

Occam Lecture

From High Carbon Baby to Low Carbon Boardroom

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Michaelmas 2016



"Saving our planet, lifting people out of poverty, advancing economic growth... these are one and the same fight.

We must connect the dots between climate change, water scarcity, energy shortages, global health, food security and women's empowerment. Solutions to one problem must be solutions for all"



Ban Ki-moon. UN Secretary General





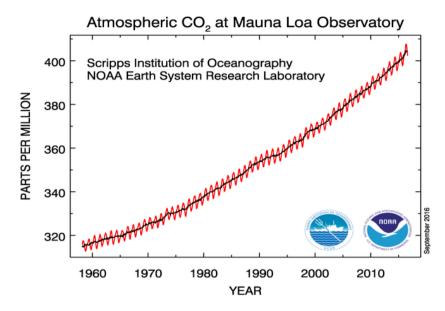
Studied Physics at Merton (1986) with Atmospheric Physics as speciality

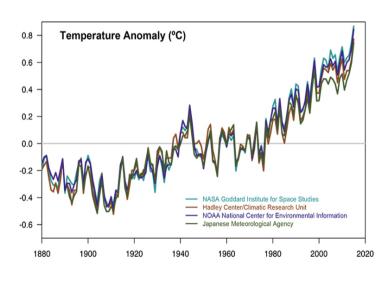






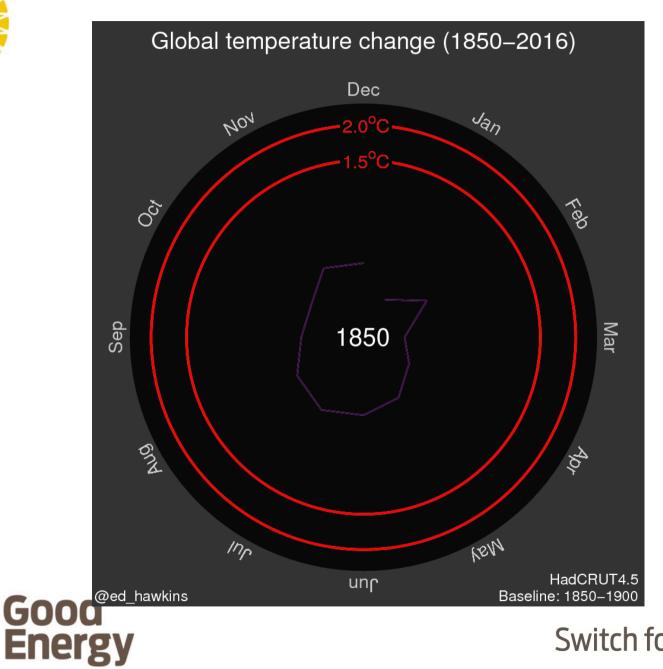
Facts and Changing Attitudes

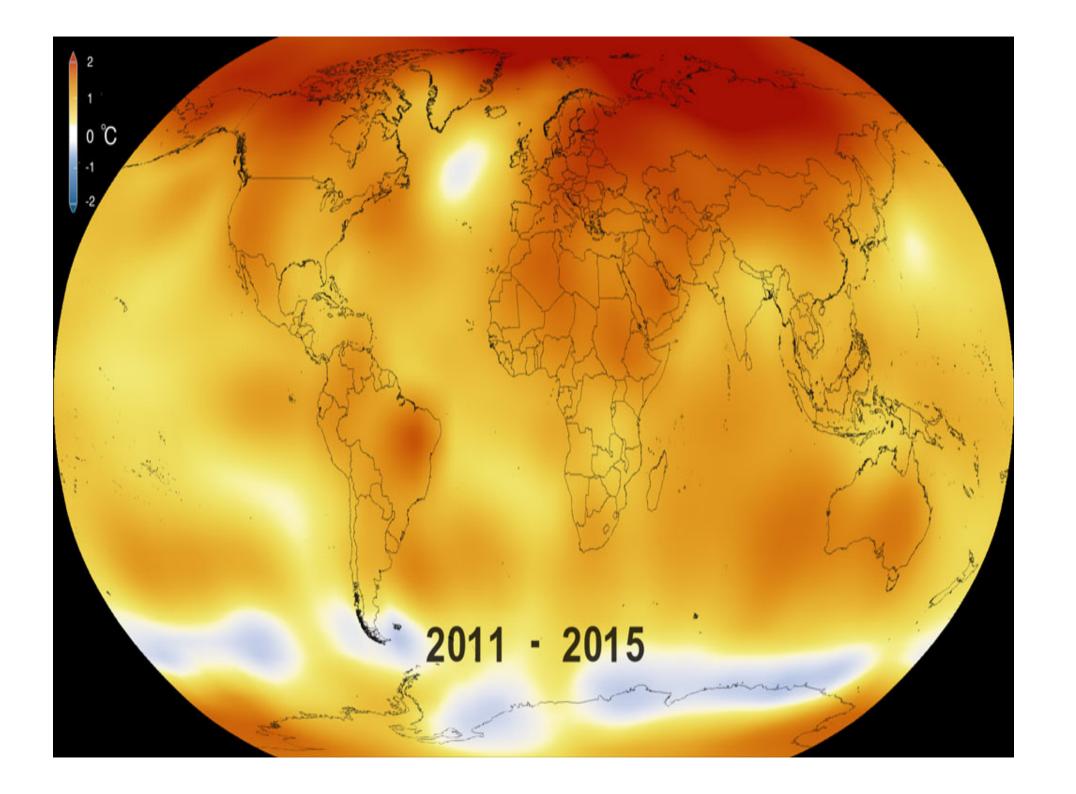




















And the thread continues on....

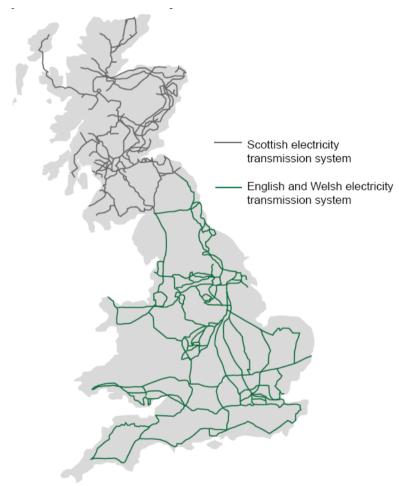
- Economics Masters at Birkbeck College, London
- Internship in European Commission and the European Parliament on carbon taxation







Grid Infrastructure Bias



- ❖ Built in mid 20th Century with few improvements since
- Interconnectors a useful flexibility option that requires transmission
- National Grid maintain
 50Hz frequency across the grid







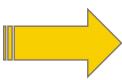




Who is Good Energy?

Using 100% renewable electricity from British sunshine, wind and rain.







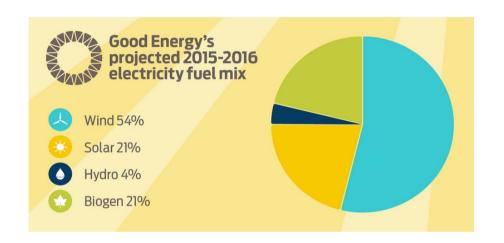


What is our Purpose?





What do we do?











Good Energy's Story

- I wanted to work with people its all about the customers
- Created the "blueprint" for a low carbon economy
- We were radical and very entrepreneurial
- No-one in the city believed that a concept like Good Energy would work
- So we turned it on its head and asked our customers if they would invest







How do we influence

- Natural Environment Research Council (NERC)
 - Award judging panel
- Energy UK Board
 - Small supplier voice
- Ofgem steering groups
 - Influence energy policy
- Founding supporter of POWERful Women
 - Influence business and inspire others











NERC Research



- ❖ First Impact Awards 2015 recognised and rewarded the contribution of NERC science in four research areas fundamental to policy or business:
 - Economic Impact: Water and gas monitoring instruments and job creation

- Societal Impact: Butterfly conservation in a changing climate
- Early-Career Impact: extreme weather warnings
- International Impact: Ozone layer protection and





Climate Change: Science and Policy

Climate Science and Technology

- Accepted among the scientific community: IPCC Working Group 1
- Sensitivities difficult to determine accurately (eg CO₂)
- Innovation and research always improving (eg Solar PV)

Political Challenges and Messaging

- Short-termism and underlying principles
- Paris Agreement and compromises Finance flows
- Global problem with distributed local impacts
- Difficult to translate global risk into local reality into personal action









