

The Energy
Transition Narrative

The Elevator Pitch

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# **Two Competing Views on the Energy Transition**

Slow, hard, & forced vs. fast, beneficial, & inevitable

**Indicative Energy Transition Pathways** 

**New Energy Technologies:** Superior or Inferior

**Growth of New:** S-curves or Linear

**Cost:** Learning Curves or No Change

**Challenges:** Temporary or Insoluble

Financial Markets: Responsive or Static

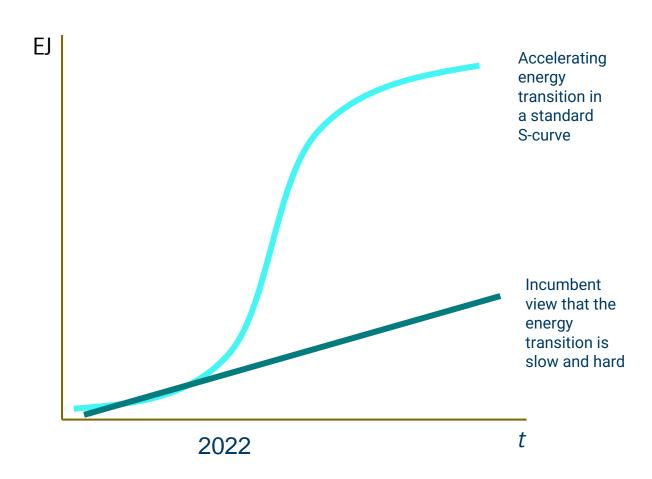
Policy & Societal Pressure: Rising or Static

Who Sets the Tempo: Insurgents or

Incumbents; Fossil Importers or Exporters

**Disruption Comes:** Early or Late

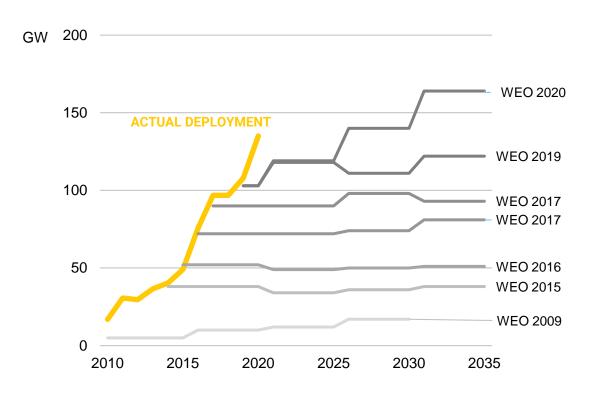
Narrative: Gain or Pain



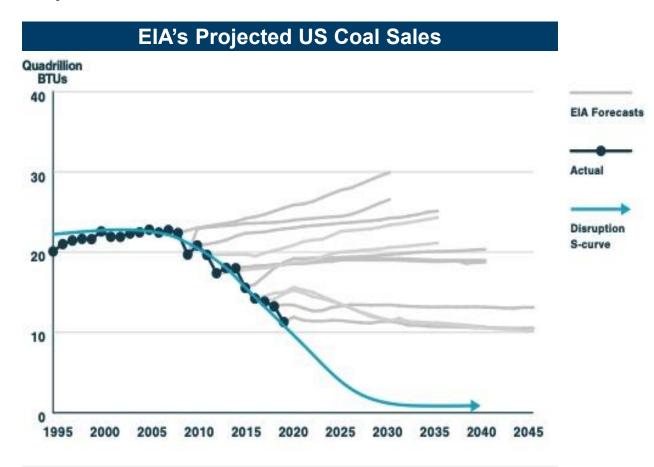
## **Incumbent Energy Experts Are Behind the Curve**

Those wedded to old thinking will struggle to navigate the new reality

#### **IEA's Projected Solar Deployment**



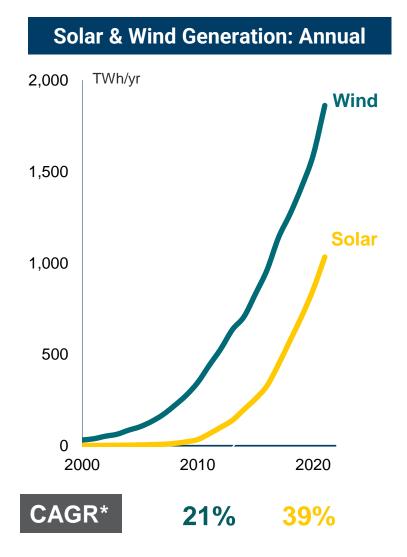
For 20 years the IEA has forecast linear growth of solar deployment. For 20 years solar has been growing exponentially.

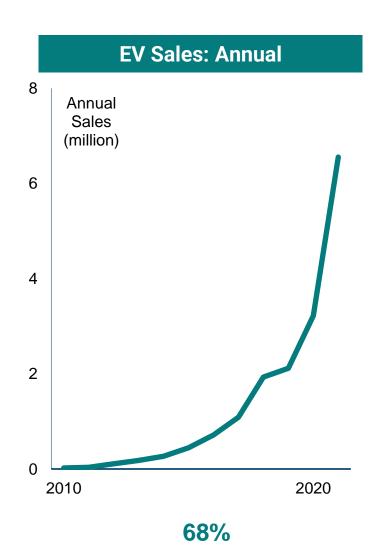


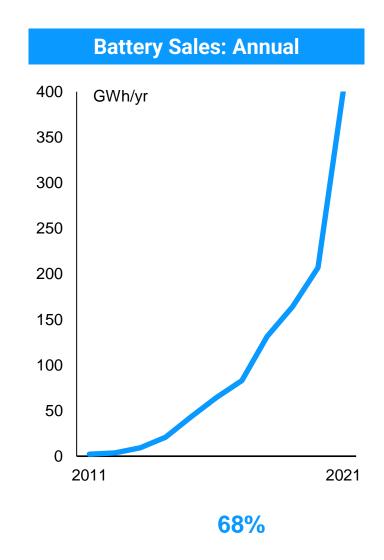
The EIA has been forecasting rising US coal demand since 2010. But demand has been falling rapidly.

