

# **Paradigm Shift: The CEO's Perspective**

## **-Leadership challenges in a rapidly changing environment-**

**Energy Delta Institute / Energy Business School**

**Fellowship on Energy Programme: Energy Policy & European East West Relations**

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**The Gas Value Chain Company GmbH**



# Agenda

Introduction: energy, a story of constant changes

Snapshot: the last decade of the natural gas business

- From fragmented monopolistic markets (almost) towards a European Henry Hub
- Shrinking demand, supply glut, falling prices, COP21

Challenges & opportunities: change no excuse to forget modern management virtues

- Communicative/Participative/Empowerment
- The One Minute Manager
- Lead by example/Motivate by involvement

Adopting to the dynamics of the energy industry - examples

- The hunt for new “elephants”
- The Dutch end user market entry – a multiple cultural challenge
- The quest for a “Southern Corridor”
- The “shake-out” after the financial crisis 2008/2009
- The search for a new midstreamer business model

The ultimate challenge: COP21

- Understanding the COP21 process
- Natural gas the “low hanging fruit”

Gas advocacy reloaded

- Putting a price on carbon
- Overcome reputational damage
- The conundrum: attack subsidies (i.e. renewables)?

## Brent crude prices since 1985: boom & bust cycles since I joined the oil and gas industry



# Exiting highlights along the business cycles



New  
Elephants in  
Frontier  
Areas

German  
“Gas  
War”

German  
Reunification

Single  
European  
Market

Czech Rep.  
joins  
NATO/EU

Dutch  
Liberalization  
Phase 1

Merger  
Exxon Mobil

Dutch  
Liberalization  
Phase 2

NABUCCO

Midstream  
Consolidatio

Czech  
Liberalization

Gas-to-Oil  
Spread  
Arbitrations  
Shale Gas  
Revolution

Energie  
Wende

**COP21**

# The most exiting yet to come?



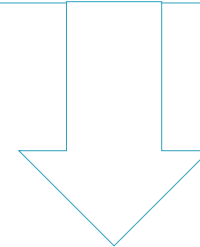
?

**My own business:**

**Project Management, Negotiations,**

**Expert Advice**

**Focus: Change Environment**



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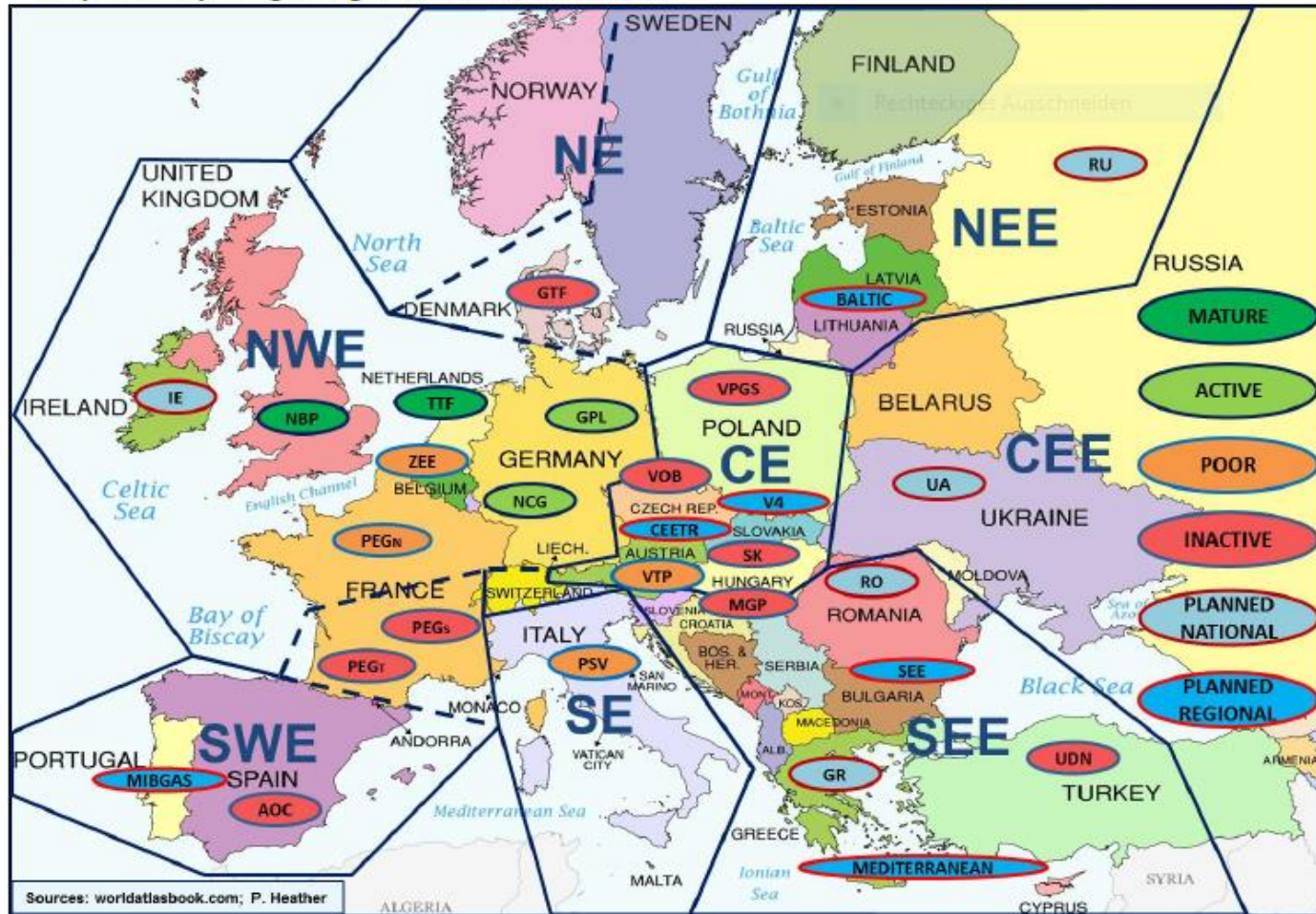
# European Gas Regions around 2000: Fragmented national markets; proliferation import pipelines



# European Hubs 2015:

multitude of national hubs; from “mature” to “poor”

