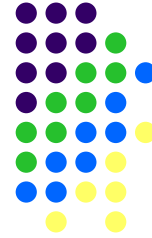


# The Importance of Being Earnest (or How to Inform the Policy Debate)

ICEPAG 2011  
February 8, 2011  
Costa Mesa, California

Lori Smith Schell, Ph.D.

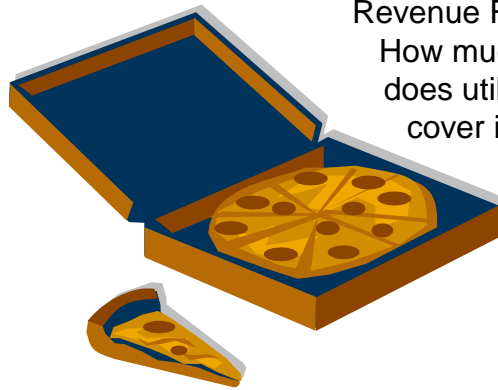


## Why Bother Being Part of the Policy Debate?



- If you're not there to represent your interests, who is? Likely, your competition!
  - More opportunities than resources to pursue them
- Policymaking is largely an educational process
  - Myriad of interests seeking influence
  - Workload dictates limited attention span
- Ratepayer interests must be protected
  - "Ratepayer Indifference"
  - Policymaker's equivalent of "Do No Harm"

# Ratemaking Fundamentals: You Have to Be at the Table



Revenue Requirement:  
How much revenue  
does utility need to  
cover its costs?

Cost Allocation and Rate Design:  
Who pays how much?

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# Making Your “PITCH” Rules to Live By



- Be Prepared:
  - Many Competing Interests
  - Limited Attention Span
- Be Informative:
  - Data ≠ Information
  - Repetition ≠ Persuasion
- Be Transparent: Minimize Head Scratching
- Be Consistent: Stay on Message
- Be Honest: Avoid False Representations

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# Select Developments in California's Policy Debate



- **P:** MPR – Natural Gas Combined Cycle Costs
  - Know component costs driving policy decisions
- **I:** Cost of Generation – Integrating Renewables
  - Extend existing policy making capabilities
- **T:** CHP FIT – MPR Components + Market Price
  - Eye-catching visual as a leave-behind
- **C:** SB 32 Renewable FIT – TBD (Above-MPR)
  - Build on something familiar
- **H:** AB 32 – 2006 Global Warming Solutions Act
  - Not all results will support your position

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## 1. Be Prepared



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## Select Developments in California's Policy Debate



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## Market Price Referent (“MPR”): Tool of RPS Implementation



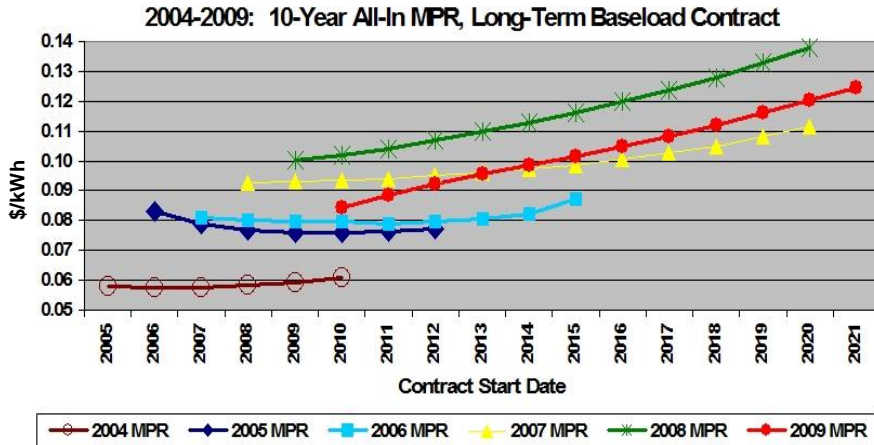
- **Renewables Portfolio Standard (“RPS”)**
  - Mandated 20% by 2010 (Senate Bill (“SB”)107, 9/26/2006)
  - Targeted 33% by 2020 (Executive Order S-14-08, 11/17/2008)
- **Auction held twice per year**
  - Significant investment in bid preparation
  - No guarantee of success
    - Limits participation by smaller developers
- **MPR sets threshold price for renewable energy contracts**
  - All-in costs of representative natural gas combined cycle proxy plant
  - NPV of contract price vs. MPR over contract term
  - Long-term RPS contracts  $\leq$  MPR deemed reasonable
    - Authorized in utility rates
  - RPS obligations limited by available funding for  $>$  MPR costs

