Policy Exchange

Going, Going, Gone

Political Backdrop

- Pressure over energy costs
- Levy Control Framework
- Electricity Market Reform government making lots of decisions
- Price setting RO and EMR
- Competition desired but when? And how?

Original EMR Plans

- 1. Administrative price setting for all
- 2. Auctions for mature technologies, prices still set for immature techs
- 3. Auctions for all technologies
- 4. Return to market

Original EMR Plans

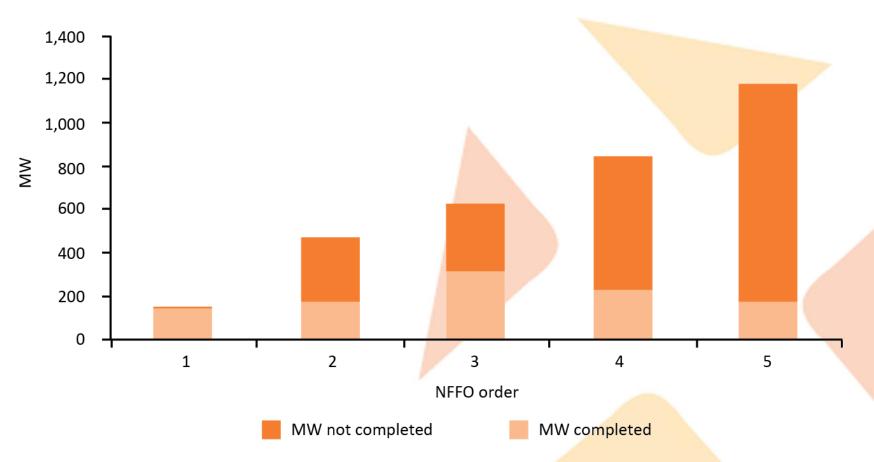
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Auction Choices

- Sealed bid vs clock (vs hybrids)
- Technology choices
 - Separate budgets
 - Defined quantities
- Deposits and non-performance penalties

NFFO Experience

Figure 2.2: Completion rate of NFFO renewable energy projects, by NFFO Round (MW)



NFFO Experience

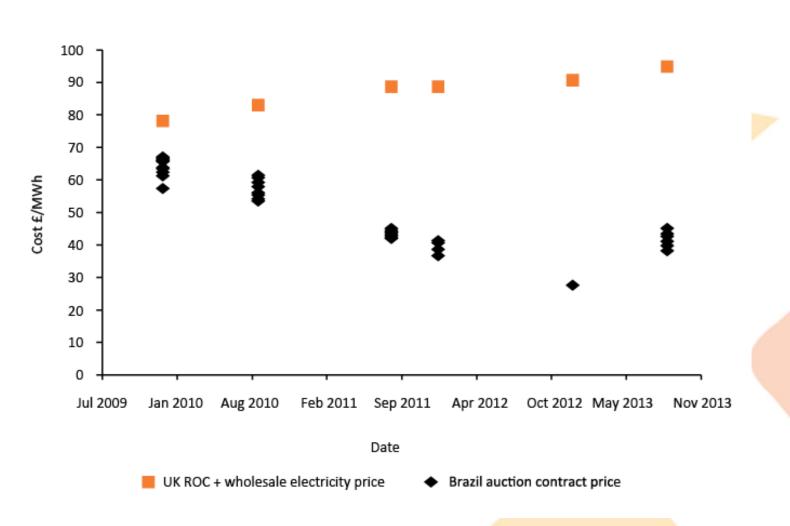
- No penalties for non-compliance
- Renewables mostly beside the point way to pay nuclear post-privatisation
- High failure rate 'winner's curse'?
- Damaged UK perception of auctions

Brazil experience

- Began auctions in 2007 after collapse of FIT (PROINFA)
 - High costs of PROINFA
 - Corruption problems black market in environmental permits
- Since auctions, onshore wind beating gas and hydro – world record low costs
- Lower costs relative to GB and over time

Brazil experience

Figure ES1.1: Prices for wind power in Brazil, UK



Brazil experience

- But other factors
 - Load factors
 - 'Dumping'
 - Grid charge exemptions
- Auctions can deliver

What does this tell us?

- Can get stuff built under auction system
 - Enables price discovery
- Possible to see costs reduced
- Need many bidders
- But need to guard against 'winner's curse' and non-delivery
 - Deposits and penalties
- Within EMR context, an improvement. But not perfect.

DECC choices

- Has brought forward auctions for mature techs
- Has gone for sealed bid system
 - Loses common value revelation
 - Worries about collusion risk

Where next in EMR?

- Even with auctions, gov't still making lots of decisions
 - Volumes of different technologies
 - Administratively set prices
- Need to bring more technologies into competition
- Need to move back toward open competition
 - but when? How?