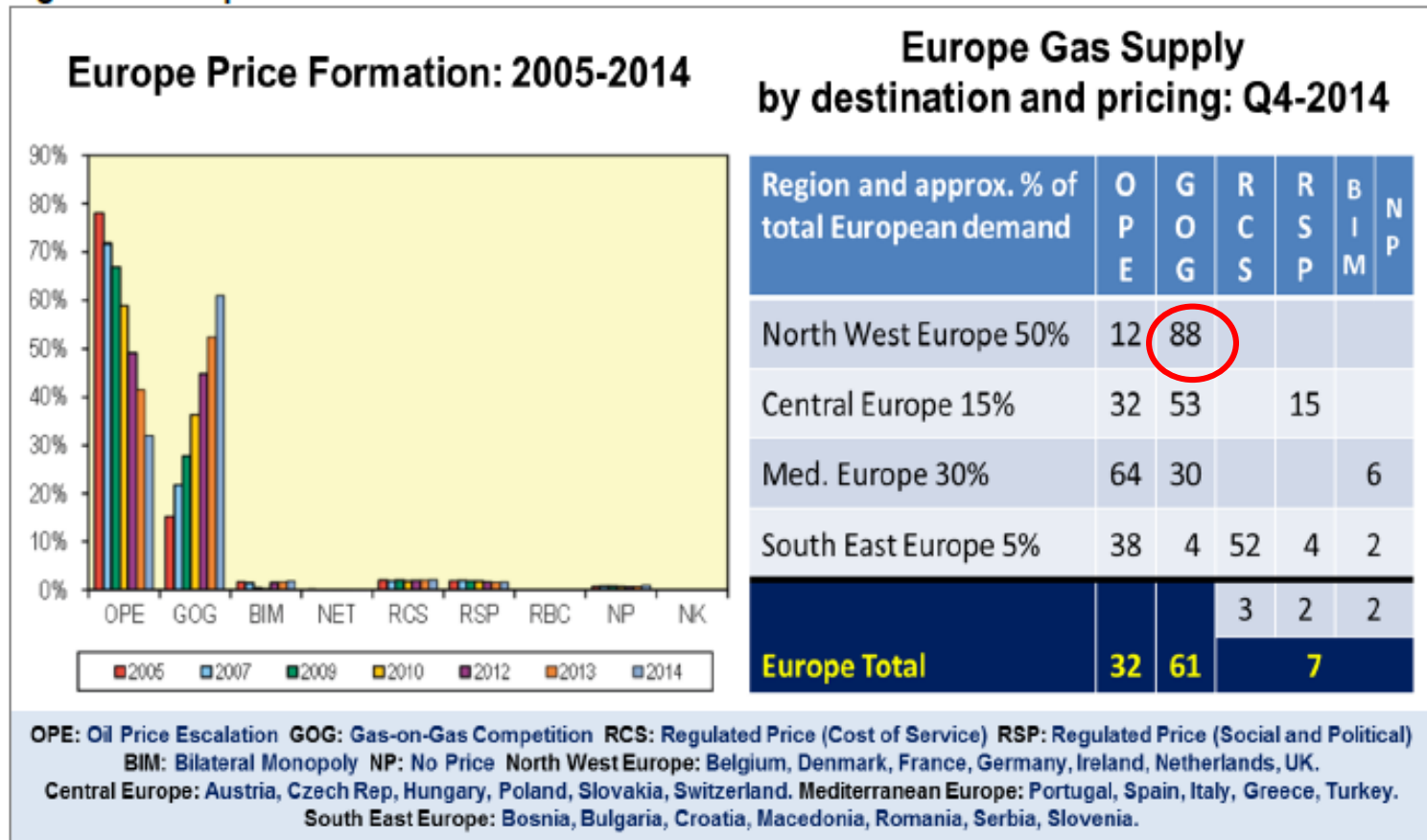
Map 1: European gas regions, markets and hubs<sup>68</sup>





## Price Formation 2004 – 2014: Hubs price setter, but varying by region

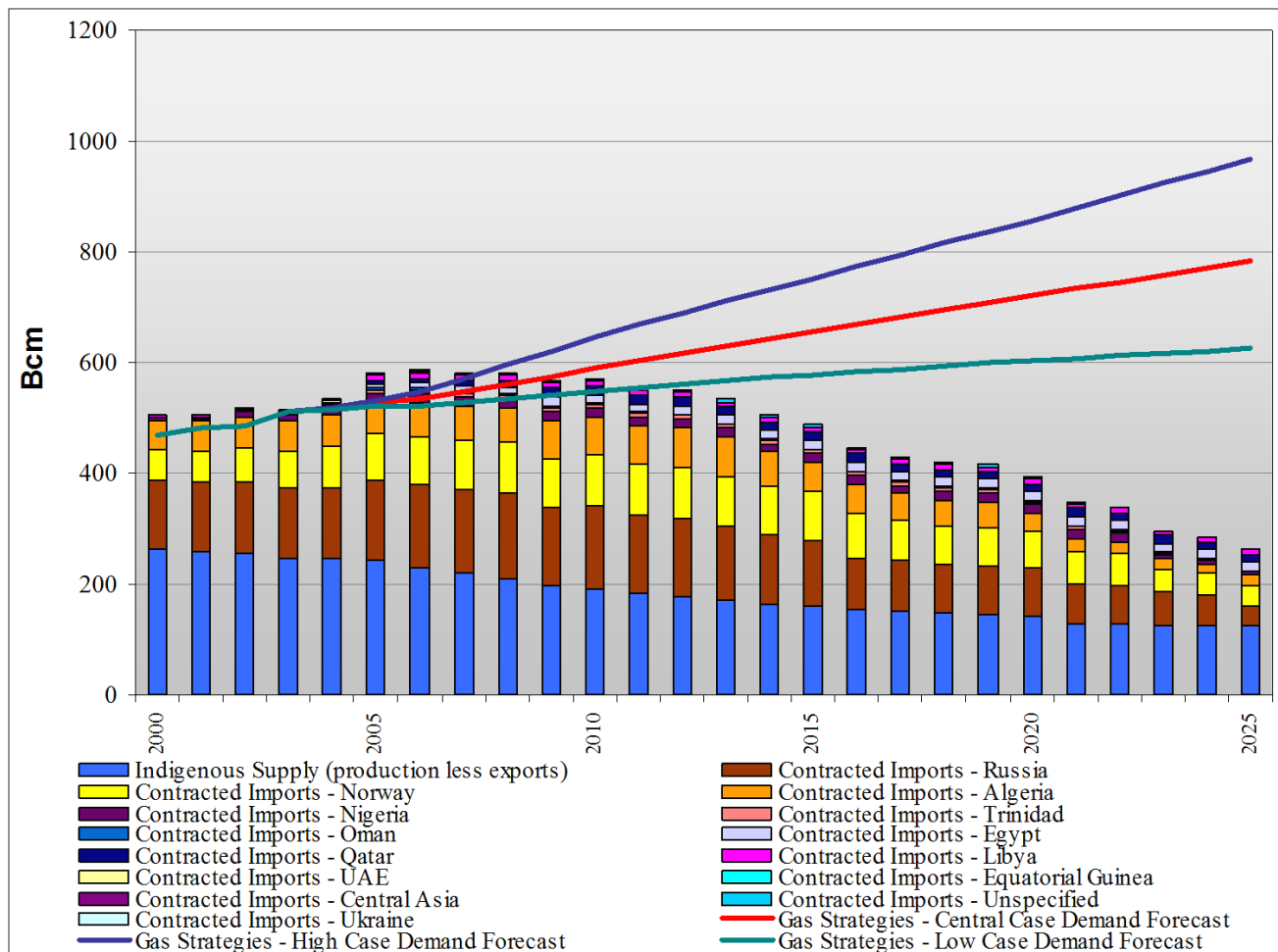
**Figure 3: European Gas Price Formation: 2005-2014**



