









Presentation to CEEP / CAS Beijing, April 2007

Electricity industry restructuring in Australia

outcomes to date and future challenges

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CEEM established ...

- to formalise growing shared research interests + interactions between UNSW researchers
 - Faculties of Engineering, Business (Economics and Management),
 Arts and Social Sciences, Science, Institute for Env. Studies...
- through UNSW Centre aiming to provide Australian research leadership in interdisciplinary analysis + design of energy and environmental markets
- focussing in the areas of
 - Energy markets spot, ancillary and derivatives within restructured electricity industries
 - Related environmental markets emissions trading, renewable obligations, Greenpower...
 - Wider policy frameworks and instruments for achieving overall energy and environmental objectives





Some current CEEM research efforts

- Facilitating wind integration in the NEM
 - 2 strands: forecasting and control of wind energy, and market design to facilitate wind energy
- Renewable energy policy support options in restructured industries
 - MRET, Victorian RET, proposed NSW RET
- Modelling participant behaviour in elec. markets
 - Interactions between spot and derivative markets
- Emissions Trading Schemes + options for Australia
 - Experimental economics studies on market design
- Technology assessment for sustainable energy policy frameworks
 - Energy efficiency, gas and cogeneration, renewables, CCS, nuclear options
- Economic modelling of Distributed Energy
- Energy efficiency policy regulation, financial mechanisms
- Policy frameworks for technology innovation
 - Emerging renewables, Carbon Capture + Storage (CCS)

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Presentation outline

- Energy restructuring in Australia
- Design of NEM + its governance
- NEM performance
- Emerging challenges
 - Growing peak demand
 - Climate change
 - Facilitating intermittent renewable generation

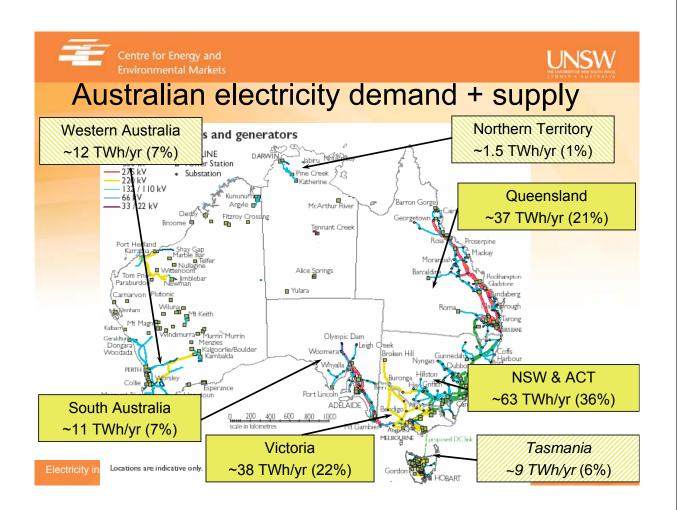




Traditional Australian El model

- As seen in many parts of the world:
 - Statutory authorities supervised by a Minister or State Owned Corporations (SOCs):
 - Mainly vertically integrated monopolies
 - Separate State Networks and jurisdictions
 - Decision making political, "behind closed doors":
 - Few formal procedures for decision making
 - Politicians negotiate tradeoffs

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Australia's coal dependence for elec. gen

Table 1: Percentage of electricity generated from coal in selected countries

Country	Year	Percent of electricity from coal	Trend since 1990	(WWF, Coal-fired electricity and its impact on global
Poland	2000	96	Steady at saturation	warming, 2003)
South Africa	2000	about 92	rising slightly towards sa	aturation
Australia	2000	78	Steady	
PR China	1999	75	small increase over the	decade
India	1999	75	small increase	
Czech Republic	2000	73	Steady	
Germany	2000	53	fallen slightly	8
USA	2000	52	Steady	
Denmark	2000	47	big decline as gas and v	wind increase
Korea	2000	42	big increase	
UK	2001	37	big decline since 1986	
Japan	2000	22	big increase	
Thailand	1999	18	small decrease	
Vietnam	1999	12	big decrease	7
2				





