# The Importance of High Fidelity Data for a New Paradigm of Power Sector Planning

Presentation at "Planning for 21st Century Power Systems"

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## **Dr Tobias Bischof-Niemz** Head of CSIR's Energy Centre

#### **Professional Experience**

- Member of the Ministerial Advisory Council on Energy (MACE)
- Extraordinary Associate Professor at Stellenbosch University
- Jul 2014 today: Centre Manager at the CSIR, responsible to lead the establishment of an integrated energy research centre
- 2012 2014: PV/Renewables Specialist at Eskom in the team that developed the IRP; afterwards 2 months contract work in the DoE's IPP Unit on gas, coal IPP and rooftop PV
- 2007 2012: Senior consultant (energy system and renewables expert) at The Boston Consulting Group, Berlin and Frankfurt, Germany

#### Education

- Master of Public Administration (MPA) on energy and renewables policies in 2009 from Columbia University in New York City, USA
- PhD ("Dr.-Ing.") in 2006 in Automotive Engineering from TU Darmstadt, Germany
- Mechanical Engineering at Technical University of Darmstadt, Germany (Master – "Dipl.-Ing." in 2003) and at UC Berkeley, USA















#### **Renewables in South Africa**

Wind potential in South Africa

**Extreme renewables scenarios** 



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#### In-principle process of IRP planning and implementation



#### The Integrated Resource Plan tries to balance different objectives through detailed scenario analyses



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## Integrated Resource Plan 2010 (IRP 2010): Plan of the power generation mix for South Africa until 2030



Note: hydro includes imports from Cahora Bassa

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Sources: Integrated Resource Plan 2010, as promulgated in 2011; CSIR Energy Centre analysis

## Actual results: <u>new</u> wind/PV projects much cheaper than the first ones

First four bidding windows' results of Department of Energy's RE IPP Procurement Programme (REIPPPP)



dates

Notes: For CSP Bid Window 3 and 3.5, the weighted average of base and peak tariff is indicated, assuming 50% annual load factor; BW = Bid Window; Sources: Department of Energy's publications on results of first four bidding windows <u>http://www.energy.gov.za/IPP/List-of-IPP-Preferred-Bidders-Window-three-04Nov2013.pdf</u>;

http://www.energy.gov.za/IPP/Renewables IPP ProcurementProgram WindowTwoAnnouncement 21May2012.pptx; http://www.ipprenewables.co.za/gong/widget/file/download/id/279; StatsSA on CPI; CSIR analysis

Actual solar PV tariffs quickly approached IRP cost assumptions in first four bid windows & are now below the lowest cost assumptions of IRP



Assumptions: CPI used for normalisation to May-2015-Rand; LCOE calculated for IRP with 8% discount rate (real), 25 yrs lifetime, cost and load factor assumptions as per relevant IRP document; "IRP Tariff" then calculated assuming 80% of total project costs to be EPC costs, i.e. divide the LCOE by 0.8 to derive at the "IRP Tariff" Sources: IRP 2010; IRP Update; <u>http://www.ipprenewables.co.za/gong/widget/file/download/id/279</u>; CSIR analysis Actual wind tariffs in bid window three were already at the level that was assumed for 2030 in the IRP, bid window four is significantly below



Assumptions: CPI used for normalisation to May-2015-Rand; LCOE calculated for IRP with 8% discount rate (real), 20 yrs lifetime, cost and load factor assumptions as per relevant IRP document; "IRP Tariff" then calculated assuming 80% of total project costs to be EPC costs, i.e. divide the LCOE by 0.8 to derive at the "IRP Tariff" Sources: IRP 2010; IRP Update; <u>http://www.ipprenewables.co.za/gong/widget/file/download/id/279</u>; CSIR analysis