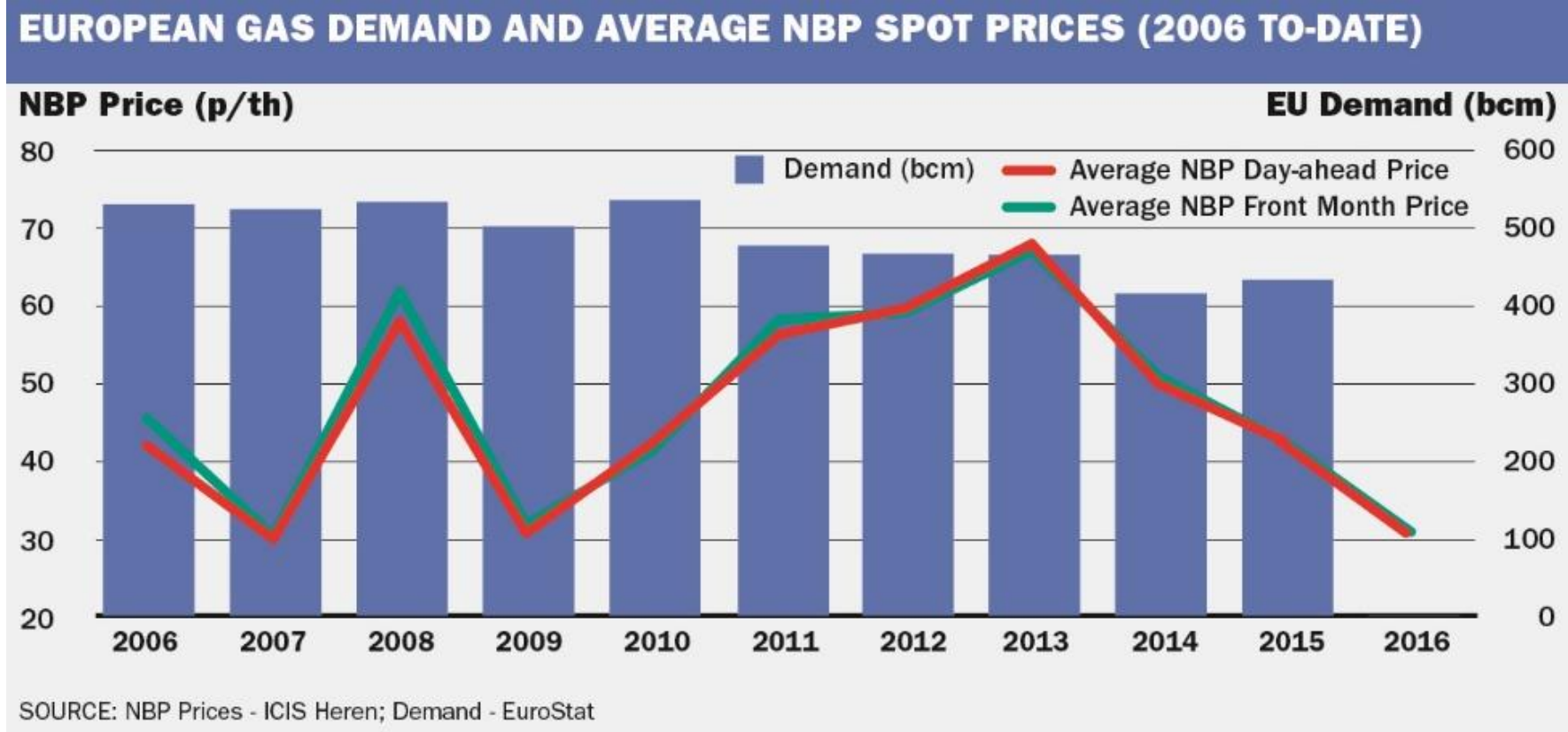
Source: IGU Wholesale Gas Price Survey - 2015 Edition

## Once upon a time...

### European demand vs contracted supplies seen in 2007



## European demand 2015: below financial crisis levels; 60 bcm/a lost in power generation



## The ultimate challenge:

# Treaty of “COP21” (21<sup>st</sup> Conference of Parties under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change)

**Is this the „sudden death“ of all  
fossil fuels including natural gas?**

To be discussed later



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## Change is no excuse to forget modern management virtues, quite the contrary!