Evolution of El restructuring in Australia

- Development of COAG process in late 80's
 - Formal interface between Federal & State governments
- National Competition Policy, 1993 Hilmer Report.
 - Facilitate competition where effective & pro-competitive regulation where not; Treat public & private firms equally; uniform market rules of conduct where possible; access regimes for essential facilities
 - Highlighted potential value of energy industry 'reform'
- Competition Reform Act, 1995
 - Amended TPA + new Competition & Consumer Commission (ACCC):
- Now well over a decade of energy industry restructuring
 - National Electricity Market (NEM) incorporating NSW, QLD, VIC, ACT, SA (+ now TAS) established in 2000
 - More limited changes in Gas industry
 - A mix of national + jurisdictional (State + Territory) roles

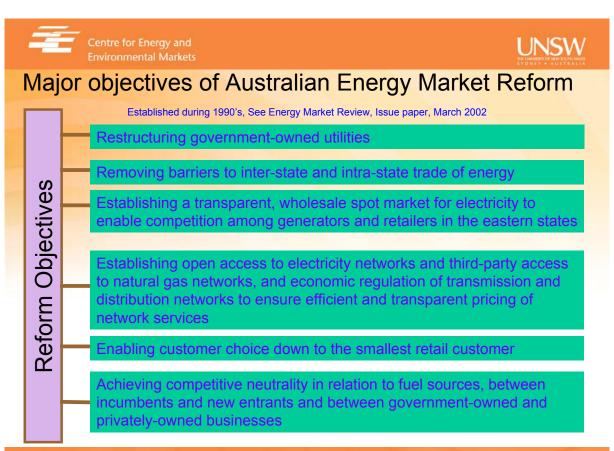




Australia's energy policy objectives

- COAG's agreed energy policy objectives (2001)
 - Encouraging efficient provision of reliable, competitivelypriced energy services to Australians, underpinning wealth and job creation and improved quality of life, taking into account the needs of regional, rural and remote areas:
 - Encouraging responsible development of Australia's energy resources, technology and expertise, their efficient use by industries and households and their exploitation in export markets; and
 - Mitigating local and global environmental impacts, notably greenhouse impacts, of energy production, transformation, supply and use.

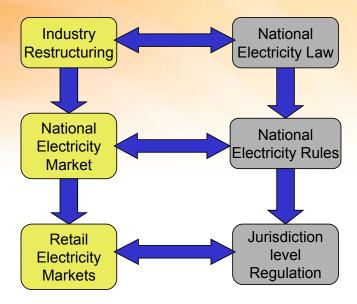
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Australian electricity restructuring process



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11





Governance

- Broad policy Ministerial Council on Energy
- Regulatory roles

ACCC (Federal TPA)	AER (Federal TPA)	AEMC (SA law)
Anti-competitive conduct	Transmission econ. regulation	NEM rule making & development
Mergers & acquisitions	Distribution econ. regulation (1/1/07)	 Gas market rule making & devel.
Consumer protection	Licence regime?	Complying with MCE directives

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National Electricity Law: Overall objective for the National Electricity Market (NEM)

- NEL Section 7:
 - The national electricity market objective is to promote efficient investment in, and efficient use of, electricity services for the long term interests of consumers of electricity with respect to price, quality, reliability and security of supply of electricity and the reliability, safety and security of the national electricity system
- A difficulty with this objective:
 - Ambiguity of the wording with respect to interpretation of terms & trade-offs between sub-objectives

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13



The NEM

- Queensland
- New South Wales & ACT
- Victoria
- South Australia
- Tasmania (Basslink in 2006)

Commenced operation in 1999







Features of National Electricity Rules (NER)

- NEM covers all participating states:
 - A multi-region pool with intra-regional loss factors
 - Ancillary services, spot market & projections
 - Auctions of inter-regional settlement residues
 - Operated by NEMMCO (owned by states)
- Compulsory participants in NEM:
 - All dispatchable generators & links > 30 MW
 - Network service providers & retailers
- Contestable consumers may buy from NEM

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15





Managing uncertainty in the NEM

Time scale	Issues	Mechanisms	
< 5/30 minutes	Uncertain energy flowContingencies	Ancillary services (frequency & voltage)	
30 minutes to several days	 Uncertain energy flow Inter-temporal links, eg. unit commitment 	Ex-ante spot marketShort-term derivativesSecurity constraints	
Weeks to years: operation	 Inter-temporal links, eg. fuel, maintenance 	Long-term derivativesSecurity management	
Years to decades: investment	Resource mixExternalitiesPolicy uncertainty	Long-term derivativesSecurity managementPolicy settings	







