

The impact of renewable energy auctions on renewable energy promotion taking the spatial dimension into account

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16th IAEE European 2019, Ljubljana, Slovenia, August 23-28, 2019



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- Background and research objectives
- Modeling approaches
- Regional renewable auction
- German RES Act (EEG) in HECTOR
- Results
- Conclusions



Wind onshore energy auction results 2017, 2018 and 2019 (Germany)

- Current renewable auction designs induce a high share of renewable power plants at efficient sites
- Inefficient allocation without consideration of transmission restrictions, causes an inefficient system configuration in the long term
- Well-designed auctions can counteract these inefficiencies and help to reach regional targets of the federal states [NEP]



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Research Objectives, Related Literature

Wind potential

Can the federal states reach their long-term wind targets?

Market design

- What impact do the current remuneration scheme and auction design have on the regional distribution of wind energy?
- How does regional auction compare to different auction design?
- What regulatory measures and incentives on a German and European level may be beneficial to reach the regional (state-level) targets?

Related literature overview

- Anatolitis, V., & Welisch, M. (2017). Putting renewable energy auctions into action–An agent-based model of onshore wind power auctions in Germany. *Energy Policy*, *110*, 394-402.
- Bichler, M., Grimm, V., Kretschmer, S., & Sutterer, P. (2019). Market Design for Renewable Energy Auctions: An Analysis of Alternative Auction Formats. Available at SSRN 3417550.
- Kreiss, J., Ehrhart, K. M., & Haufe, M. C. (2017). Appropriate design of auctions for renewable energy support–Prequalifications and penalties. *Energy Policy*, *101*, 512-520.
- Grimm, V., Rückel, B., Sölch, C., & Zöttl, G. (2019). Regionally differentiated network fees to affect incentives for generation investment. *Energy*, 177, 487-502.

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Modelling approaches - Overview



Geodata analysis (ENDAT model)



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German RES Act (EEG) in HECTOR



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Model logic of System Dynamics model HECTOR





Auction designs

National auction

- Benchmark of alternative auctions, reference yield model
- Four auctions per year (February, May, August, October)
- Yearly tendered capacity in auction: 2700 MW

Regional auction

- One regional auction per year, no reference yield model
- Considering regional target capacities (demand based on regional target)

| Auction design elements | Information |
|-------------------------|--|
| Pricing | PAB for all, uniform for energy citizen |
| Auction volume | 2700 MW per year |
| Remuneration scheme | Energy-related remuneration |
| Price cap | 7 €-ct/kWh in 2017, from 2018 onwards average of highest accepted bid in the last three rounds |
| Frequency | 3-4 times per year |
| Commitment period | 20 years |

Model setup

- Bidders are price takers
- 42 different technology groups based on wind speed classes
- Implementing learning process of bidders from global behavior of the system





Setting up the model: Market observation & Simulation results



Market Observation #1: Good sites still benefit from correction factor





Investment model shows: No incentives for investment in the south of Germany



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Remaining wind potential in each state – based on current regulation

Share of potential wind sites that remain



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Number of wind energy assets (WEA) that can be installed in each federal state

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Market Observation #2: Cumulative and awarded capacity (till 2017)