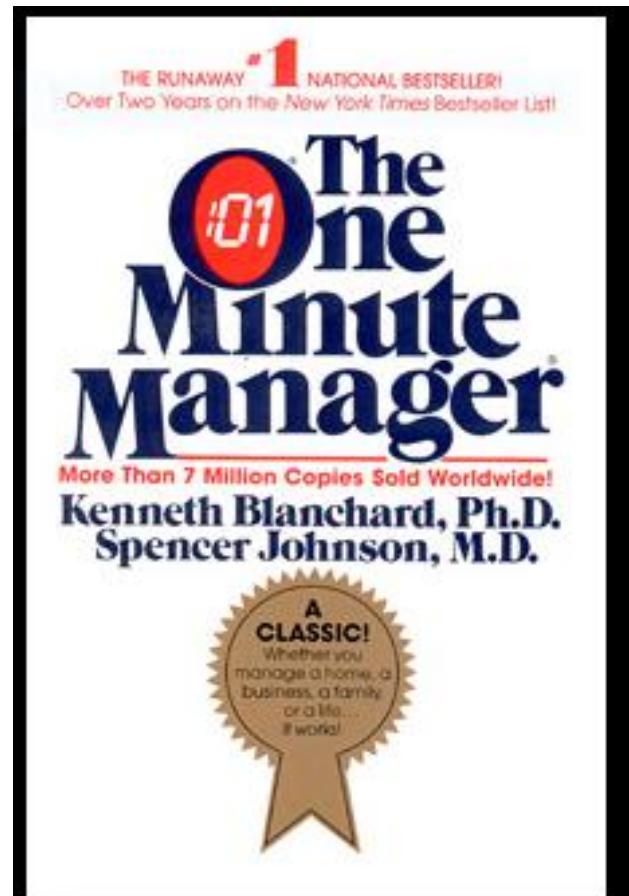
- **Open communication**
  - foster sharing of information culture
  - no „secret missions“ (also not the CEO)
  - say where you're at (your people are not stupid)
- **Participative management**
  - Allow ideas & thoughts for better decision making
  - Once decided, claim loyalty also from „dissidents“
- **Empowerment & accountability**
  - Have the courage to delegate
  - Ensure empowerment comes with accountability
  - This only works if you have „learning organization“ instead of „blame“ culture

## The One Minute Manager:

One minute goal setting (clarity of purpose)

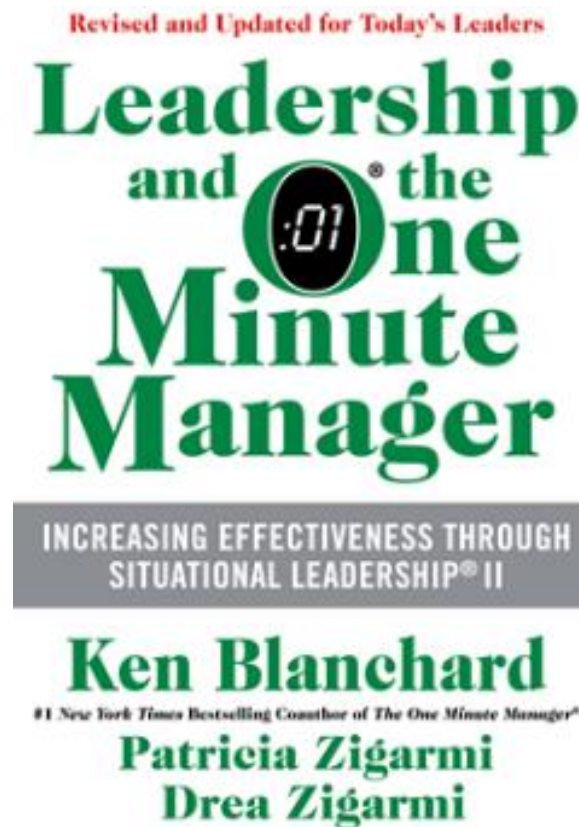
One minute praising (reward & recognition)

One minute reprimands



## The One Minute Manager:

**Situational Leadership: “different strokes for different folks”**





## The conundrum of the “right people”

**“Different strokes for different folks” will not always work**

- **Find the task at which the individual excels**
  - Skills
  - Personality
  - Coaching & counselling
- **Letting people go**
  - Sometimes things „just don’t work out“
  - Note: This is more likely with „yes men“ than with „contrarians“
  - You have responsibility for
    - The other team members
    - The company business
    - The individual who does not „fit“

## The One Minute Manager & other lessons: One more thing, for all managers but especially for CEOs

- **Lead by example**
  - Try to be a role model
  - Expect your attitude & behavior to be copied
- **Motivate by involvement**
  - „Sitting in an easy arm chair taking decisions“ is NOT an option
  - If people respect you for your knowledge & involvement, it will motivate them more than anything
  - Memo: not to be confused with micro-management

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## Example late 1980ies: IOCs “hunt” for new elephant discoveries in frontier areas



- **Discovery => „company maker“: exiting!**
- **Learn to negotiate in entirely different business cultures (e.g. South America, Africa, Trinidad)**



