim 2,700 victims this winter'

Interim report from an independent review of fuel poverty says the number of people living in cold homes contributes to Britain's unusually high rates of 'excess winter deaths'



Households are considered fuel poor if they need to spend more than 10% of their income on fuel use. Photograph: Alamy

**Mark King**  
guardian.co.uk, Wed 19 Oct 2011 12.28 BST

Almost 3,000 people in England and Wales will die this winter because they cannot afford to heat their homes, a report suggests – more than the number killed in traffic accidents each year.

Commissioned by the government, the Hills Fuel Poverty Review found that if

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Suchbegriff eingeben

Strategiepapier

## Die EU will den Ökostrom nicht mehr fördern

19.05.2012 · Die Kosten für den Ausbau erneuerbarer Energien könnten untragbar werden. Die Europäische Kommission ist dafür, die Förderprogramme für Sonnen- und Windkraft so schnell wie möglich auslaufen zu lassen.

Von HENDRIK KAFSACK, BRÜSSEL

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Themen zu diesem Artikel

### Leaked Strategy paper: EU Plans To Phase Out Green Energy Subsidies

Saturday, 19 May 2012 16:07 | Hendrik Kafsack, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

The economic cost of the expansion of renewable energy could become prohibitively expensive. Subsidies in the EU for solar and wind power should be phased out as quickly as possible. That is what the European Commission says in an internal draft strategy paper that EU Energy Commissioner, Günther Oettinger, will present in Brussels early next month.

weitere Beiträge

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# This 'Market' Works Best with *Less Information*

- ❏ **“The more people know about the wind-energy business, the less they like it.”\***
- ❏ Wind energy communications strategist Justin Rolfe-Redding, a GMU doctoral student from the Center for Climate Change Communication
- ❏ **Want more? “The things people are educated about are a real deficit for us.”**
  
- ❏ \*March 23, 2011 webinar of American Council on Renewable Energy “Speaking Out on Renewable Energy: Communications Strategies for the Renewable Energy Industry.”

# Candor Happens

Pres. Obama's New Treasury Asst. Sec for Environment & Energy

- “History has shown repeatedly that nothing is worse for renewable energy -- and the policies that support it -- than cheap and abundant conventional energy.”
- -- Nominee Matthew Kotchen

The screenshot shows the 'Room for Debate' section of The New York Times website. At the top, there are navigation links for 'HOME PAGE', 'TODAY'S PAPER', 'VIDEO', 'MOST POPULAR', and 'TIMES TOPICS'. The main header reads 'The New York Times The Opinion Pages' and 'ROOM for DEBATE'. Below this is a navigation bar with categories: 'WORLD', 'U.S.', 'N.Y. / REGION', 'BUSINESS', 'TECHNOLOGY', 'SCIENCE', 'HEALTH', 'SPORTS', 'OPINION', 'ARTS', 'STYLE', and 'TRA'. A large advertisement for Virgin Atlantic is visible, featuring the text 'FLY WITH ON-DEMAND MOVIES' and 'NEWARK → LOS ANGELES FROM ONLY \$149'. Below the ad, there are two article teasers. The first is titled 'We Found Oil! Is That Good?' with a sub-headline 'New ways to extract oil and natural gas could buy the U.S. some time to develop renewable energy. Or they could keep us addicted to dirty fuels. Read More >'. The second is titled 'Cheap Gas Is a Trap' with a sub-headline 'Matthew Kotchen is a professor of environmental policy at the University of California, Berkeley.' and a small profile picture of Matthew Kotchen. At the bottom, there is a 'DEBATERS' section with a small image and the text 'UPDATED MARCH 7, 2012, 1:43 PM'.

# All Reaffirming a Basic Point

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, Tuesday, Aug. 22, 1978

## *Solar Power Seen Meeting 20% of Needs By 2000; Carter May Seek Outlay Boost*

By WALTER S. MOSSBERG

*Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL*

WASHINGTON—Federal planners have concluded that solar energy can contribute as much as 20% of U.S. energy needs by the

that a second, smaller review group be named to tailor policy options to a specific goal, preferably the environmental council's projection of a 25% solar share of U.S. energy by 2000.