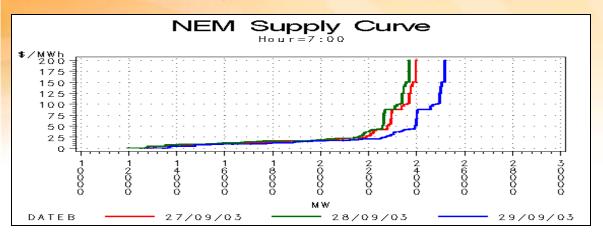
Spot market offers & bids

- Generators, retailers & direct end-users:
 - Price-quantity curve (sell or buy) for each half hour:
 - ≤ 10 daily prices, quantities changeable until dispatch
 - 5-minute demand forecast is bid at \$10,000/MW (VoLL)
- Dispatchable links between regions:
 - Flow offer curve based on price difference
- Bids & offers ranked to give dispatch stack:
 - Considering loss factors & inter-tie constraints
 - Operating levels are set for all dispatchable resources
 - 5 minute price(s) set by marginal dispatchable resource:
 - Half-hourly averages are calculated in 'real time'

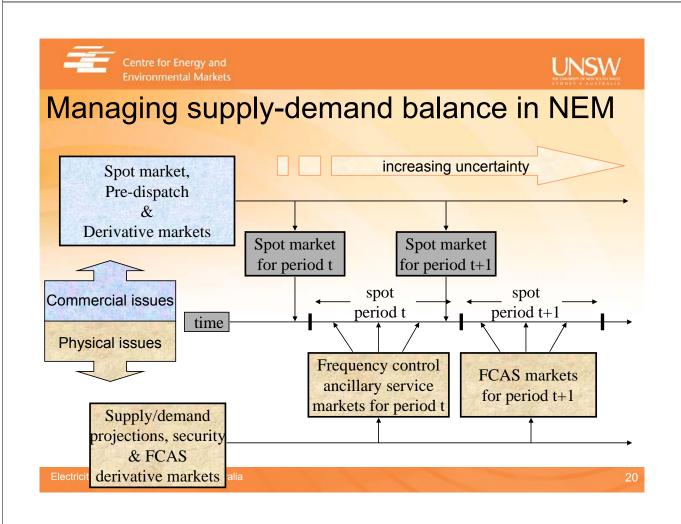


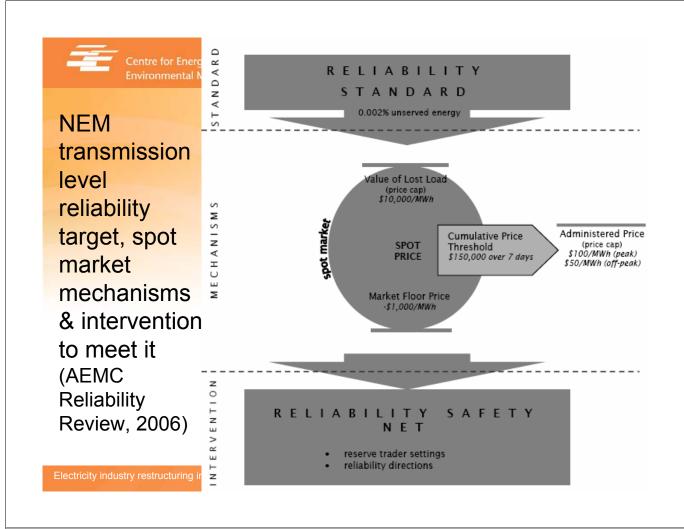


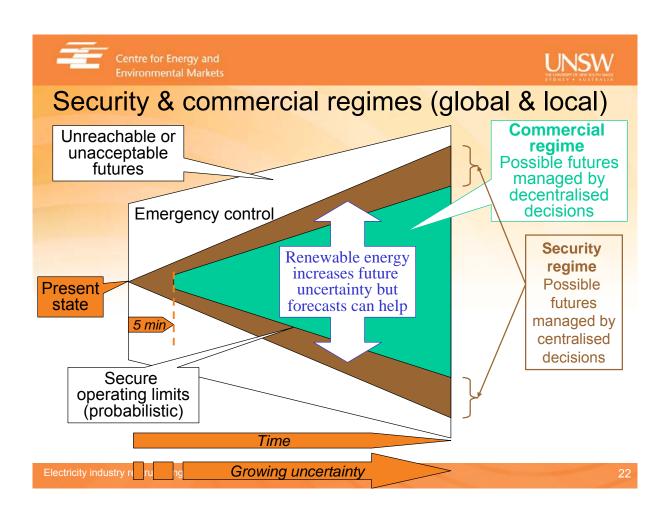
NEM Supply curve at 7am on 27, 28 & 29 September 2003 (Saturday-Monday) (T Baker, Delta)



