

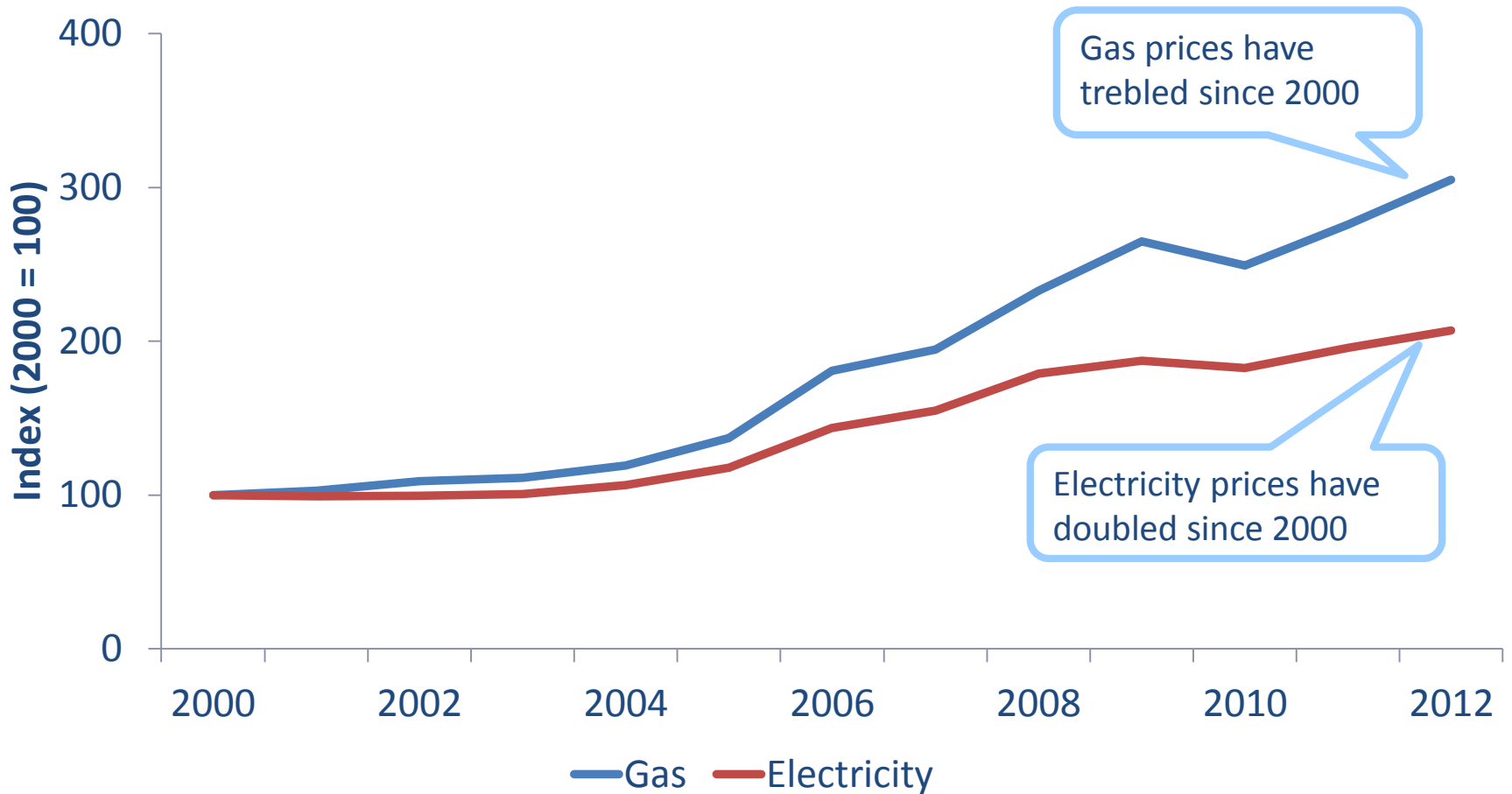
# Security and affordability: some reflections on recent debates