# The Energy Revolution is Under Way

With exponential change all around

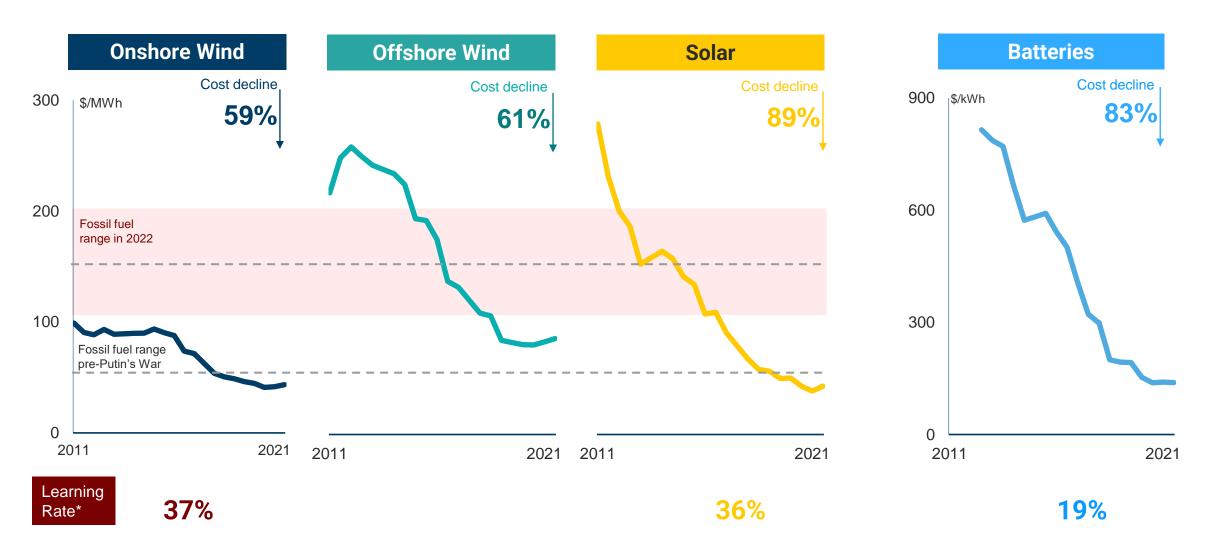






## **Driving Down the Cost of Renewable Technologies**

The cost of new energy technologies has fallen by 60%-90% in 10 years



# **Putin's War Speeds Up Change**

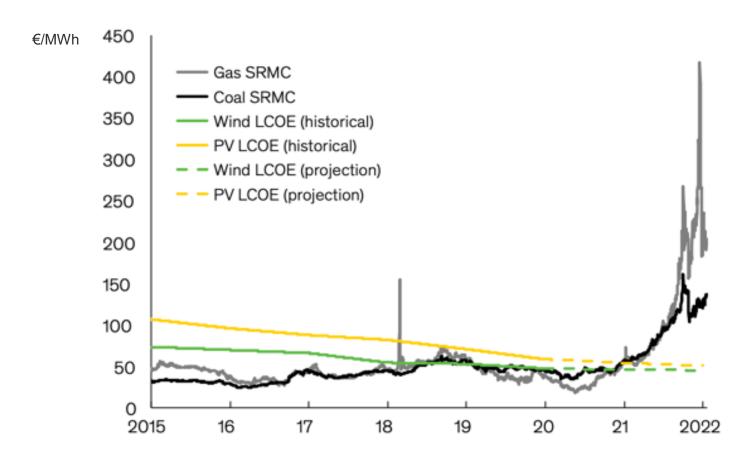
High fossil fuel prices and energy security bring forward change

High prices of fossil fuels reduce fossil fuel demand and massively increase the **competitiveness of renewable technologies**.

Governments have an additional **energy security and economic incentive** to deploy renewables and increase efficiency. Witness the IRA in the United States, REPowerEU in Europe, and the IEA Sonderborg Action Plan on efficiency.

Renewable energy deployment **continues to grow exponentially**. We expect solar growth in 2022 of ~30% and EV sales growth of ~60%.

The removal of 5% of global fossil fuel supply from Russia inevitably means some new coal and LNG supply. But net fossil fuel demand will still fall. Marginal Costs of Fossil Fuels vs. Total Cost of Renewables (Germany)



RMI – Energy. Transformed. Source: McKinsey

## So the Energy Future Will Be Different from the Past

As the growth of new technologies drives energy system change

In 2019, fossil fuels supplied 83% of primary energy demand according to BP.

But in 2019 non-fossils already supplied 85% of the **growth** in primary energy demand because of their **exponential growth**.

From 2019–21 **all the growth** in primary energy supply (8 EJ) has been met by **renewables**.

**All the growth** in future supply of primary and useful energy will come from **renewables** in the Rystad central scenario.

So **fossil fuel demand** has **peaked**. And now its only future is **plateau and then decline**.