## Actual CSP tariffs are declining from bid window one to 3.5, but still well above IRP cost assumptions



Assumptions: CPI used for normalisation to May-2015-Rand; LCOE calculated for IRP with 8% discount rate (real), 30 yrs lifetime, cost and load factor assumptions as per relevant IRP document; "IRP Tariff" then calculated assuming 80% of total project costs to be EPC costs, i.e. divide the LCOE by 0.8 to derive at the "IRP Tariff" Sources: IRP 2010; IRP Update; http://www.energy.gov.za/IPP/List-of-IPP-Preferred-Bidders-Window-three-04Nov2013.pdf; CSIR analysis

**Consequence of renewables' cost reduction for South Africa:** Solar PV and wind are the cheapest new-build options per kWh today Lifetime cost Capital per energy unit Fixed O&M Renewables Conventional new-build options Fuel (and variable O&M) \$-ct/kWh Bid Window 1 Assumptions: 23.8 Actuals: As per IRP with Cost as per Bid Window 4 fuel updates 5.4 Fuel cost @ 14.9-17.5 9-11 \$/MMBtu 0.9 **CAPEX** lower 5.4 than IRP Bid Window 1 0.9 assumption 10.4 8.6-10.2 8.3-10.2 6.4-8.6 17.5 6.4-7.0 5.8 5.1-5.9 6.9 3.3 8.8-11.1 1.3 5.6 6.4-8.0 4.3 0.7 3.4 0.6 2.40.8 0.8 Solar PV Wind **Baseload Coal** Nuclear Gas (CCGT) Gas (OCGT) Diesel (OCGT) Mid-merit Coal Assumed load factor  $\rightarrow$ 85% 92% 10% 50% 50% 10%

Note: Changing full-load hours for conventionals drastically changes the fixed cost components per kWh (lower full-load hours → higher capital costs and fixed O&M costs per MWh); Assumptions: average efficiency for CCGT = 50%, OCGT = 35%; coal = 37%; nuclear = 33%; IRP cost from Jan 2012 escalated with CPI to Jan 2016; assumed EPC CAPEX inflated by 10% to convert EPC/LCOE into tariff; ZAR/USD = 12.8 (2015 average); Sources: IRP Update; REIPPPP outcomes; StatsSA for CPI; Eskom financial reports on coal/diesel fuel cost; CSIR analysis



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#### The so-called WASA model was re-run to cover the entire country

Data sources and characteristics of data used for solar/wind aggregation analysis



Grid squares of the numerical weather model "NWM pixel"

Raw data from $ ightarrow$	WASA	SODA
Variables	<i>v, T</i>	Ι
Height levels [m]	2 ( <i>T</i> ), 50, 80, 100, 150 ( <i>v</i> )	2
Temporal coverage	2009 to 2013	2010 to 2012
Temporal resolution	15 min	15 min
Spatial coverage	South Africa	South Africa
Spatial resolution	5 km x 5 km $\rightarrow$ 47 522 pixels	0.2° x 0.2° (approx. 5 km x 5 km)



13 Sources: Wind and Solar Aggregation Study, commissioned by the

Sources: Wind and Solar Aggregation Study, commissioned by the CSIR, SANEDI and Eskom, executed in collaboration with Fraunhofer IWES

## South Africa has wide areas with > 6 m/s average wind speed @ 100 m

Average wind speed at 100 meter above ground for the years from 2009-2013 for South Africa



Five different generic wind turbine types defined for simulation of wind power output per 5x5 km pixel in South Africa (~50 000 pixels)





Turbine type no.	1	2	3	4	5
Nominal power [MW]	3	2.2	2.4	2.4	2.4
Selection criterion	$\dot{v_{80m}} > 8.5 \frac{m}{s}$	$\dot{v_{80m}} < 8.5 rac{m}{s}$ and $\dot{v_{100m}} > 7.5 rac{m}{s}$	$v_{100m} < 7.5 \frac{m}{s}$	$\dot{v}_{120m} < 7.5 \frac{m}{s}$	$\bar{v}_{140m} < 7.5 \frac{m}{s}$
Blade diameter [m]	90	95	117	117	117
Hub height [m]	80	80	100	120	140