Jim Watson, Research Director

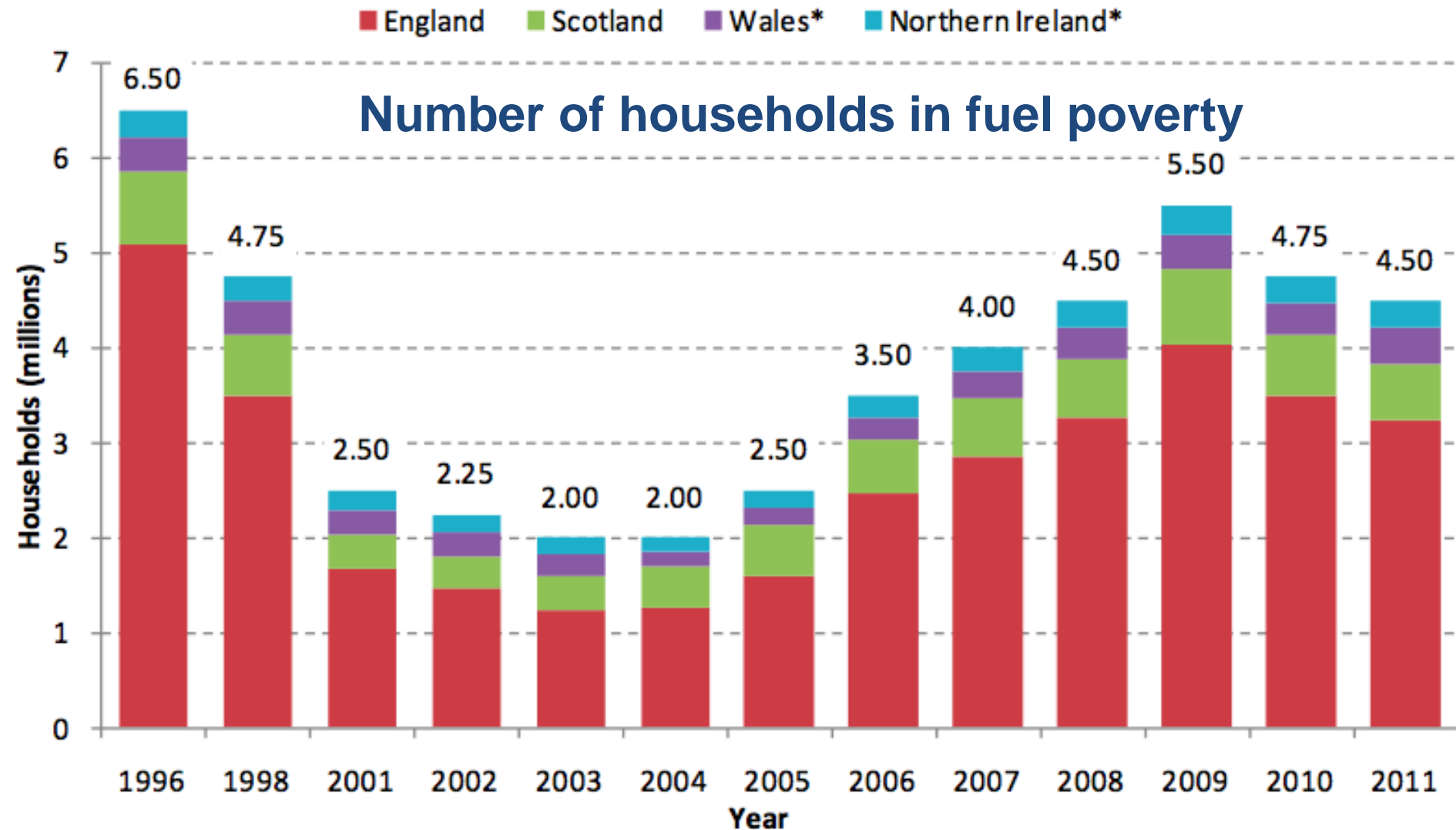
UKERC / BIEE / ICEPT book launch event:  
*Energy Security in a Multipolar World*, 21<sup>st</sup> Nov 2013