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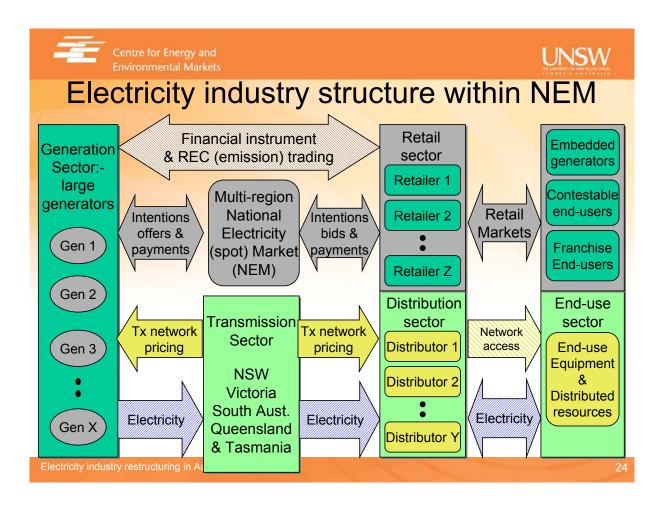


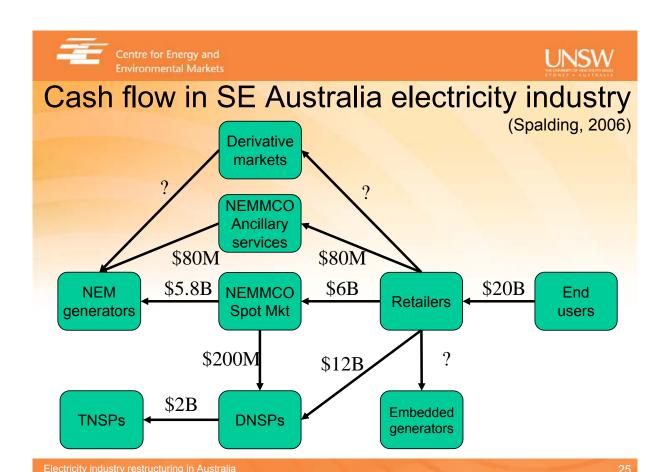


Key derivative markets

- Forward contracts (futures) (~\$6 billion pa)
 - Expected spot price for a defined load shape & period (eg constant MW for one year)
 - Either OTC or exchange traded
- Call options
- Renewable energy certificates
 - Available to qualifying generators
 - Increasing to 9,500 GWH pa at 2010 then constant to 2020 (~\$200 million pa)

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Current ownership status of the Australian electricity supply industry

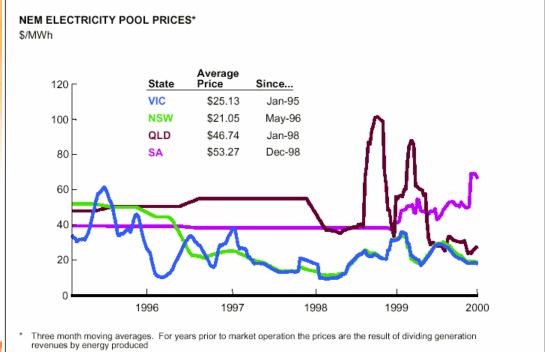
Public ownership	Private ownership	
Most in NSW, Tasmania, WA & NT	Victoria: all privately ownedSouth Australia: all leasedQueensland: private retailers	

- There are privately owned retailers in most states:
 - •Qld recently sold Energex retail & part Ergon retail
- There are concerns about existing or potential concentration of ownership in most states:
 - Snowy sale was cancelled
- Tallawarra NSW 400MW CCGT will be privately owned
- End-use is largely privately owned.

