Energy Scenarios Studies

A Contribution to Improved Transparency

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Motivation & Aim

- Energy scenarios are increasingly becoming a recognised area of research
- The development and application of formal (mainly quantitative) energy scenarios is regarded as a suitable and helpful means of exploring possible future development pathways in the energy system
- Rich diversity of energy scenarios using different modelling approaches

World Energy Outlook, IEA		World and European Energy and Environment Transition Outlook		
Energy Revolution, Greenpeace Lead study, BMU Global Transporta		EU Energy Roadmap 2050 tation Energy and Climate Roadmap	IPCC AR5	
Shell energy scenarios to 2050		Politikszenarien für den Klimaso	Politikszenarien für den Klimaschutz, Fhg. ISI	



Motivation & Aim

- For the user of energy scenarios, navigating through such studies becomes a complex task
- In addition to the specific technical skills that are required to fully assess and adequately interpret the methodology of such interdisciplinary studies, the issue of transparency becomes crucial



Proposal: Transparency checklist

 We therefore propose a guideline how to improve transparency in energy scenario studies:

Criterion	Page number	
General Information		
Author, Institution		
Funding		
Context		
Key term definitions		
Measured Data		
Sources and reliability		
Pre-Processing		
Assumptions		
Identification of uncertain factors		
Uncertainty assessment		
Storyline construction		
Assumptions for data modification		
Model		
Model documentation		
Model category		
Model specific properties		





Proposal: Transparency checklist

- This transparency criteria list could be implemented as a second "table of content" at the beginning of such studies
- It refers to the page nb. or section where a certain transparency criterion is fulfilled
- should enable both reader and modeller to answer questions such as:

What is model input, what output (endogenous/exogenous)? What are implicit-, what are explicit assumptions? Certainty of results? What are the main driver? ...?



Proposal: Transparency checklist

- However, a balance between transparency and avoiding information overflow is curial
- Transparency list should not be misunderstood as best practise advice or guideline what a energy scenario study should include
- → this still is the obligation of good practise in science



Thank you for your attention

... and hopefully see you at the breakout group "Transparency checklist for energy scenarios"

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Breakout group

Transparency checklist for energy scenarios



Aim of break out group :

- How can we improve transparency in energy scenarios?
- In-depth discussion of proposed checklist



Could this list be a suitable instrument?

Checklist for Scenario Analysis transparency

Criterion	Page number
General Information	
Author, Institution	
Funding	
Context	
Key term definitions	
Measured Data	
Sources and reliability	
Pre-Processing	
Assumptions	
Identification of uncertain factors	
Uncertainty assessment	
Storyline construction	
Assumptions for data modification	
Model	
Model documentation	
Model category	
Model specific properties	
Model interaction	
Essential Equations	
Model validation	
Results	
Research question - results - relationship	
Robustness	
Recommendations	
Results - recommendation - relationship	
Communication of uncertainties	



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