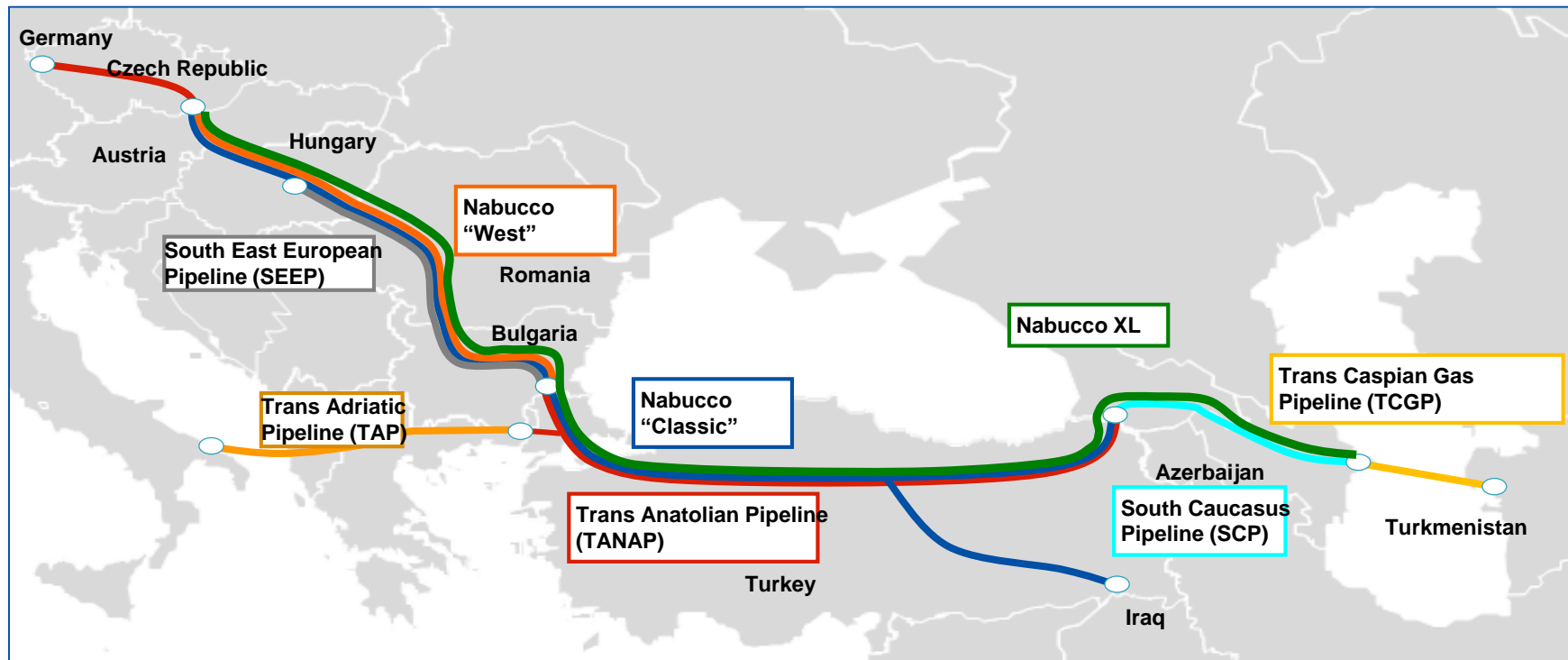
## Example ~2001: entry Dutch end user market, a multiple cultural challenge

- RWE Energy Nederland
- Nutsbedrijf Harlemermeer
- Nutsbedrijf Oubragas
- Triple cultural challenge:
- „market“ & „old world“ people
- Brabant & „Randstad“ people
- Dutch & German people



## Quest for Southern Corridor diversification 2007-2012:

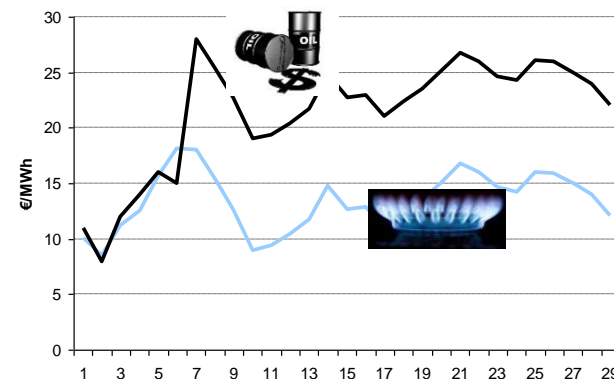
- Insanity of pipeline competition
- Fallacy of Third energy package application
- The elephant has born a “mouse”: 10 bcm/a



## Example ~2009/2010: “shake-out” after the financial crisis – oil & gas price decoupling

### Fight for survival – price reviews - arbitrations

Example “Small” Volume	100 TWh
Price Oil Indexed	~35 €/MWh
Price NCG	~25 €/MWh
Gas-to-Oil Spread	10 €/MWh
Producer Cost to Market	~10 €/MWh



#### Producer:

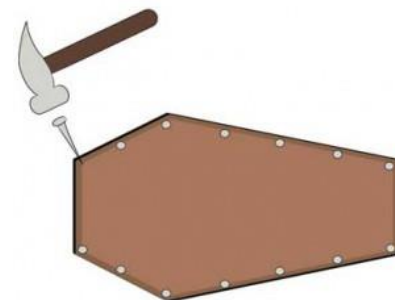
Netback profit + Windfall profit

1.5 + 1 billion €/a



#### Importer: Nail in the coffin

- 1 billion €/a



# The search for a new midstreamer business model:

## Vertical value chain integrity broken!

- On import level, both producer and midstreamer can only rely on achievable price at point of first sale, i.e. wholesale traded market
- Previous customers can source at the hub themselves
- Producer can himself sell at the hub or even to end users
- Midstreamer obsolete? Also: No margin left on hub-indexed LTCs

***Today's Structural Disconnect: End user value can no longer be claimed***





## New midstreamer value proposition for producer: Service provider against cost reimbursement and service fee

- > Cash Flow Commitment (Take-or-Pay)
- > Aggregation Risk End Users
- > Volume Disposal Risk Traded Markets
- > Multiple Counterparty Credit Risk
- > Indexation Risk
- > Transaction Cost
- > Force Majeure Supply Interruption
- > Massive deployment of Working Capital

Do I take:  
Risk or  
“easy”  
Cash?



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# Treaty of “COP21” (21<sup>st</sup> Conference of Parties under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change)

## **Widespread Perception:**

Decarbonization (abolish all fossil fuels) „done deal“

## **Actual content:**

Reduce green house gas (GHG) emissions to keep temperature from rising more than +2°C (+1.5°C)

## **Implementation:**

Intended Nationally Determined Contributions („INDCs“);  
re-assessment every 5 years

**Extreme conclusions: “Sudden death” of all fossil fuels at once ./ . cynical assumption of failure legitimizing “business as usual”?**

## **First reputed energy outlook after COP21:**

„BP Energy Outlook, 2016 edition“ in February 2016

### **Heavy criticism:**

- Speaking „pro domo“ (to preserve business model)
- Cynically assuming failure of agreement of >190 political leaders
- Ignorantly pursuing „business as usual“