Space requirement 0.1km<sup>2</sup>/MW  $\rightarrow$  max. 250 MW per pixel



#### **Turbine types : Distribution according to mean wind speeds**



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## Placing a wind farm of best suited turbine type (1, 2, 3, 4 or 5) in each pixel shows: more than 30% load factor achievable almost everywhere

Map of achievable average load factors for 2009-2013 for turbine types 1-5



Even when placing only high-wind-speed turbine types (1, 2, 3) in each pixel shows: more than 30% load factor achievable in wide areas

Map of achievable average load factors for 2009-2013 for turbine types 1-3

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## On almost 70% of suitable land area in South Africa a 35% load factor or higher can be achieved (>50% for turbines 1-3)

Share of South African land mass less exclusion zones with load factors to be reached accordingly



Installing turbine type 4 and 5 will cause higher costs but also increase load factors and electricity yield whilst consuming the same area

## Achievable load factors in all turbine categories significantly higher than in leading wind countries

#### Achievable load factor distribution per pixel per turbine type



#### Methodology to derive relative LCOE per pixel



#### Large parts of RSA can achieve LCOE well below reference

Relative LCOE across South Africa when installing turbine types 1 to 5



#### Large parts of RSA can achieve LCOE well below reference

Relative LCOE across South Africa when installing turbine types 1 to 3 only (i.e. type 3 at 4/5 pixels)

![](_page_22_Figure_2.jpeg)

### A single wind farm changes its power output quickly

Simulated wind-speed profile and wind power output for 14 January 2012

![](_page_23_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Picture_3.jpeg)

## Aggregating just 10 wind farms' output reduces short-term fluctuations

Simulated wind-speed profile and wind power output for 14 January 2012

![](_page_24_Figure_2.jpeg)

### Aggregating 100 wind farms: 15-min gradients almost zero

Simulated wind-speed profile and wind power output for 14 January 2012

![](_page_25_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### Aggregation across entire country: wind output very smooth

Simulated wind-speed profile and wind power output for 14 January 2012

![](_page_26_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### Distributing wind farms widely reduces short-term fluctuations

![](_page_27_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Excess energy is mainly caused by high solar PV shares

Generated solar PV and wind energy and split into useful and excess for different VRE penetrations

![](_page_28_Figure_2.jpeg)

## 2x wind (50 to 100 TWh/yr): almost no effect on excess energy

Generated solar PV and wind energy and split into useful and excess for different VRE penetrations

![](_page_29_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### 65% VRE share achievable with almost no excess energy

Generated solar PV and wind energy and split into useful and excess for different VRE penetrations

![](_page_30_Figure_2.jpeg)

## Electricity surpluses: 65% energy share of solar PV/wind does not cause significant excess electricity

Electricity storage with the purpose to absorb excess electricity is only required at very high shares of VRE

#### Excess electricity at very high shares of VRE is mainly driven by solar PV

- Up to a certain energy share, solar PV does not cause excess electricity
- Beyond that threshold, solar PV causes large amounts of excess electricity because of the skewed supply pattern of solar PV (daytime only)
- Wind supply is more volatile, but on average better distributed over the full 24 hours of the day
- Very high shares of wind energy can be achieved without any significant amounts of excess electricitiy (assuming the wind farms are distributed widely across the country)

For example for 65% VRE share (80 TWh PV and 250 TWh wind, grid-focused distribution, 500 TWh/yr system load), excess electricity is only 1.2% of total solar PV/wind energy produced

Side note: in the 65% VRE case, the entire residual load's fluctuations can be balanced by a conventional fleet that has a fuel-storage capacity of 48 days of the average power output (Eskom currently stocks coal on average for the entire fleet for 57 days)

![](_page_31_Picture_9.jpeg)

## Uniform distribution of wind turbines leads to ~85% lower forecast error for intra-day and ~60% lower for day-ahead

#### Years considered: 2009-2013

![](_page_32_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Picture_0.jpeg)

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![](_page_33_Picture_4.jpeg)

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#### Thought experiment: Build a new power system from scratch

Base load: 8 GW

#### → Annual demand: 70 TWh/yr (~30% of today's South African demand)

#### **Questions:**

• Technical:

Can a blend of wind and solar PV, mixed with flexible dispatchable power to fill the gaps supply this?