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# Adopted MPR, 10-Year Baseload Contract

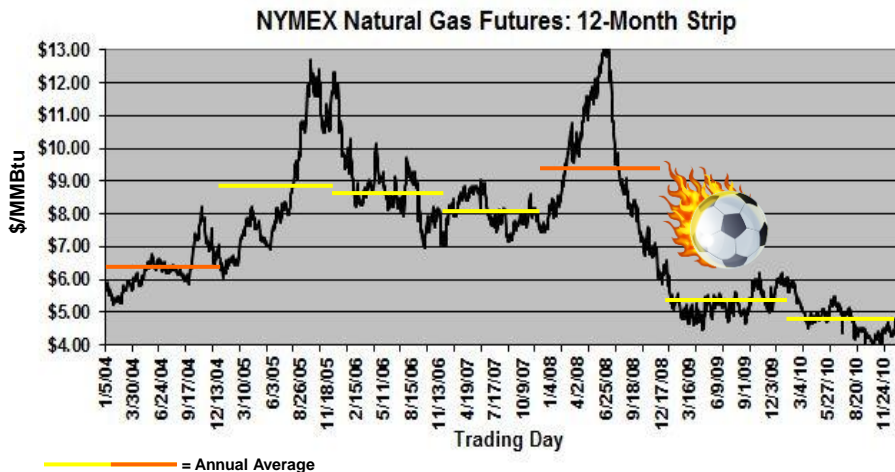


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# Natural Gas Market Prices Differ Day-to-Day

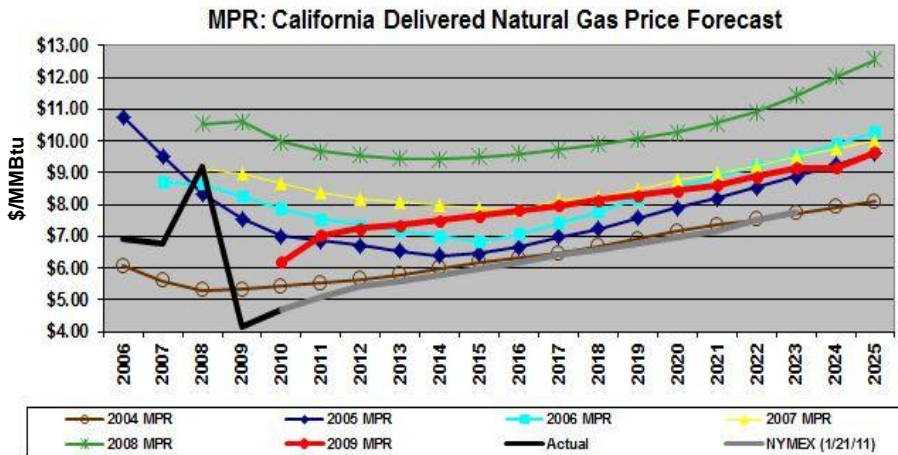


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# Embedded Natural Gas Price Depends on Forecast Timing

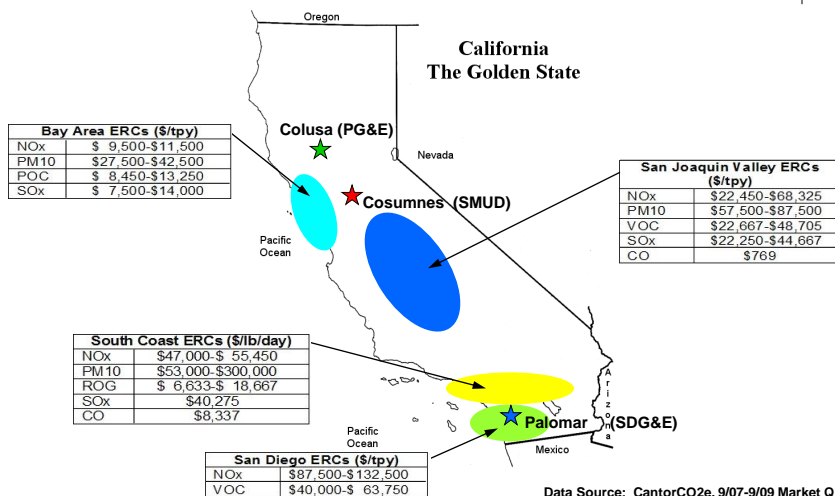


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# Proxy Plant is “Representative” Actual Costs Differ by Region