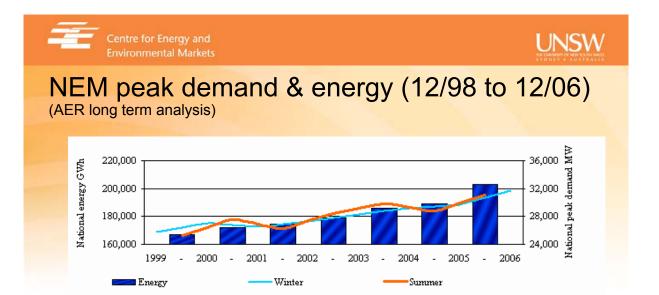




Price history for NEM & its precursors (BCA, 2000)



Source: Bardak (extracted from NEMMCO data and Annual Reports).

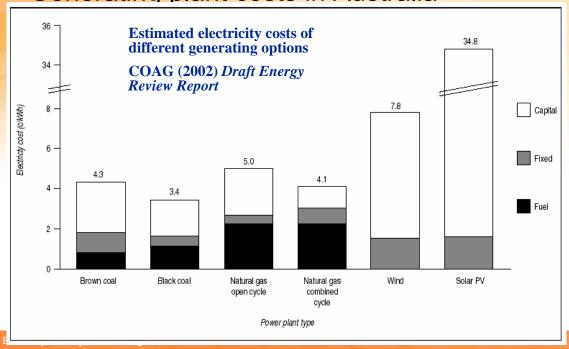


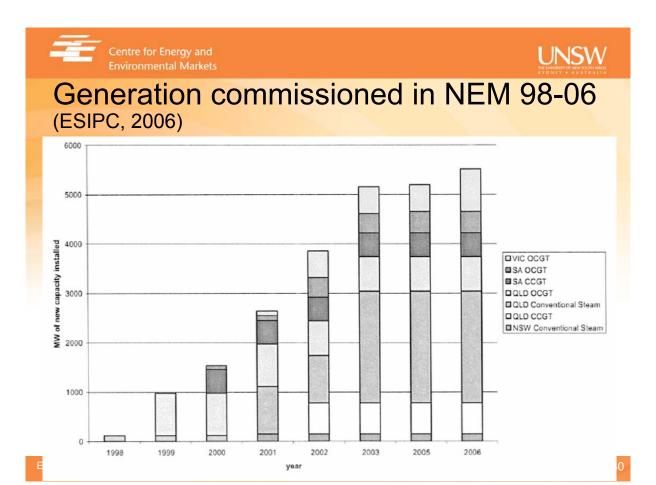
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Generating plant costs in Australia

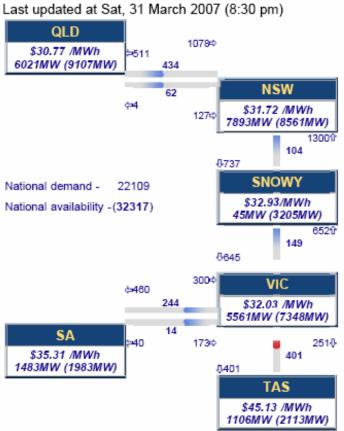




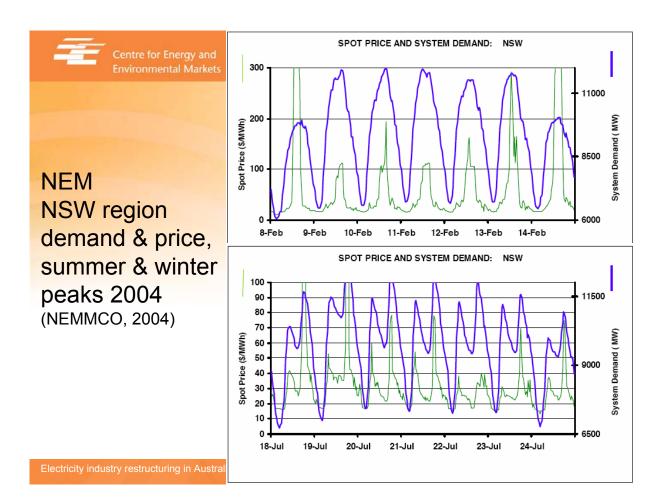


NEM spot market snapshot

(AER, 31/3/07)



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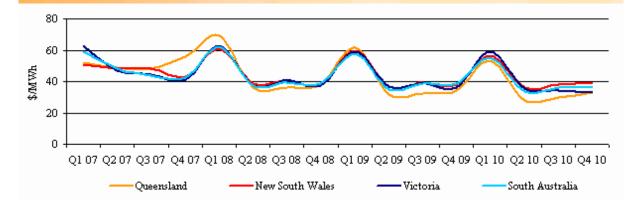