Energy Evolution





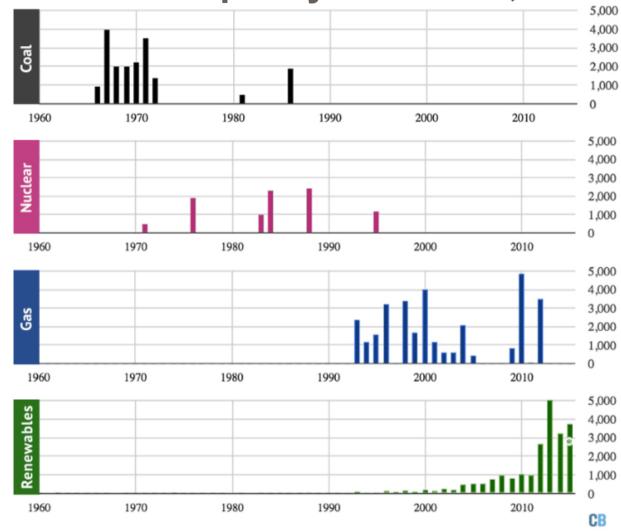








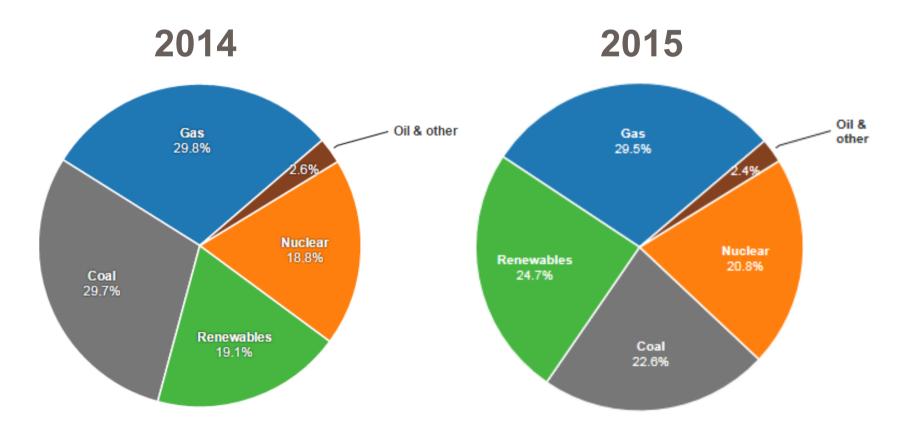
UK Annual Capacity Additions, 1960-2015







UK Generation mix



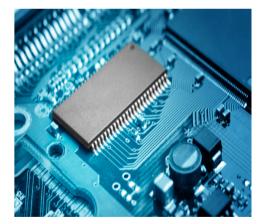




Energy Revolution: Digitisation and Decentralisation

Software









Semiconductors

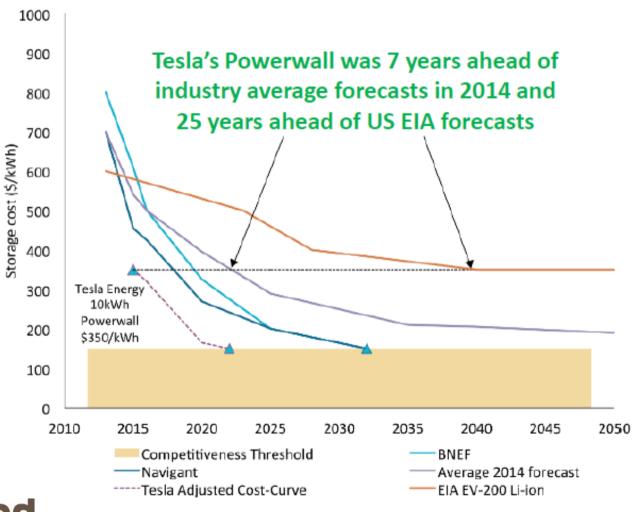
Solar





Battery Cost Projections

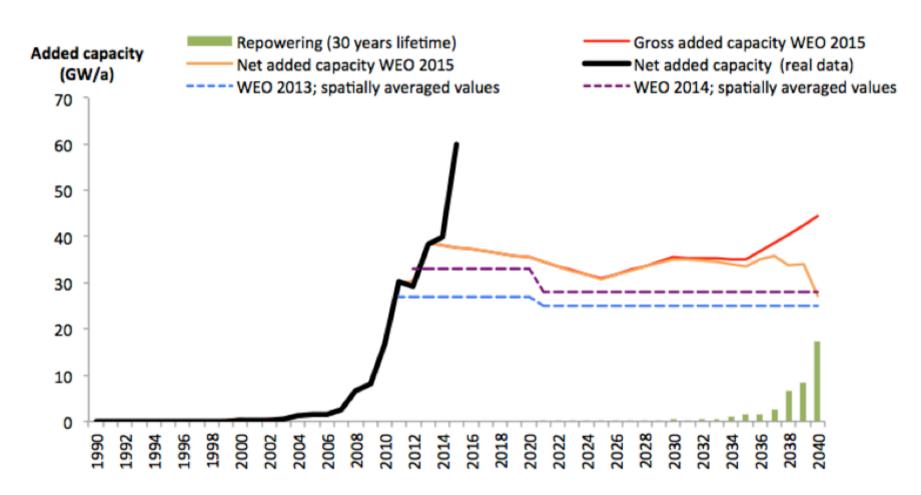
Battery costs are coming down faster than expected







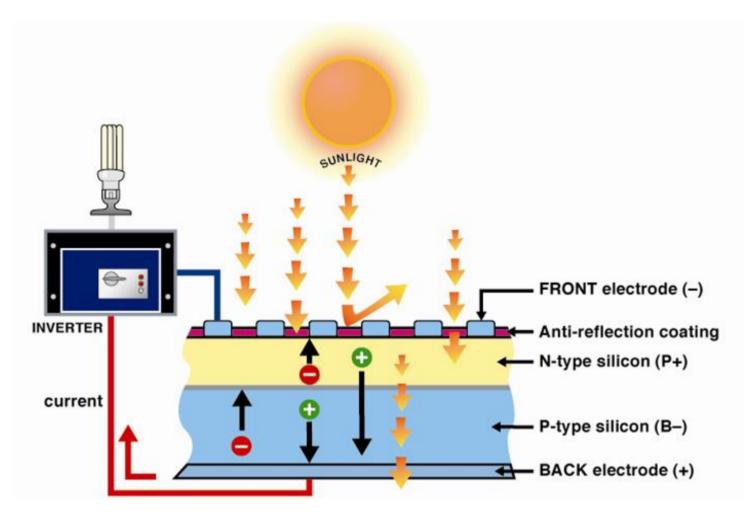
Solar Deployment Projections