## BP Energy Outlook 2016 assumptions – by no means “business as usual”

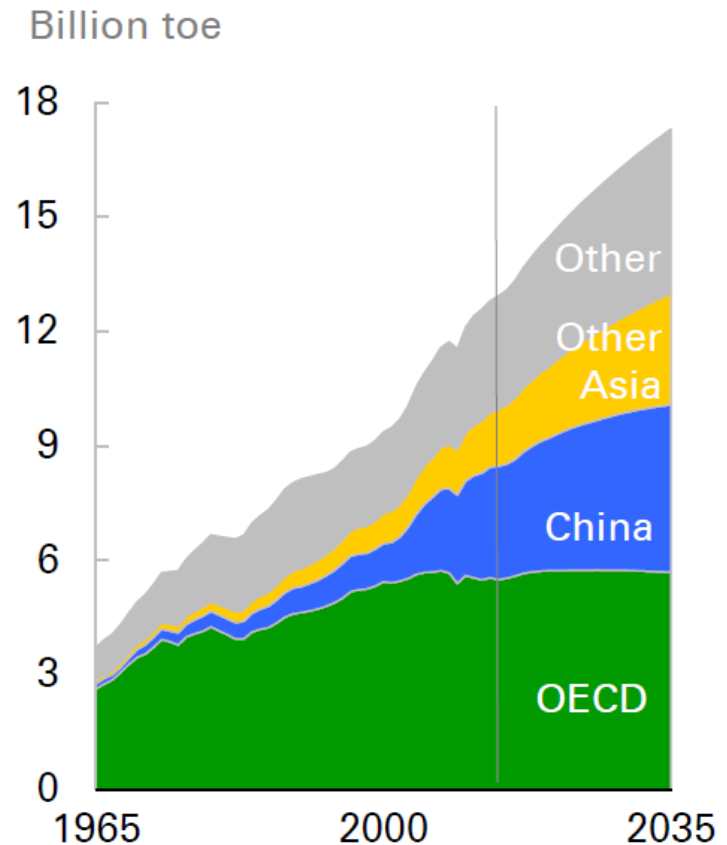
Population growth: 1.5 billion

GDP growth: doubles

Energy demand: + 34%

(Memo energy  
poverty: 1.6 billion)

Consumption by region



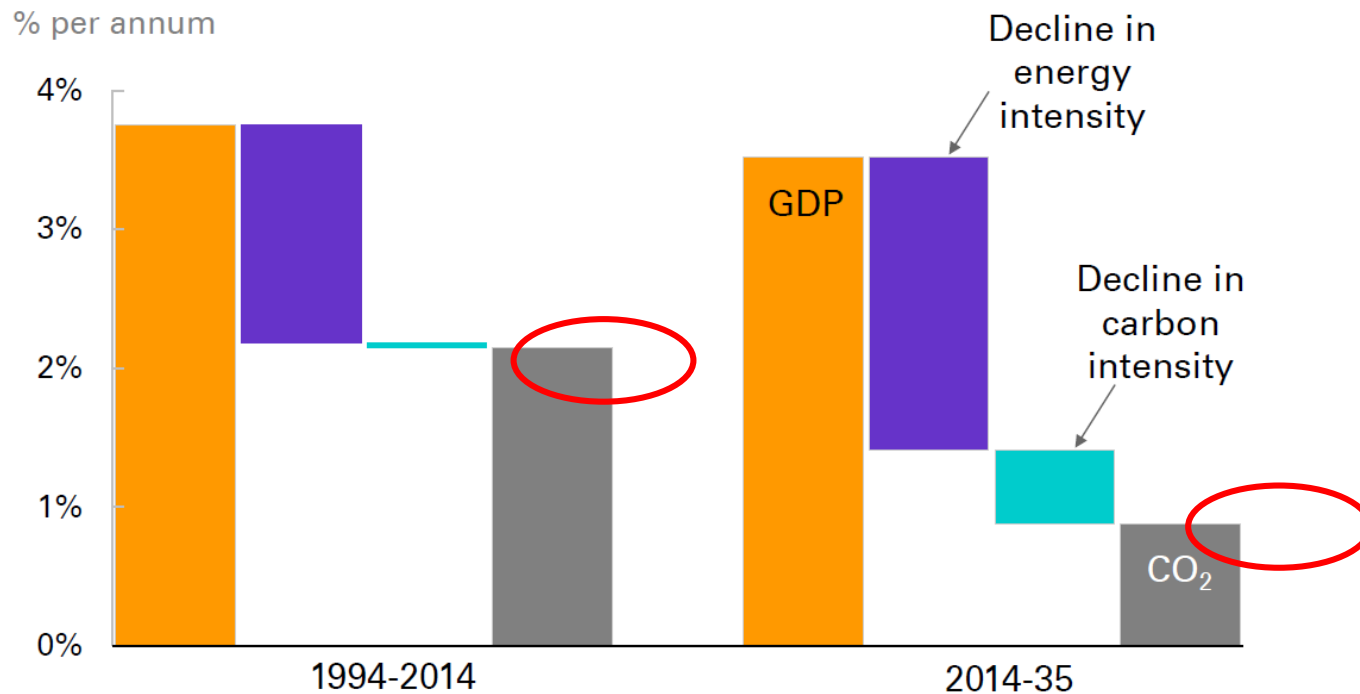
Source: BP Energy Outlook 2016



## BP Energy Outlook 2016 assumptions – by no means “business as usual”

- Correlation GDP growth/energy demand growth from 2.3% to 1.4% per unit
- decline in energy intensity (energy efficiency improvements)
  - decline in carbon intensity