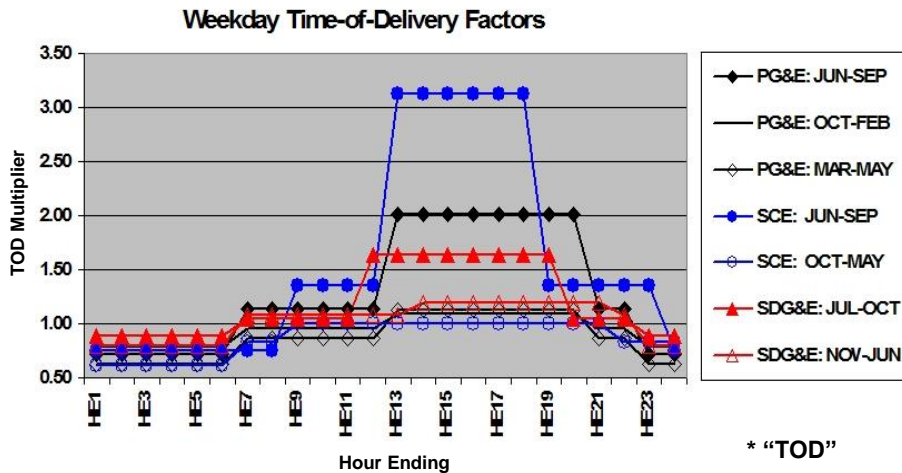


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# Different Products Valued Using Time-of-Delivery\* Factors



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## 2. Be Informative



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## Select Developments in California's Policy Debate



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## Cost of Generation: Adding Dynamics to a Static Model



- California Energy Commission (“CEC”) Cost of Generation Model
  - Calculates Levelized Cost Of Electricity (“LCOE”) for many different generating technologies
- Renewable Energy Secure Communities (“RESCO”) project
  - Converts CEC’s Excel-based model to MATLAB code
  - Significant analytical enhancements
    - Engineering
    - Economics
  - Designed to assess impacts of integrating renewables

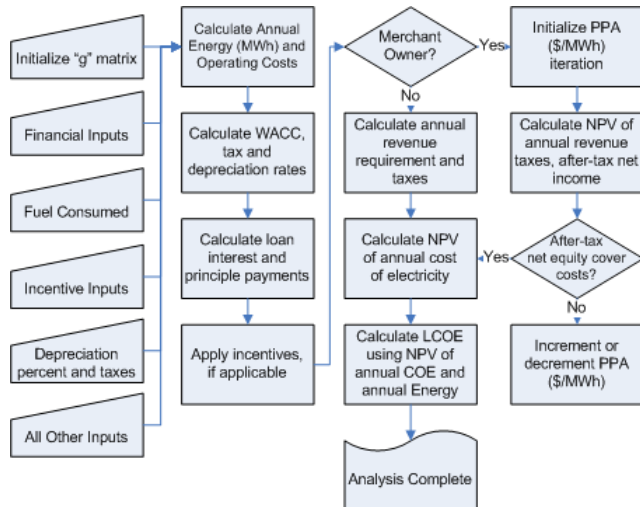
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# RESCO: Cost Module (One Among Many)



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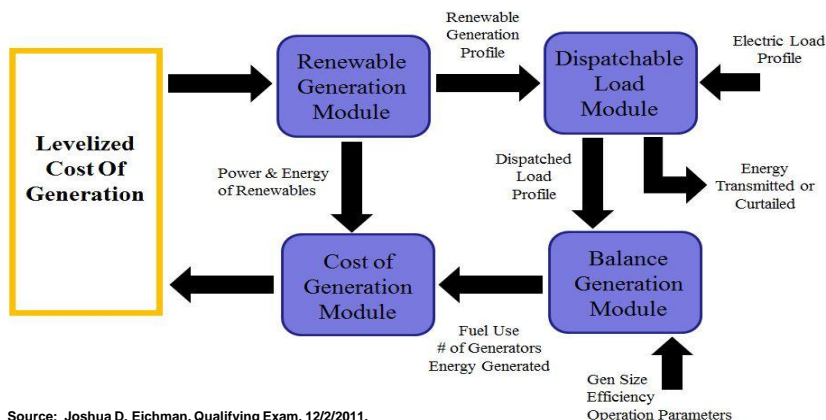
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# RESCO: Integrated Model (Illustrative)



## Modeling Methodology



Source: Joshua D. Eichman, Qualifying Exam, 12/2/2011.