Quarterly base load contracts, Q1, 2007

(AER long term analysis)



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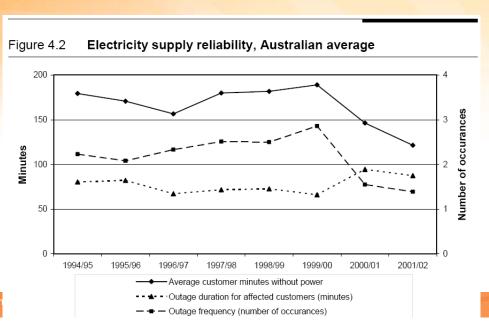
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Electricity supply reliability outcomes (PC, 2005)

Some general improvement



Electricity in

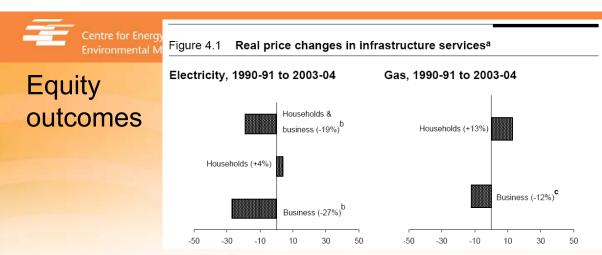




Some outcomes of restructuring to date

- Improved economic efficiency
 - But still questions regarding future outcomes given capital intensive nature of industry, starting point for restructuring
 - Most modeling exercises estimating industry + wider economic benefits of only limited value
 - Largely supply-side focussed efficiency improvements
- Security + reliability reasonably well managed
 - But ongoing challenges for commercial arrangements + attempting to manage low-risk/high-consequence events
 - and diversity between + within jurisdictions
- Equity + environmental outcomes?

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- At least part of this divergence intentional reduction of cross subsidies
- For vulnerable consumers, "Limited amount of evidence suggesting that:
 - price rises for households in regional areas may have been somewhat higher than for their counterparts in metropolitan areas; and
 - increases in household prices .. have generally been greater for households with low demand and often lower incomes" (PC, 2005)
- Different jurisdictions have had markedly different outcomes
 - Different policy + regulatory positions; CSO arrangements, other support mechanisms





Climate change outcomes

- Stationary energy sector responsible for half of Australian greenhouse emission
- CoAG national energy policy objectives include need for action on climate change but El restructuring has no specific env. objectives
- However, original expectation by some that would help "14 MtCO2 reduction from BAU in 2010":

(Commonwealth Govt, Climate Change: 2nd Communication to IPCC, 1997)

- Efficient competition in supply by gas + renewables
- More sensible patterns of energy use
- Instead, likely outcome is increased emissions wrt BAU (CoAG, 2002)
 - Low cost of coal fired generation, immature gas market
 - Reduced emphasis on EE from lower prices
 - Current failure to price greenhouse emissions
 - Market design and regulation that favours incumbents Supply-side orientation of reforms to date

