

Power 2.0 Building a smarter, greener, cheaper electricity system

Richard Howard, Policy Exchange 7th November 2016

The power system is changing...

Decarbonisation

- GHG emissions ↓50% since 1990
- 32.5GWs renewables
- \downarrow 23GW thermal capacity

Decentralisation

- ↓ Large-scale transmissionconnected capacity
- ↑ Distributed capacity

Digitalisation

- Smart meters, controls, storage
- Connectivity, "internet of things"

Demand

- Total power demand ↓15% since 2005
- Electrification of heating and transport?

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...altering the economics of generation

- Growth of renewables = low/zero marginal cost
- "Merit order effects" \downarrow wholesale prices
- Price volatility & negative prices
- Weakens signal to invest in new capacity



Challenges for system operation



What's going on right now?

- Capacity Market Notice @ 4:30pm
- Day ahead price £800/MWh
- Balancing Mechanism £2,500/MWh





25GW

The case for flexibility

- Decarbonisation / growth of renewables
- ...will require smarter, flexible power system
- System savings of flexibility = £2.9-8.1bn pa
 - Make better use of renewables output
 - Reduce need for conventional generation
 - Avoid/defer network reinforcement
 - Optimise system balancing
- Smarter = greener + cheaper

The case for flexibility

• Many technologies can provide this flexibility

Thermal generation	Storage	Demand Response	Other
 Coal Gas CCGT Gas OCGTs Gas/diesel reciprocating engines Combined Heat and Power 	 Pumped Hydro Compressed air Batteries Flywheels Supercapacitors Thermal storage Power to gas Superconducting Magnetic Energy Storage (SMES) 	 Demand shifting / demand turn- down Demand turn-up Behind the meter generation 	 Interconnectors Renewables Enabling technologies (e.g. Smart meters)

NOT treated equally in policy/regulatory terms

Levelling the playing field

- Storage + Demand Response (DSR)
 - Define storage and DSR in regulation
 - Remove 'double charging' of environmental levies on storage
 - Allow aggregators to sell flexibility into Balancing Market
 - Amend Capacity Market rules to remove barriers to DSR & storage (including access to 3-year contracts)

Levelling the playing field

- Distribution Network Operators (DNOs)
 - Update DNO regulations to encourage use of storage & DSR to relieve network constraints
 - DNOs should *procure* services of storage, rather than owning directly
- Diesel generators
 - Defra should create set of national standards to regulate emissions (NOx, PM)

Levelling the playing field

- Recommendations we *don't* support
 - Setting targets for storage / DSR
 - Subsidies/grants for storage / DSR
 - Exempting storage from grid charges
 - Direct ownership of storage by DNOs
 - Excluding technologies from the Capacity Market
 - Splitting the Capacity Market, giving different payments to different technologies

- Reform wholesale market to value and encourage flexibility
 - Temporal: Allow trading closer to real time
 - Spatial: Reflect geography of demand/supply and network constraints – e.g. through regional or 'nodal pricing'

- Examples of nodal pricing: US regional markets, New Zealand, Singapore
- PJM = 10,000 nodes, price varies by location
- Efficiency savings worth \$2.2 bn pa



Figure 2: Markets for flexibility³



- Reform ancillary markets:
 - Reduce complexity
 - -Follow system needs
 - -Create liquid markets
 - -Open competition
 - Technology neutral
 - -Transparency



- German system
- 4 TSOs
- 1 platform
- 3 main markets
- Weekly/daily auctions

Reform network charges

- Network charges = 25% of electricity bill
- Significant incentives for generators/users
- "Embedded benefits" contributed to growth in embedded generation
- Ofgem should undertake holistic review of network charges to ensure they are costreflective