



A Comparative Analysis of the EU and Russian Support Schemes for Renewable Energy Sources

Anatole Boute Groningen Centre for Energy Law, University of Groningen

Saint Petersburg, 15 April 2010





Structure:

- > The support of electricity from renewable energy in the European Union
- > The support in Russia
- > Relevance of the EU experience for Russia

Focus:

Effectiveness and private law aspects (exchange of certificates)





I. THE SUPPORT IN THE EU

The regulatory framework:

Directive 2001/77/EC of 27 September 2001 on the promotion of electricity produced from renewable energy sources in the internal electricity market

Directive 2009/28/EC of 23 April 2009 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable energy sources and repealing Directives 2001/77/EC and 2003/30/EC





The instruments:

Mandatory targets and national action plans

Support schemes

Guarantees of origin

Guaranteed or priority access to the grid

Connection to the grid





Support schemes:

- Investment or operating support
- Quantity- or price- based market instruments:
 - quota obligations (or green certificates); tendering
 - feed-in tariffs and premiums; fiscal incentives





Effectiveness:

the ability to deliver an increase of the share of RES for wind, biogas and pv highest with feed-in

Efficiency:

total amount of support received v the generation costs in 2/3 of the member states = sufficient

Investor attractiveness:

the expected profits





European Commission highlights the risk of:

"stop-and-go nature of a system"

any instability in the system creates high investment risks

risks lead to higher costs for consumers.





- > Perceived instability ---> higher risk premiums ---> higher returns
- > Increased stability ---> lower returns needed ---> higher investment flow

Thus, necessity of long-term STABILITY and PREDICTABILITY of the support scheme to REDUCE THE COST OF CAPITAL





Guarantees of origin:

A document which has the SOLE function of providing proof to a final consumer that a given share of energy was produced from renewable sources as required by Directive 2003/54/EC

Member states shall recognize GoO EXCLUSIVELY as proof of the share of RES in the energy mix

Do not confer a right to benefit from support schemes





II. THE SUPPORT IN RUSSIA

Certificates

for the electricity produced from RES supply-side

<u>Premium</u>

the support on top of the wholesale market price

Obligation for purchasers the demand side





III. RELEVANCE OF THE EU EXPERIENCE FOR RUSSIA

Mix of quantity- and price-based instrument: certificates that entitle to premium

Green certificates are not guarantees of origin: certificates entitle to support, GoO do not

Premiums are, in principle, not freely exchangeable: avoids a difficult legal debate





Stability, transparency and predictability of support:

in the design (ex ante)

in the implementation (*ex post*)

reduce the cost of capital





Thank you for your attention

Contact: a.j.r.t.boute@rug.nl