Feed in or Certificates, Complementarity or competition? The industrial strategy challenge to Europe

Atle Midttun and Kristian Gautesen The Norwegian School of Management Realise project Presentation at the Realise project conference Milano December 15th

The Argument in a Nutshell

- Debate between proponents of feed in versus certificates
- The two approaches are often considered contradictory
- We argue that they could be complementary in a dynamic perspective of economic development

Two perspectives on the economy

- Mainstream neoclassical approach: efficient allocation of economic resources between alternative deployment under given and scarce technologies and resources
- Marx-Schumpeter model of industrial dynamics: technological competition is a major form of competition: Innovations open up new business opportunities that secure growth and economic welfare

Two challenges to the firm

- Lazonick: The optimising firm and the innovating firm (streamlining business model vs entrepreneurship)
- March: Exploitation and exploration;
- Towards a dynamic synthesis
 - Both the static and dynamic perspectives are valid
 - The firms have to live in both worlds
 - This duality can be resolved in a dynamic analysis.

The Product Cycle as a Point of Departure

Volume



Time ⁵





Sequential application of regulatory instruments



Feed in tariffs in Germany and Certificate prices in Sweden



Support systems and Learning Curves



Support systems and Learning Curves



Two positions on industrial effects of regulation

Conventional Wisdom

• Strict regulation $- \rightarrow$ competitive handicap

The Porter & Van der Linde theorem

- Strict regulation -→ competitive advantage
- Pioneering regulation → pioneering industrial performance
- With its advanced env. policy, Europe has betted on the 2nd position
- But will we reap the benefits?



The experience curve is a measure of the efficiency of the feedback, or learning loop, for the system.

First mover advantage



Two European approaches

National market segmentation

- Segmented arenas for national technology development
- Pluralistic European industry development
- Securing "right" distributive effects

European scale and scope

- Mainstreaming
 European best practice
- Building momentum towards global competition
- Advantages of optimal location & technology

An argument for Europeanisation: Ricardian trade advantages



An argument for Europeanisation: Possibility for Technology differentiation



Transformation