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37





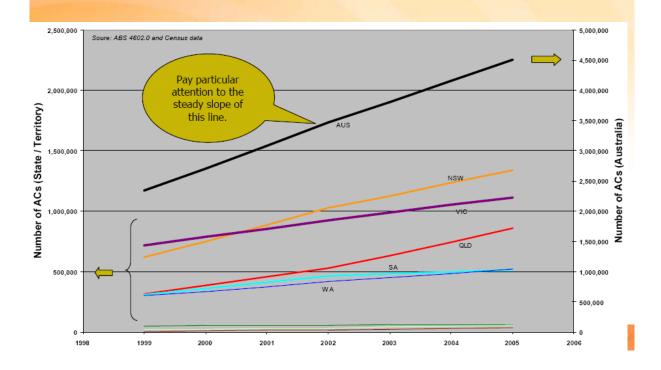
Growing pressures on restructuring

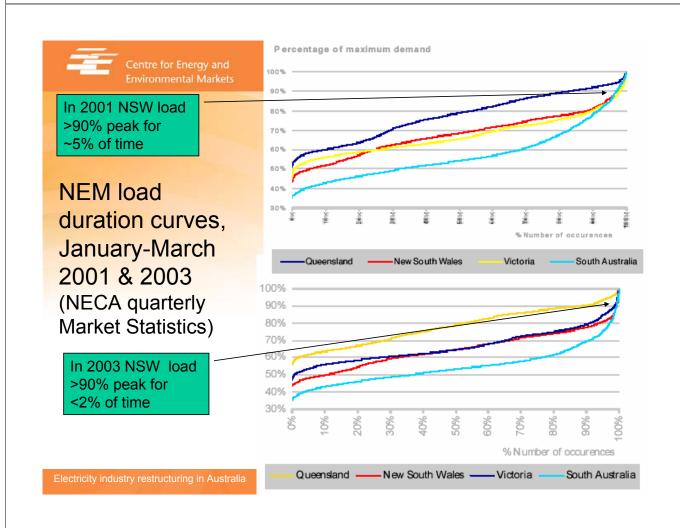
- Continuing growth in peak demand
 - Energy an essential good but also growing discretionary + 'conspicuous consumption' energy services; eg. Air Conditioning, industry development
 - Estimated to require \$24b investment in Tx + Dx infrastructure over next 5 years; this is regulated expenditure
 - This growth will also require major investment in new peaking plant
 - Current market arrangements smear these costs, potentially perverse outcomes
- Growing climate change concerns
 - Protecting the climate seems likely to require major (60-80% by 2050), rapid (peaking within decades) global emissions reductions
 - Australian per-capita emissions 2 X > developed world average, 5-10 X > developing world
 - Emission reductions will impose direct costs on El
- Facilitating integration of intermittent renewables
- => Underlying cost structure of industry likely to grow





Air conditioning trends (Washusen, 2005)



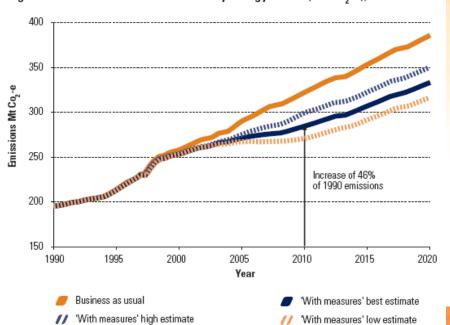






Stationary energy GHG emission projections see continuing growth (Australian 4th Comm. to UNFCCC, 2006)

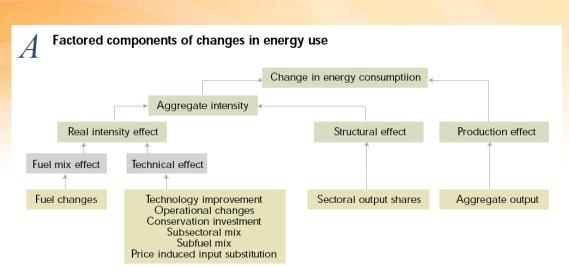
Figure 5.1 Emissions from the Stationary Energy sector (Mt CO₂-e), 1990 to 2020



Electricity

Centre for Energy and Environmental Markets

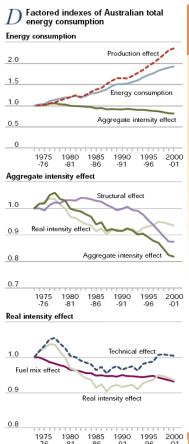
Measuring energy intensity in Australia





Energy outcomes

- Moderate structural impacts
- Mainly adverse fuel mix impacts over last 20 years
- Technical effect (incl. efficiency)
 has been worsening over
 last 20 years

