Analysis of Wind Industry Success: Denmark and United States

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Hypothesis

We plan to identify and analyze the driving factors that have contributed to Denmark's success in the wind energy industry in comparison to the United States. We will measure the success by comparing the GWh of electricity produced by wind per capita and per square kilometer in these countries and analyzing the trends of increased wind power production with evolving energy policies.

Outline

Denmark

- Technology History
- Policy History
- Active MW Added Wind Capacity

United States

- History
- State Case Studies
 - California, Texas, Iowa
- Calculations
 - Measures of Success
 - Comparisons via Graphs

Conclusions

Denmark

Denmark: Technological History

- "Bottom-up" strategy for development
- Manufacturing



- Dependent on imported oil
- Oil crisis \rightarrow Switch sources \rightarrow Proactive Energy Policy
- Energy tax on electricity prices \rightarrow R&D for renewables
 - Nuclear? Parliament excluded it in 1985, 1 year before Chernobyl
 - \circ Wind? Yes.
- Goal: reduce dependence on oil and focus on energy savings
- Converted power plants oil \rightarrow coal

- Danish families offered tax incentives for generating power

 → Local wind cooperatives formed
- Taxes on coal and oil + subsidy on construction and operation of wind turbines and biomass plants
 - Increased competitiveness of renewables
- Government set ambitious targets to install wind power

- 1990: "Energi 2000"
 - One of the first energy plans in the world without nuclear
- High public involvement
- 1993: Feed-in Tariff (FIT) implemented
- Offshore wind grew
- Danish Energy Agency created
- Legislation to liberalize Denmark's electricity market

- 2001: New governing party came to power
 - Favored low taxes and less government interference
- 2001-2004: Phased out FIT
- 2004-2008: Stagnation in wind market
 - Only 25 MW added
- 2009: New Prime Minister + Promotion of Renewable Energy Act
- 2011: Energy Strategy of 2050
 - 100% independence from fossil fuels in national energy mix
- 2012: Danish Energy Agreement
 - Framework up to 2020 + direction through 2050



Source: Danish Energy Agency

United States

United States Policy History

- 1970's oil crisis lead to Carter signing the 1978 National Energy Act and 1980 Energy Security Act
- 1992 Production Tax credit enacted providing a 1.5 cent/kWh subsidy for wind power generation
- 1999 Wind Powering America Initiative announced
 - Goal: increase wind power over the next 10 years
- 2000's State level Renewable Portfolio Standards adopted in several states
- 2008: Obama administration releases "20% wind by 2030"
- 2015 Wind Vision update to 2008 wind plan, including more offshore

State Case Studies

- California
- Texas
- Iowa

States Leading Wind Power Development (2013)



Cumulative Capacity (MW)	
Texas	12,354
California	5,829
Iowa	5,177
Illinois	3,568
Oregon	3,153
G Oklahoma	3,134
Minnesota	2,987
Kansas	2,967
Washington	2,808
() Colorado	2,332

Annual Capacity (MW)	
 California 	269
8 Kansas	254
Michigan	175
Texas	141
S New York	84
Nebraska	75
🕤 lowa	45
Colorado	32
Ohio	3
Massachusetts	3

California

1978

- State and Federal tax incentives
- PURPA

1980

- Unsuccessful turbines
- "Top- down" strategy

Mid 1980s

- 79% wind power supplied worldwide1986
 - Reduction in government subsidies



Sources: NREL, Matthias Heymann Image: The Telegraph

Texas

- Most installed wind capacity of any state
 - 9% of electricity for state
- Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS)
 - 0 1999, 2005
 - Competitive Renewable Energy Zones (CREZ)
- REC trading program
 - Established by Public Utility Commission of Texas in 2000
 - ERCOT Electric Reliability Council of Texas



Source: U.S. Energy Information Agency

Added MW of Wind Power



Source: US Department of Energy ₁₆

Iowa

- Coal #1 (~60%) and wind #2 (>25%)
- *1983*: law passed requiring major utilities to own or contract a specific amount of renewable energy
- *1992:* Federal Renewable Electricity PTC
- *2005:* Wind Energy PTC and Renewable Energy Tax Credit
- *2014*: >28% electricity generated with wind (first state)



Source: Iowa Dept. of Revenue Image: NREL data, Laughlin via ESRI ArcMap

Calculations

Comparisons for "Success" in Wind Industry

- 1. GWh of Wind Production per capita
- 2. GWh of Wind Production per area (km²)

GWh Wind Production/Capita



Years

GWh Wind Production/Area(km²)



GWh/km²

Years

Conclusions

The Fall Back of the Production/Investment Tax Credit

- The "on-again, off-again" nature of the incentive makes it very difficult for the industry to get established in the U.S.
- This short-term policy discourages risk-aversive investors



Sources: The White House, U.S. Department of Energy, Fredric C. Menz, Stephan Vanchon

Renewable Portfolio Standards-RPS

- Renewable electricity credit
 - trade system for renewable energy sources
 - one REC for every MWh of electricity placed on the grid from renewable sources
- States with RPS in place have seen an increase in renewable electricity production
- States without RPS have also seen an increase in electricity produced from renewable sources
- No national RPS strategy



Source: U.S Energy Information Agency

Benefits of FIT

- What is a feed-in tariff?
 - Long-term agreement aimed to accelerate deployment of renewable energy technology in the electricity sector
- Long-term vision creates stability
- Guaranteed rate per unit of electricity
- Based on production of private companies
- Guarantees priority access to the electrical grid
- Investment security is higher
- Wind-project growth more consistent

Conclusion

Denmark has obtained its status as a leader in wind power production as a result of effective wind technology development and implementation of long-term wind policies through feed-in tariffs.

Though the United States was once a world leader in wind power production, it has since fallen behind Denmark as a result of ineffective technological development and short-term wind policies.