# 1. Affordability and consumer bills



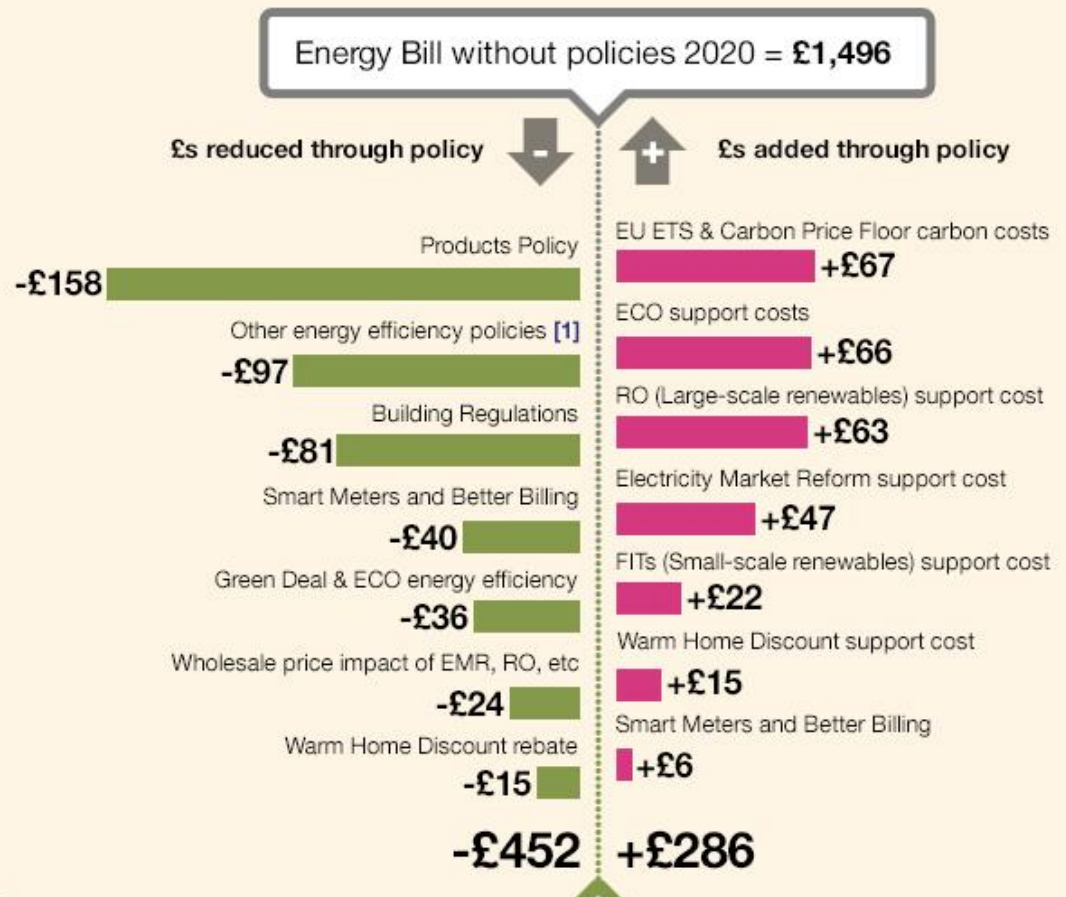
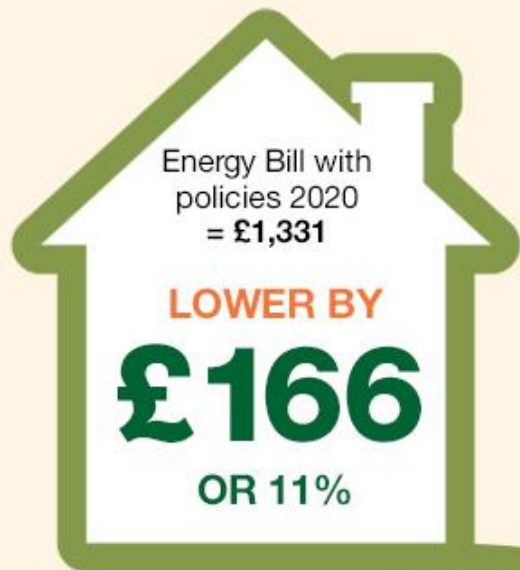
# 1. Affordability and consumer bills



Source: Department of Energy and Climate Change

# 1. Affordability and consumer bills

Estimated average impact of energy and climate change policies on household energy bills in 2020



Energy Bill with policies 2020 = **£1,331**

**LOWER BY £166 OR 11%**

All figures in real £2012 prices. Figures may not add due to rounding. Average bill impacts shown, not all households will benefit from all measures. [1] CERT, CERT Extension, CESP and EEC 1&2.

# 1. Affordability and consumer bills

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24 September 2013 Last updated at 17:37



## Ed Miliband: Labour would freeze energy prices

[COMMENTS \(2104\)](#)

**Labour would freeze gas and electricity bills for every home and business in the UK for 20 months if it wins the 2015 election, Ed Miliband has said.**

Ed Miliband: "Britain can do better than this"

The big energy firms would be split up and governed by a new tougher regulator to give people "a fairer deal".

Labour says the move will save average household businesses £1,800 - but cost the energy giants £4.5

