The Danish Experience and View on Energy System Development

Energy Policy in Europe: objectives, achievements, and challenges

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Outline

1. How to become a frontrunner: Denmark’s energy achievements
2. Where Danes are now: Current situation
3. The great ambition of a small nation: Goals and challenges ahead
4. Step by step: Energy initiatives in Denmark
5. Concluding remarks

Area: 42,924 square kilometers

Population: 5.7 million
How to become a frontrunner

1. A highly diversified and distributed energy system, based upon three major national grids:

   Combined utilization of these grids \(\Rightarrow\) highly efficient supply system with a high share of combined heat and power

Operated by Energinet.dk
How to become a frontrunner

1980

From a few big power plants (mostly based on coal) to many small combined heat and power plants

Today

Denmark has enough excess heat to cover the entire need for heating
How to become a frontrunner

2. Increasingly important role of renewable energy technologies in the Danish energy system:

In 2008 wind power covered the entire demand of electricity in 200 hours (West DK)

Denmark is one of the global frontrunners in the development of offshore wind farms!
How to become a frontrunner

3. Successful decoupling of energy consumption and economic growth:

Gross energy consumption has been kept almost constant for more than 20 years

Source: Danish Energy Authority
How to become a frontrunner

3. Successful decoupling of energy consumption and economic growth:

In contrast, GDP has increased by more than 80% in the same time period!

Source: Danish Energy Authority
4. Most importantly: Since the 90’s the issue of climate change has been the most important driver of Danish energy policy

First simple rule in life:
If you don't go after what you want,
you'll never have it.
Current Situation

In 2015 more than 42% of electricity load was covered by wind power.

For several days the wind power production was more than 100% of the power load.

July 10th, 2015 more than 140% of the power load was covered by wind power.

2013: production from Danish oil and natural gas fields in the North Sea fell below gross energy consumption for the first time in many years.

Degree of self-sufficiency in oil is rapidly decreasing.

DK’s energy situation is better off than most EU countries.
Goals and Challenges Ahead

1. **Increased vulnerability** of the Danish energy supply: diminishing degree of self-sufficiency in oil and natural gas
   - Replace fossil fuels in the transport sector (major oil user) by RES

2. **Pernicious effect**: The high efficiency of the Danish energy system relies on CHP production + extensive district heating
   - The increasing penetration of wind power is gradually pushing CHP-plants out of the power market (low running hours, reduced profitability)
   - Electrification of the heating system → Installation of large heat pumps

3. Highly reliance on **variable and uncertain power supply**
   - Aiming for a wind-dominated energy system will call for innovative and advanced solutions
Goals and Challenges Ahead

- **2020**: 50% of electricity from wind power, and 35% of total energy consumption from RES
- **2030**: No use of coal in Danish power plants
- **2035**: 100% of electricity and heating from RES
- **2050**: 100% of all (electricity, heating, transport, industry) from RES

- Strong development of offshore wind power
- Energy conservation measures: total gross energy consumption is to be reduced 12% compared to 2006
- Shifting some of the existing coal-fired power plants to biomass
Goals and Challenges Ahead

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A great deal of variable and uncertain power production!

Source: Danish Energy Authority
A wind-dominated energy supply

Variability cost + Uncertainty cost =

Flexibility is a must! Integration and interaction of energy system components
Energy initiatives in Denmark

Variability cost + Uncertainty cost = Integration and interaction of energy system components

Flexibility is a must!
Energy initiatives in Denmark

- **Gas Turbine**
- **Steam Turbine**
- **District heating**
- **Heat tank**

Waste incinerators
(or supermarket cooling, industrial processes)

**Smarter operation of CHP plants**: increased profitability by the provision of more services (day-ahead/intraday electricity trading, power balancing, frequency regulation, heat ... )
Energy initiatives in Denmark
Energy initiatives in Denmark

Ringkøbing District Heating, Friday, 2016-01-01 to Friday, 2016-01-08

Ringkøbing CHP
Energy initiatives in Denmark

Variability cost + Uncertainty cost = Integration and interaction of energy system components

Flexibility is a must!
Energy initiatives in Denmark

Waste-2-Energy

Resources
- Electricity
- Waste water

WWTP Energy Hub
- Treatment Process
- Digester
- Storage tank
- Gas storage
- CHP

Energy service
- Gas
- Electricity
- Heating
Energy initiatives in Denmark

- Heat pumps (Grundfos, ENFOR, ..)
- Supermarket cooling (Danfoss, TI, ..)
- Summerhouses (DC, SE, Energinet.dk, ..)
  - Taking advantage of thermal inertia of indoor pools
  - SmartNet
- Green Houses (NeoGrid, Danfoss, F.Fyn, ....)
- EV charging (Eurisco, ED, ...)
- .............
Energy initiatives in Denmark

Flexibility is a must! Integration and interaction of energy system components

Variability cost + Uncertainty cost
Energy initiatives in Denmark

DK as a **buffer**: Strong power interconnections to:

1. **Norway and Sweden** (hydro-dominated Nordic System)
   - A new connection to Norway of 700-MW capacity in place since spring 2015

2. **Germany** (fossil-fuel-based power systems of central Europe)
   - Hampered by grid bottlenecks in central Germany

Denmark may also benefit from the planned new connection to the Netherlands (and to the UK?)
Energy initiatives in Denmark

Variability cost + Uncertainty cost = 

Flexibility is a must!  Integration and interaction of energy system components
Energy initiatives in Denmark

Common European spot market:

- Denmark, as a member of Nordpool, is tightly connected with Central Western and Southern Europe through price coupling and implicit allocation of cross-border transmission capacity (since 2014)

Increased power trading with Central Western and Southern Europe!
Energy initiatives in Denmark

1. **DataHub**: Central and independent IT system that is maintained by Energinet.dk and that gathers all information about Danish electricity consumption (measurements on power consumption, changes of supplier by customers, etc.)
   - Facilitate the billing process (single invoice handled by retailers), enable demand-side management and encourage competition in the retail market

2. **MarketModel 2.0**: Project led by Energinet.dk to investigate market solutions for renewables-based power systems
   - Analysis of markets for ensuring strategic reserve capacity in extreme situations
   - Analysis of capacity markets (direct payments for capacity) to guarantee capacity adequacy

3. **Varmelast.dk**: Tool to operate the district heating system in the Greater Copenhagen area in a cost-efficient manner
   - Consideration of implementing dynamic heat prices (through marginal pricing of heat) that would help to better capture electricity-heat interactions
Concluding Remarks

- Major opportunity to increase the flexibility of the Danish energy system: **exploit interactions among the three major energy networks**

Source: DTU International Report 2015 (Chapter 10)
Concluding Remarks

• **District heating network as a storage facility** to absorb excess wind power
  – Existing hot water storage tanks + the large amounts of water in the grid as a buffer
  – Large heat pumps and electric boilers to store surplus of wind power as hot water

• The existing coal-based CHP-plants will be gradually converted to biomass or decommissioned. **New supplies of district heating** will be needed:
  – Renewables-based such as heat pumps, electric boilers, solar heating ...
  – Waste heat from industrial processes and new products (previous slide)
  – Attractive taxation schemes are to be in place

• Grid interactions will make **energy systems much more complex**: advanced control and communications systems might be required