Solar Photovoltaics - Concept



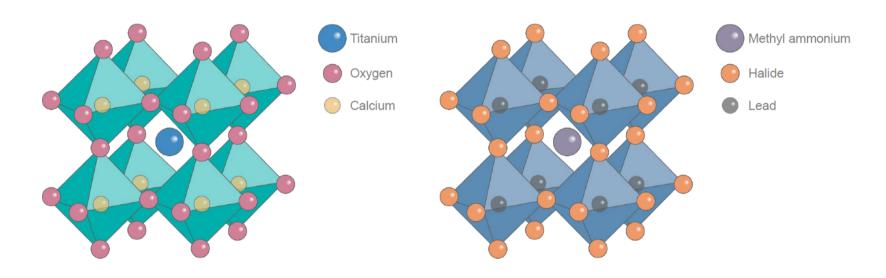




Solar Photovoltaics - Perovskite

The mineral perovskite

Typical perovskite solar absorber

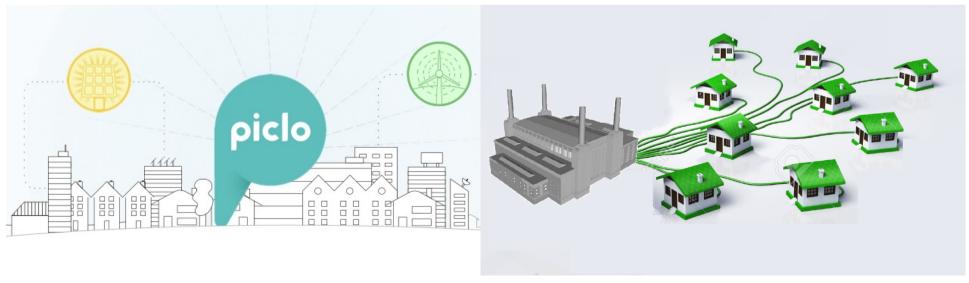


- Theoretical Limits on Si efficiency reached c.25%
- Oxford PV: Perovskite structure tuneable energy gap and low cost
- Double-layered increases theoretical efficiency to >30%



Low carbon world looks pretty different







Selectricity – a vision of future power generation







Thank you for listening.

Questions?