Decoupling emissions growth from GDP growth



Source: BP Energy Outlook 2016

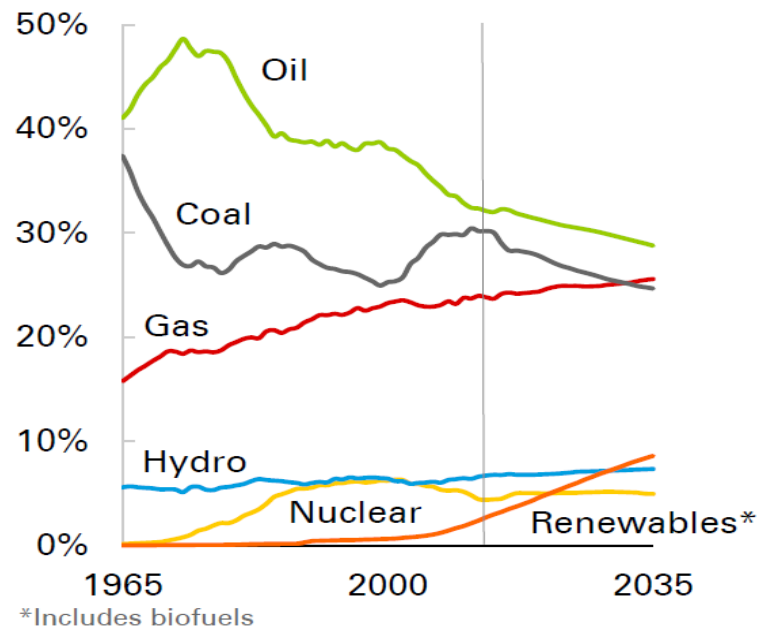
## BP Energy Outlook 2016 assumptions

Fuel mix 2035: significant shift, but 80% fossil fuels

Growth p.a.: coal 0.5%; oil 0.9%; gas 1.8%; renewables 6.6%

Natural gas displaces coal from 2<sup>nd</sup> rank in primary energy

Shares of primary energy

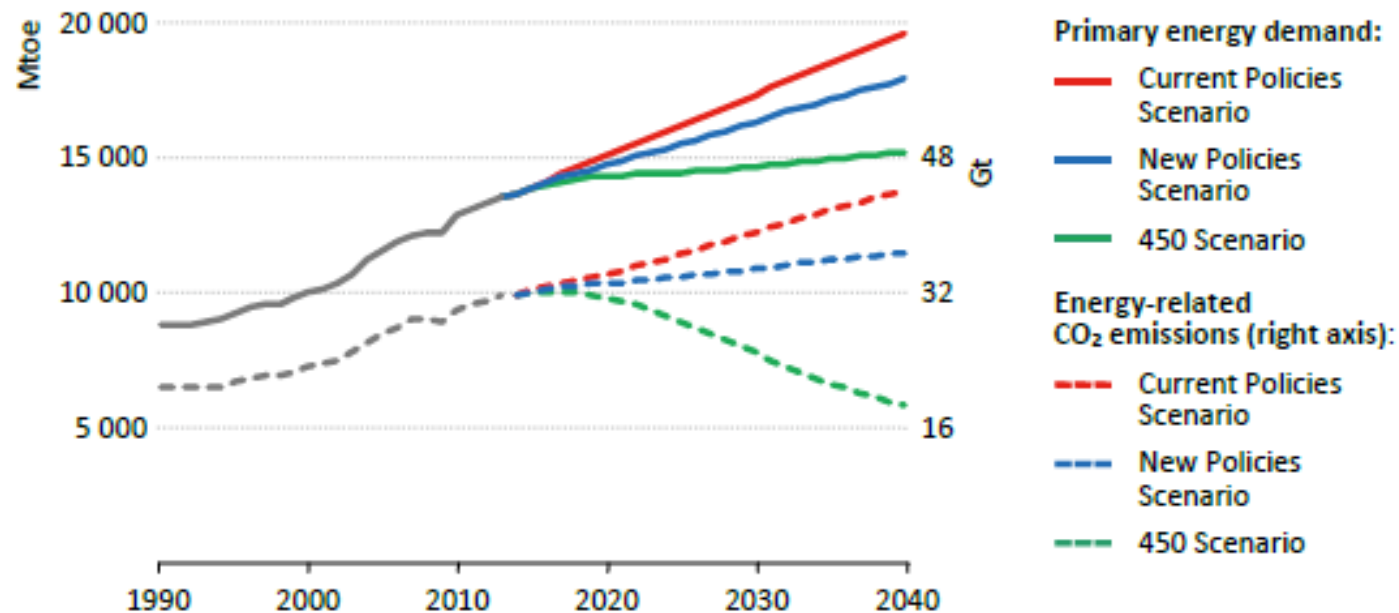


Source: BP Energy Outlook 2016

## IEA “World Energy Outlook 2015”, November 2015

- New Policies Scenario comes to similar conclusions as BP
- Although including 150 INDCs from COP21 participants
- INDCs essentially limited by “affordable subsidies”

**Figure 2.1** ▶ World primary energy demand and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by scenario



Source: IEA World Energy Outlook 2015

## IEA “World Energy Outlook 2015”, November 2015

**Acknowledges that, even with its New Policies Scenario including 150 INDCs, the 2°C target will not be reached:**

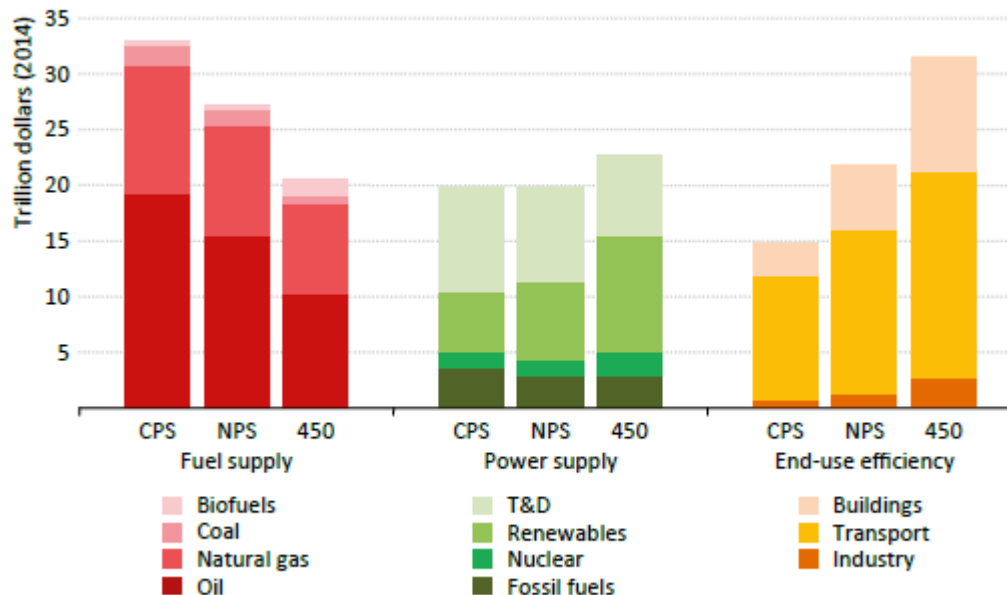
**“THE DIRECTION OF TRAVEL IS CHANGING,  
BUT  
THE DESTINATION IS STILL NOT 2 DEGREES.”**

## IEA “World Energy Outlook 2015”, November 2015

Cumulative investments in global energy supply up to 2040:

- \$ 7.4 trillion in renewables = 15% of total
- Pace in power generation not matched in other sectors

**Figure 2.3** ▶ Cumulative world energy sector investment by sector and scenario, 2015-2040



Note: CPS = Current Policies Scenario; NPS = New Policies Scenario; 450 = 450 Scenario; T&D = transmission and distribution.

