

THE REFORM OF THE SPANISH POWER SYSTEM: TOWARDS FINANCIAL STABILITY AND REGULATORY CERTAINTY



1. The starting point: evolution of system's costs and tariff deficit

2. The reform of the Spanish power system: financial stability and regulatory certainty



Spain has a strong and modern power system...

Strengths of the Spanish power system:

- ✓ A diversified and well **balanced mix** of electricity production (hydro-electric, nuclear, coal, combined cycle gas and renewable).
- ✓ A high penetration of renewable and combined heat and power electricity production (38% of demand in 2012 and 50% in the first half of 2013).
- A modern and **developed infrastructure network** and high quality of power supply.
- ✓ A high level of competition in electricity production in European standards.



... But electricity prices are above EU average

Spanish households pay electricity 30% above EU average



Source: Eurostat 2012. Electricity price for domestic consumer before taxes (€/MWh).



... But electricity prices are above EU average (cont.)

Spanish industry pays electricity 18% above EU average



Source: Eurostat 2012. Electricity price for industrial consumer before taxes (€/MWh).



Regulated costs in the electricity bill in Spain are considerably above European standards



Despite high prices, the system does not cover its costs, creating a **tariff deficit**

Source: Own calculations based on Eurostat.

- ✓ For a similar average market price of electricity, regulated costs in Spain are 40% above comparable countries.
- ✓ If current tariff deficit was passed fully into the power bill, these regulated costs would increase an additional 15% (19€/MWh)

Regulated costs have escalated since the mid 2000s, growing above the power system's revenues.



✓ Among regulated costs, renewable energies and debt payments rose above all since 2007.

 ✓ According to CEER*, Spain is the European country with the largest support to RE in €/MWh.

* Status Review of Renewable and Energy Efficiency Support Schemes in Europe. CEER junio de 2013.



Why this extraordinary increase in regulated costs?...







Why this extraordinary increase in regulated costs?...

Spain bet for RE technologies at a very early stage, at high investment costs, and not fully profiting from their learning curve

Evolution Photovoltaic installed capacity in Spain

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Evolution Photovoltaic installed capacity in Germany



Spain installed 76% of PV capacity in 2008 above 6 M€/MW, with a 450 €/MWh tariff.

Germany installed 64% of its PV capacity between 2010 and 2011, at 3-4 M€/MW, with a 250 €/MWh tariff.

Consequently, yearly tariff deficits have accumulated, resulting in a current outstanding debt of € 26 billion.



Source: CNE Report on electric power system's debt May 10th, 2013

✓ Despite having paid €10 bn off , the system's debt has reached €26 bn.
 ✓ Previous deficits have been financed by FADE, a securitization vehicle with Spanish Government's guarantee created by Law in 2009.

The annuity for debt repayment is included as a cost to be financed by the power system revenues.



Source: CNE Report on electric power system's debt May 10th, 2013

- Annuities currently total \in 2.6 bn, adding a significant stress on the system's finances.
- ✓ The Law prevents the use of the securitization fund beyond 2012, therefore making the reform a necessity.
- ✓ No further debt accumulation is possible, and outstanding debt is being paid-off as it reaches its maturity (maximum 15 years).

DE INDUSTRIA, ENER YTURISMO

Under this scenario, the Government took measures in 2012 and 2013, which reduced considerably the gap between revenues and costs.

Without the referred measures, the deficit would have reached €10.5bn in 2013





In sum, no action was no option.

No action would have led to the power system's bankruptcy

No reform would have meant a 42% rise of power prices on average to balance the system

A partial solution would have gone nowhere

- ✓ Systemic risk
- Country risk and investors' perception towards Spain
- ✓ Competitiveness loss
- ✓ Household purchasing power vastly reduced
- ✓ Future legal changes needed
- ✓ Regulatory uncertainty increased

The reform had to find a definitive, balanced, rational, and stable solution.



- 1. The starting point: tariff deficit and regulatory dispersion
- 2. The reform of the Spanish power system: financial stability and regulatory certainty

The reform is a comprehensive exercise and it is made to stay long.

Urgent measures taken in 2012 and beginning of 2013 to "stop the bleeding"

- ✓ Law 15/2012: Energy taxes (€3.5 bn yearly revenues)
- ✓ Royal Decree-Laws: urgent measures to avoid system costs rising (€1.5 bn year cost savings)
- ✓ Access tariff increase: €1 bn yearly revenues.

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Comprehensive Electricity Sector Reform, July 2013

- ✓ Law 15/2012: New Electricity Sector Law changing the previous Law from 1997.
- ✓ 1 Royal Decree-Law to ensure urgent application of the reform in 2013
- ✓ **7 Royal Decrees** setting a new regulatory framework and compensation mechanism for:

 Renewables, cogeneration and waste technologies Transmission Distribution 		 Capacity payments and mothballing Electricity supply Auto-consumption Non-peninsular systems 	
5 Ministerial Regulation	S:		
 Interrumpibility of demand 	• New tariffs and charges structure	 Natural Gas in CSP stations Wind and PV in non-peninsular systems 	

The whole reform will be fully into force at the end of 2013 after consultation process with sector agents and supervision of independent agencies



Main pillars of the power sector's reform

The reform definitely corrects the tariff deficit based on 4 strategic lines:

2. New compensation scheme for regulated activities

1. Financial and regulatory stability framework

3. Reinforcement of market competition

4. Transparency and consumer engagement



1. Financial and regulatory stability framework

Financial stability framework

Financial stability rule

Prevention of new costs to the system

Government definition of standard costs ✓ The Law sets a limit to temporary gaps between costs and revenues in a given fiscal year, and an obligation to increase fees automatically in those cases to keep the system balanced.

✓ No new costs can be introduced into the electric power system without an equivalent revenue increase or cost reduction.

✓ Standards will be set by regulatory authorities on an homogenous basis. If local or regional regulations carry extra costs to the system, these will not be included in the electricity tariff.

1. Financial and regulatory stability framework





2. New compensation scheme for regulated activities





2. New compensation scheme for regulated activities





3. Reinforcement of market competition





4. Transparency and consumer engagement

Market-based reference price to small domestic consumers

> Vulnerable consumers

Other improvements

- Current last-resort consumer tariff will be replaced by a marketbased **Voluntary Price to Small Consumers.**
- Voluntary price to small consumers will be set on a quarterly auction open to new power supply companies. Competition to supply these consumers is encouraged and minimum reference prices disappear.
- Reduced administrative price to vulnerable consumers (bono social) is based on a discount on the voluntary price to small consumers, which is limited restrictively to pensioners, unemployed and large families with a limited income level.
- The process for consumers' change of power supply companies is facilitated.
- Arbitration mechanism for resolution of consumer disputes are strengthened, according to European Directives.
- ✓ Fight against fraud is strengthened through a new inspection and sanction framework.



Impact of the reform among agents

The reform corrects the tariff deficit with a balanced impact between agents and consumers





In sum, the reform of the Spanish electricity sector...

Was a necessity, as the continuation of the deficit would have led to the system's bankruptcy or to a huge tariff rise which would have seriously damaged the economy.

Is a final solution, as it ensures financial stability of the system, preventing the possibility of future imbalances in the new Electricity Sector Law.

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Adopts a comprehensive approach which avoids past continuous regulatory changes and introduces **regulatory certainty** to agents and investors.

Establishes a **transparent**, **homogeneous and stable compensation mechanism** for regulated activities, guaranteeing a reasonable return to RE investments and an adequate compensation for network based activities.

Ensures a **balanced impact** between the different agents of the power system, consumer and Government budget.