| Cumulative capacity | y till 2017 | Distribution of awarded capacity in 2018 | | Distribution of awarded capacity in 2018 | |
|------------------------|--------------|---|-------------|--|-------------|
| Historical data | | Available potential according to NEP | | Available potential according to MaxW | |
| | Installed | | Installed | | Installed |
| States | Capacity[MW] | States | Capacity[%] | States | Capacity[%] |
| Baden-Württemberg | 1529 | Baden-Württemberg | 7.7 | Baden-Württemberg | 13.7 |
| Bavaria | 2515 | Bavaria | 0 | Bavaria | 35.2 |
| Brandenburg | 7081 | Brandenburg | 5.4 | Brandenburg | 0 |
| Hesse | 2201 | Hesse | 2.8 | Hesse | 16.2 |
| Mecklenburg-Vorpommern | 3366 | Mecklenburg-Vorpommern | 16.6 | Mecklenburg-Vorpommern | 7.8 |
| Lower Saxony | 11,156 | Lower Saxony | 19 | Lower Saxony | 0 |
| North Rhine-Westphalia | 5773 | North Rhine-Westphalia | 4.9 | North Rhine-Westphalia | 11.5 |
| Rhineland-Palatinate | 3589 | Rhineland-Palatinate | 7.2 | Rhineland-Palatinate | 6.7 |
| Saarland | 476 | Saarland | 0 | Saarland | 3.5 |
| Saxony | 1227 | Saxony | 8.1 | Saxony | 4.9 |
| Saxony-Anhalt | 5139 | Saxony-Anhalt | 8.8 | Saxony-Anhalt | 0 |
| Schleswig-Holstein | 6964 | Schleswig-Holstein | 10.2 | Schleswig-Holstein | 0 |
| Thuringia | 1567 | Thuringia | 9.2 | Thuringia | 0 |
| Sum | 52,583 | Sum | 100 | Sum | 100 |

Sources: Federal Network Agency (2019b), Grimm et al. (2017)

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Market Observation #3: Scenario building based on observation of previous auctions



Observation: Approved wind farm sites per year - MW

Assumption 2: Distribution based on available area





Results: Number of approval varies highly (Geo data tool)



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Results: Diversity of bidders in NATIONAL auction





Main results:

2

Scenario

- Increasing permission number leads to less
 investment in southern states
- Some states (SA, BB) produce very low in all scenarios

scenarios

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Results: Diversity of bidders in REGIONAL auction





Main results:

2

Scenario

- Regional auction shows less possible tendered capacity for northern states
- At least 70% of allocated capacity in southern states belong to Bavaria

states belong to Bavaria

At reast 7070 or anocated capacity in southern

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Results: Diversity of bidders in southern states (2018)



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Average price in NATIONAL auction Average price in REGIONAL auction

- Higher permission number leads to lower price
- In scenario three, bidders bid near to their MC (the more competitive the market is, the more allocative efficiency is found)



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 Average price of southern states can reach higher level in scenario one and two (near to 7 €-ct/kwh)

 Increasing no. of permission in regions with higher wind potential (e.g. southern states) leads to lower prices

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Average price in regional auction

- Higher growth price development; increase of bidders' awarded prices
- There is no relation between the number of permissions and the price development
- Policy implication: Auctions in federal states need a region-specific design that considered available potential, wind classes, technological characteristic of wind mills





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Results: Overall saving in different auction designs

Market Premium (MP = MW – AW)

- Full load hours p.a. vary from 735 to 2732 among different regions (42 time series for regions at NUTS-2 level in Germany)
- Installed capacity based on the allocated capacity of the capacity auction module
- Average monthly market value is extracted from HECTOR
- Policy implication: Regional auction has lower societal mechanism except for scenario three

| [bn €] | Support Payment during 20 years | | |
|------------|---------------------------------|------------------|--|
| | National auction | Regional auction | |
| Scenario 1 | 1.5 | 0.47 | |
| Scenario 2 | 1.6 | 1.44 | |
| Scenario 3 | 1.2 | 1.82 | |

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Capacity allocated in south



Conclusions:

- Auction design can affect the promotion of onshore wind significantly; depending on the aim of auctioneer or bidders
- We recommend using different scenarios based on previous permitted capacity for analyzing capacity auctions
- Regional auction helps to promote wind power in the southern states of Germany
- Current reference yield model is not a sufficient tool for the promotion of wind onshore in Germany
- Regional target of wind onshore in Germany cannot be reached with current auction design

Next steps:

- Simulating bidders' behavior to disruptive changes (e.g. nuclear or coal phaseout of Germany) in the market
- Inclusion of transmission congestion between the federal states
- Using a more efficient reference yield model





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