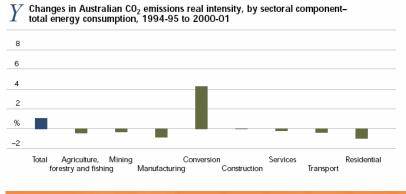


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13

Centre for Energy and Environmental Markets CO2 impacts

 Emissions intensity of electricity sector has worsened



2.0 Production effect

2.0 Production effect

1.5 CO₂ emissions

1.0 Aggregate intensity effect

0 1975 1980 1985 1990 1995 2000

Aggregate intensity effect

Structural effect

1.0 Sructural effect

0.9 Real intensity effect

0.7 Aggregate intensity effect

1.0 Fuel mix effect

1.0 Fuel mix effect

1.0 Fuel mix effect

0.9 Real intensity effect

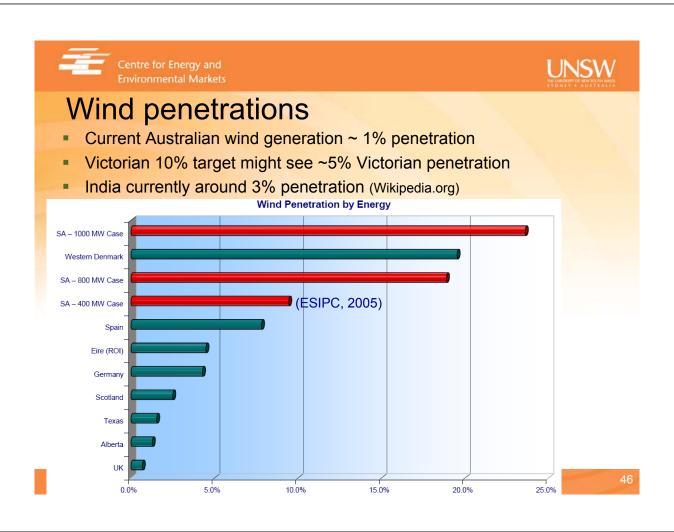
1.0 Fuel mix effect

0.9 Real intensity effect

Factored indexes of Australian CO₂ emissions—total energy consumption

Locations are indicative only.

Wind 140MW

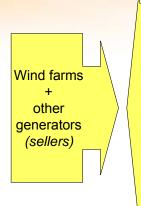






Commercial context for wind integration in NEM

- Wind classified in NEL as Intermittent generation
 - "A generating unit whose output is not readily predictable, including, without limitation, solar generators, wave turbine generators, wind turbine generators and hydro generators without any material storage capability"
- Currently classified as non-scheduled, can be market or non-market
- Additional 'environmental' market support via MRET, soon VRET, NRET?

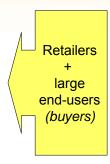


National Electricity Market Commercial activities:

- Spot market
- Derivative markets
- Ancillary services markets
- Network charges
- REC market

Subject to constraints:

- Connection requirements
- · Security requirements
- · Regulatory requirements



47

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Current MCE reform agenda

- Governance and Institutions.
- Economic Regulation
 - Establish national Dx and retail framework
- Retail Pricing
 - Phase out energy retail price regulation where effective competition can be demonstrated
- End-user Participation
 - Implement new consumer advocacy arrangements.
 - Consider demand side response options
- Energy Efficiency
 - Implementation of the NFEE (Stage 1)
 - Response to PC Inquiry, Consideration of the NFEE (Stage 2)
- Renewable and Distributed Generation
 - Issues paper on options available in NEM to max. benefits of DG
 - Development of code of practice for embedded DG
 - Development of policies to facilitate increased penetration of wind

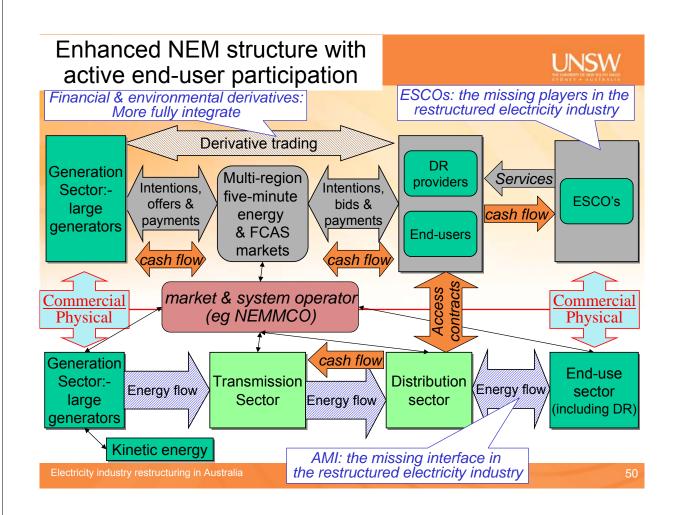




Conclusions

- Electricity industry restructuring in Australia:
 - World-leading model but implementation incomplete
- Exhibits strong path-dependence:
 - Objectives, physics, structure & ownership, supplyside bias, "business as usual" projections
- Lacks clear consensus on future directions:
 - We are not sure where we are going but we know we are not there yet...
- Key unresolved issues:
 - Sustainability; coherent decision-making framework; network role; end-user participation

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Thank you... and questions

CEEM gratefully acknowledges the support of the Australian Greenhouse Office in funding this research as part of the Australian Government's Wind Energy Forecasting Capability initiative

Many of our publications are available at:

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