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### 3. Be Transparent

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### Select Developments in California's Policy Debate



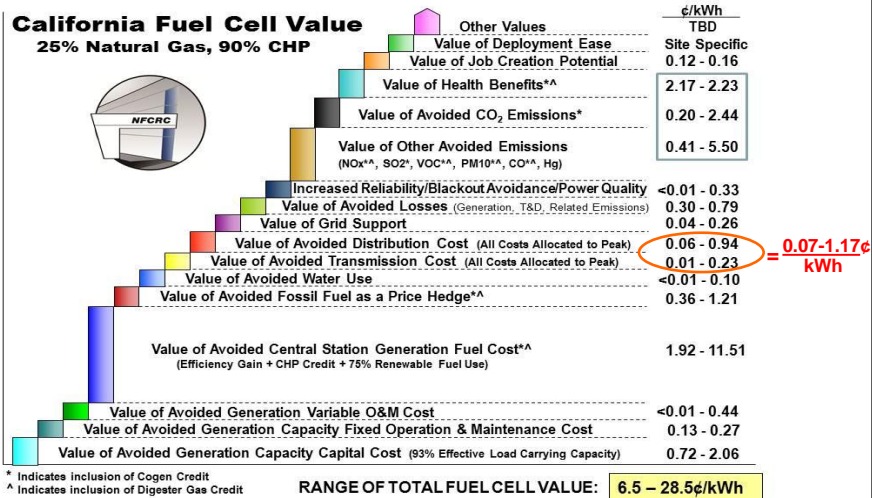
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# Value Proposition of Fuel Cells Using Digester Gas and CHP



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## AB 1613: Combined Heat and Power (“CHP”) Feed-In Tariff



- CHP Sized for Thermal Load, Exporting ≤ 20 MW
  - (1) MPR Fixed Cost (based on 10-year contract)
    - GHG Compliance Costs to be Paid by Purchaser
  - (2) Monthly Natural Gas Index Price **plus** Cost of Local Distribution
    - Keeps most volatile component of MPR “fresh”
    - Allows for efficient natural gas price hedging
  - (3) MPR Variable O&M Cost
  - Sum of (1)-(3) Multiplied by Applicable TOD Factor
  - 10% Location Bonus Possible
    - CHP in areas with Local Resource Adequacy requirements (defined, transmission-constrained local areas)

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# CHP FIT: Illustrative Calculation for JAN 2011 Contract Date



2009 MPR Fixed Component: **\$0.02230/kWh**

+

JAN 2011 NYMEX Settlement: \$4.216/MMBtu

Basis to CA Border: (\$0.22/MMBtu)

Local Distribution: \$0.35/MMBtu

NG Component (\$/MMBtu): \$4.216/MMBtu -

\$0.22/MMBtu + \$0.35/MMBtu = **\$4.786/MMBtu**

NG Component (\$/kWh): \$4.786/MMBtu x 6,924

Btu/kWh x 0.000001 MMBtu/Btu = **\$0.03314/kWh**

+

2009 MPR Variable Component: **\$0.00451/kWh**

Operation Year	Inputs from 2008 MPR	\$/kWh
2009	Fixed component	0.02186
	Variable O&M Adder	0.00443
2010	Fixed component	0.02230
	Variable O&M Adder	0.00451
2011	Fixed component	0.02274
	Variable O&M Adder	0.00459
2012	Fixed component	0.02319
	Variable O&M Adder	0.00466
2013	Fixed component	0.02365
	Variable O&M Adder	0.00474
		0.02367
		0.00483

**CHP FIT = \$0.02230/kWh + \$0.03314/kWh + \$0.00451/kWh = \$0.060/kWh\***

\* Prior to TOD Factor and Locational Adder

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## 4. Be Consistent



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## Select Developments in California's Policy Debate



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## SB 32 Renewable FIT Design: New MPR Applications



- SB 32: Renewable FIT
  - For eligible renewable generation  $\leq 3$  MW
    - Eases difficulties of bidding into RPS solicitations
  - All-In MPR + Value for Other Attributes:
    - Environmental benefits
      - Includes current and anticipated environmental compliance costs
    - Peak demand & congestion reduction benefits
      - Expedited interconnection if peak demand is offset
      - Additional value may be established if peak demand is offset
    - Avoided transmission & distribution improvements
  - Adjusted for TOD
  - Specific pricing formula not yet determined