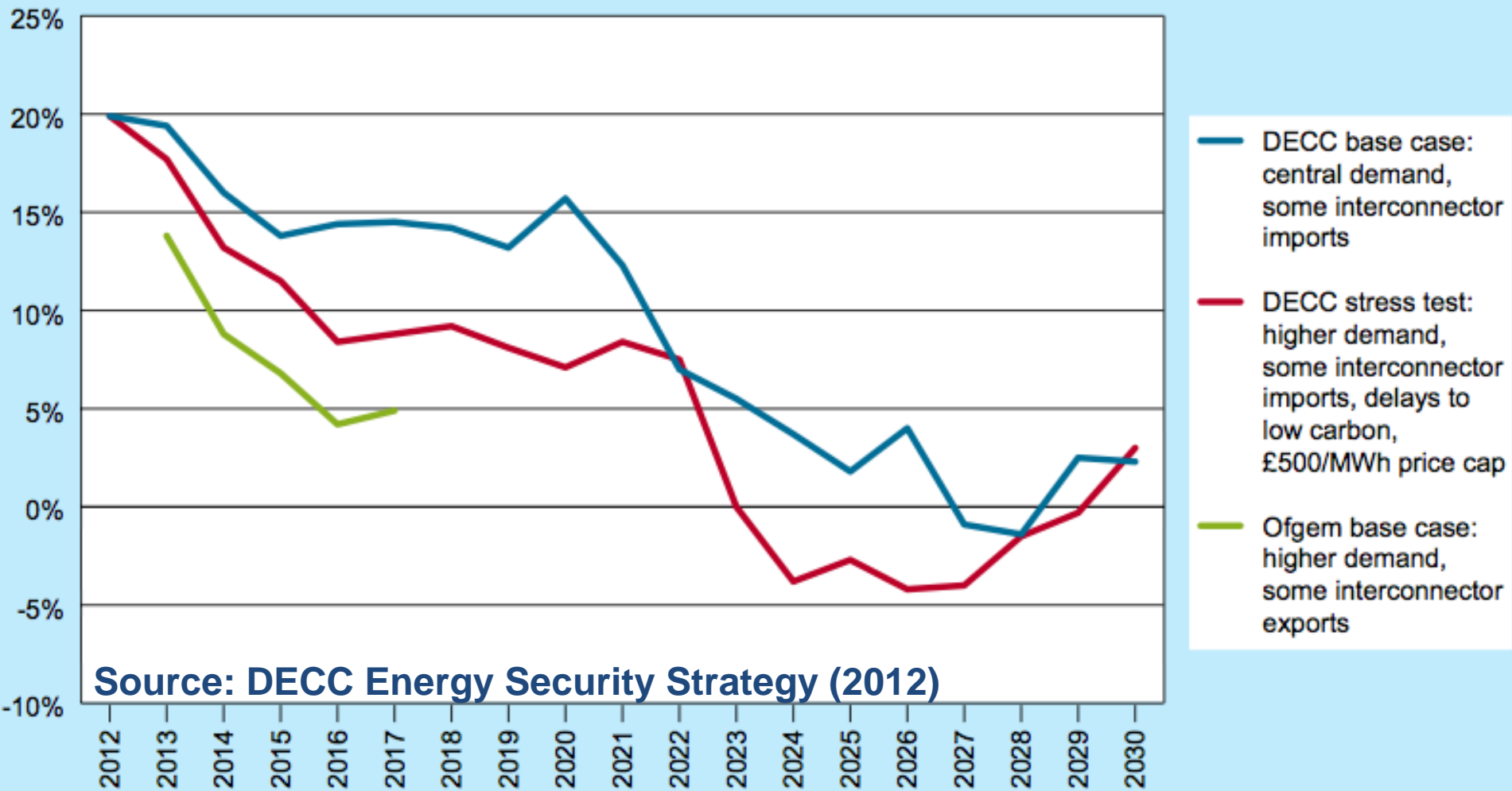
But energy companies said the policy could lead to jeopardise investment and jobs.

**Labour conference 2013**

**Landale: Austerity socialism?**

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## 2. Keeping the lights on?



# 2. Keeping the lights on?



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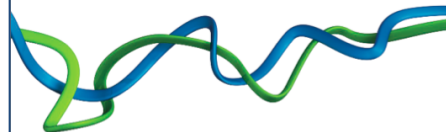
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## Centrica warns Labour energy plan risks 'ruin' for firms



## GB electricity capacity margin

A report by the Royal Academy of Engineering for the Council for Science and Technology  
October 2013



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## Britain's lights could go out next winter! EU green directives have left grid 'close to limit'

- Royal Academy of Engineering warns of risk as old plants begin to close
- Electrical system could be under the most pressure next winter
- National Grid last week warned of Britain's risk of blackouts this winter

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## Power crisis risk 'worse than feared' this winter, SSE warns

Energy giant SSE warns Britain may see power shortages causing price spikes and factory outages



# UKERC



# 3. A shale gas ‘silly season’



Fracking has become a national debate in Britain – and it’s one that I’m determined to win. If we don’t back this technology, we will miss a massive opportunity to help families with their bills and make our country more competitive. Without it, we could lose ground in the tough global race

David Cameron, August 2013

**UKERC**



### 3. A shale gas 'silly season'



Thanks

<http://www.ukerc.ac.uk>

<https://twitter.com/watsonjim2>