Economical: If yes, at what cost?

#### Assumptions/approach

- **1** 15 GW wind @ 5.1 \$-ct/kWh (Bid Window 4 average tariff)
- 2 7 GW solar PV @ 6.4 \$-ct/kWh (Bid Window 4 average tariff)
- 3 8 GW flexible power generator to fill the gaps @ 16.4 \$-ct/kWh (e.g. high-priced gas @ 11.6 \$/MMBtu)
- Hourly solar PV and wind data from recent CSIR study, covering the entire country
  - Check out the results: <u>www.csir.co.za/Energy\_Centre/wind\_solarpv.html</u>
- Hourly simulation of supply structure for an entire year

![](_page_34_Picture_14.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Picture_15.jpeg)

#### Thought experiment: assumed 8 GW of true baseload

![](_page_35_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### On a low-wind day the residual load is large

Simulated solar PV and wind power output for a 7 GW PV and 15 GW wind fleet on a day in May

![](_page_37_Figure_2.jpeg)

38 Sources: CSIR analysis

![](_page_38_Figure_0.jpeg)

39 Sources: CSIR analysis

![](_page_39_Figure_0.jpeg)

40 Sources: CSIR analysis

#### Technical feasibility in two key dimensions – detailed analyses required

#### Ramping

- Max ramp of residual load: 2.8 GW/h  $\rightarrow$  35% of installed flexible capacity per hour
- Min ramp of residual load: -3.1 GW/h  $\rightarrow$  39% of installed flexible capacity per hour

→ Open-Cycle Gas Turbines can ramp up from cold start to 100% output in less than 1 hour
 → Open-Cycle Gas Turbines can ramp down from 100% output to zero in less than 1 hour

#### **Fuel-storage**

- The flexible power generator of 8 GW installed capacity requires fuel storage for a maximum of 9 days
- $\rightarrow$  Eskom currently stocks coal at power stations for more than 50 days on average
- $\rightarrow$  Buffer capacity of a LNG landing terminal is 4-6 weeks at the minimum

![](_page_40_Picture_9.jpeg)

Mix of solar PV, wind and expensive flexible power costs 7.9 \$-ct/kWh (excess thrown away) – same level as alternative baseload new-builds

![](_page_41_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### 10% less load: excess energy increases, need for flexible power reduces

Average hourly solar PV and wind power supply calculated from simulation for the entire year

![](_page_42_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### Low sensitivity to changes in demand (-10%): unit cost stays constant

![](_page_43_Figure_1.jpeg)

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= 7.<del>9</del>8 \$-ct/kWh

#### What we learned from having high-fidelity wind data available

Before high-fidelity data collection ...

Wind resource in South Africa is not good

There is not enough space in South Africa to supply the country with wind power

Wind power has very high short-term fluctuations

Wind power has no value because it is not always available

... and after

Wind resource in South Africa is on par with solar

>80% of the country's land mass has enough wind potential to achieve 30% load factor or more

On portfolio level, 15-minute gradients are very low

On average, wind power in South Africa is available 24/7 with higher output in evenings and at night; in a mix with expensive flexible power it is cheaper than dispatchable alternatives

... analyses to be continued

ndza Khensa

Ke a leboha

Ngiyathokoza

Enkosi

## Thank you!

Ke a leboga

Ndi a livhuha

Ngiyabonga

Dankie CSIR our future through science