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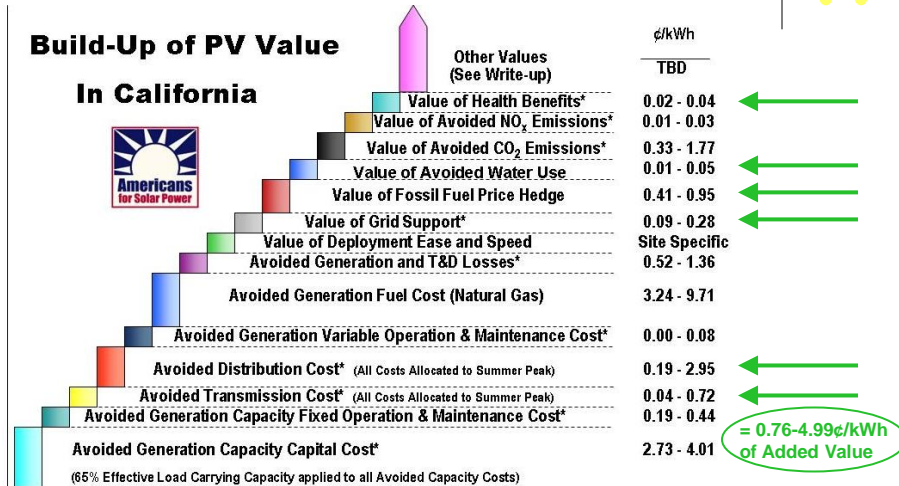
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# Solar PV: Value Above MPR for Renewables Feed-In Tariff



## Build-Up of PV Value

### In California



CPUC R1 4/13/05

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## 5. Be Honest



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## Select Developments in California's Policy Debate



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## AB 32: Putting a Price on Carbon



- Assembly Bill 32 (“AB 32”) - California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006
  - Legislative mandate to reduce greenhouse gas (“GHG”) emissions to 1990 levels by 2020
  - Survived 2010 ballot initiative for (in effect) indefinite postponement
  - California Air Resources Board (“CARB”) to implement cap-and-trade program on 1/1/2012
- How to measure net GHG reductions?
- How to value cost of net GHG reductions?

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# A New Interpretation of Cost-Effectiveness



- Lesson learned: *Clarify definitions at the outset!*
- ARB cost-effectiveness focuses specifically on **program cost** per unit of avoided emissions
  - Traditional cost-effectiveness = Cost of emissions reduction measure / quantity of avoided emissions
  - Head-to-head technology comparison expanded application of cost-effectiveness concept
  - Allows for relative **savings** for avoided emissions

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## Adding CHP/CCHP Increases Fuel Cell Avoided Emissions and Value



**Step 1: Value Incremental CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions at \$35/ton of CO<sub>2</sub> ; Apply to Technology Cost Difference**

### 1A. Fuel Cells without CHP/CCHP

Incremental CO <sub>2</sub> Market Cost/(Value) (\$/MWh)	vs. Simple Turbine (\$/MWh)	vs. NGCC (\$/MWh)	vs. Microturbine (\$/MWh)	vs. Diesel Engine (\$/MWh)
PAFC	(0.35)	2.63	10.26	(9.28)
MCFC	(3.33)	(0.35)	7.29	(12.25)
MCFC/T	(9.89)	(6.92)	0.72	(18.82)
PEMFC	(1.55)	1.43	9.06	(10.47)

### 1B. Fuel Cells with CHP/CCHP

Incremental CO <sub>2</sub> Market Cost/(Value) (\$/MWh)	vs. Simple Turbine	vs. NGCC	vs. Microturbine	vs. Diesel Engine
PAFC	(8.41)	(5.44)	2.20	(17.34)
MCFC	(8.53)	(5.55)	2.08	(17.45)
MCFC/T	(9.89)	(6.92)	0.72	(18.82)
PEMFC	(1.55)	1.43	9.06	(10.47)

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# Fuel Cells + CHP/CCHP Competes Head-to-Head with NGCC