Source: IEA World Energy Outlook 2015

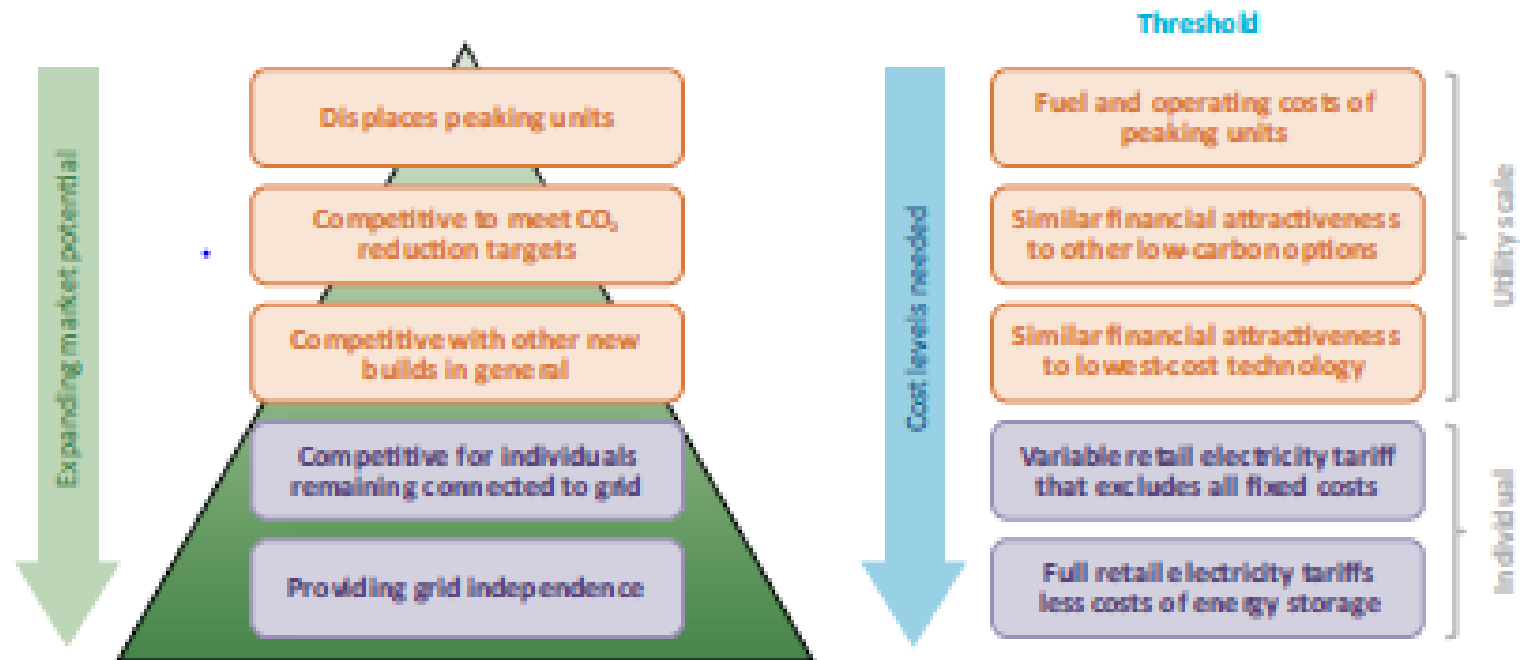
# Understanding COP21 as a dynamic, progressive mechanism hinging on 5 year re-assessment intervals

## INDCs essentially limited by “affordable subsidies”

Further GHG reductions in the 5 year “check-ups” require:

- Increased competitiveness renewables => Reduction in subsidies

**Figure 9.15** ➤ Milestones on the road to competitiveness for renewables



Source: IEA World Energy Outlook 2015



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**Since COP21/INDCs rely on further technological progress & cost degression of renewables, it is imperative to materially reduce GHG nonetheless NOW:**

**GHG reduction also by “selection” amongst fossil fuels which makes**

## **THE CASE FOR NATURAL GAS:**

**“NATURAL GAS AS THE ‘LOW HANGING FRUIT’ FOR MATERIAL AND IMMEDIATE REDUCTION OF GHG!”**

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## Gas advocacy must more assertively demand its place on the road towards GHG reductions. The issues.

- **Putting a price on carbon**
  - Such that gas is above coal in the merit order
  - GHG materially reduced
  - Entry barriers for renewables lowered
- **Overcome reputational damage**
  - Misuse as „political weapon“
  - Perception is reality: Only market functioning helps
  - Use price effect of supplier competition as proof
- **More assertively claim its place as part of the solution**
  - Biogas
  - Hydrogene from „gas-to-power“
- **The conundrum: attack subsidies for renewables?**
  - Gas „helping“ renewables not enough!
  - At least advocate „technology-neutral“ subsidies

## Conclusion and Outlook

**COP21 is a progressive process of re-assessments in intervals**

**It is entirely legitimate (if not imperative) to promote natural gas as the low hanging fruit for immediate GHG reductions**

**There is no “silver bullet” to save the business model of oil & gas companies in the long run**

**The “greatest possible accident” would be that renewables become more competitive than coal, oil and gas**

**However, blindly “following the herd” to be “politically correct” (but straying outside core competencies) might actually accelerate your demise**