## Step 2: Calculate Cost-Effectiveness of Fuel Cell Emissions Reductions

### 2A. Fuel Cells without CHP/CCHP

CO/NOx/VOC Cost-Effectiveness (NPV\$/ton)	vs. Simple Turbine	vs. NGCC	vs. Microturbine	vs. Diesel Engine
PAFC	(216,327)	380,823	No Emissions Reduction	(25,630)
MCFC	(217,375)	288,793	No Emissions Reduction	(26,104)
MCFC/T	(184,049)	40,518	No Emissions Reduction	(28,292)
PEMFC	(29,933)	97,594	No Emissions Reduction	(19,296)

### 2B. Fuel Cells with CHP/CCHP

CO/NOx/VOC Cost-Effectiveness (NPV\$/ton)	vs. Simple Turbine	vs. NGCC	vs. Microturbine	vs. Diesel Engine
PAFC	(129,769)	(11,030)	No Emissions Reduction	(29,386)
MCFC	(146,249)	10,056	No Emissions Reduction	(28,560)
MCFC/T	(204,509)	6,101	No Emissions Reduction	(29,569)
PEMFC	(72,011)	44,413	No Emissions Reduction	(24,115)

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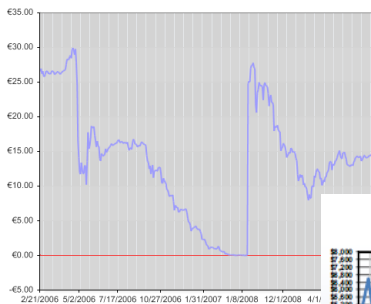
# Cap-and-Trade: Regulator Sets Quantity, Market Sets Price



## European CO<sub>2</sub> Prices (\$/tonne)

## EU ETS – 27 European States

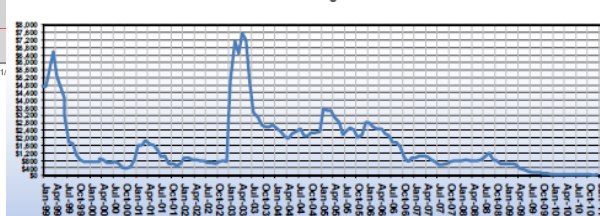
- Phase I – 2005-2007
- Phase II – 2008-2012
- Phase III – 2013-2020



Source: CantorCO2e website.

## Northeastern U.S. NO<sub>x</sub> Prices (\$/ton)

### NO<sub>x</sub> Current Vintage MPI



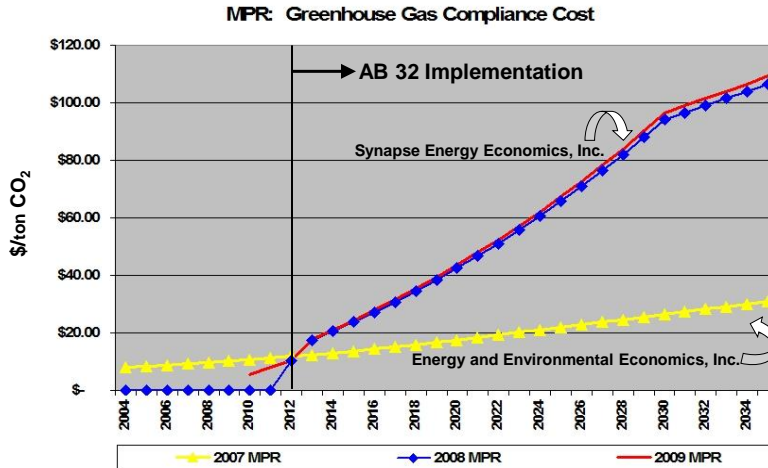
Source: CantorCO2e, "Monthly Market Price Indices," December 2010, p. 3.

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## Assumed \$35/ton CO<sub>2</sub> Price? As Good a Guess as Any!



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## Participate & Make An Effective P – I – T – C – H



- You can't win if you don't play
- Likelihood of success increases if you are:
  - Prepared
  - Informative
  - Transparent
  - Consistent
  - Honest
- There's strength in numbers
  - Collaborate with like-minded parties

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## Conclusion: Steps to Inform Policy Debate & Implementation



Identify Technology-Specific Attributes



Quantify Technology-Specific Value Proposition



Rank Power Generation Technologies by Value Proposition  
and Suitability for Achieving Policy Goals



Contribute to the Efficient Achievement of Policy Goals at  
Minimum Cost



Enable Evolution of Next Generation Products:  
(i) Flexible Fuel Hybrid Distributed Generation  
(ii) Natural Gas- & Coal-Fired Hybrid Central Plant Generation.