

Annual Conference of SCCER CREST 2018

Do visions and scenario analyses influence policies – and energy use?

Insights from 25 years of research and policy consulting

Dr. Rolf Iten

A black and white photograph of Winston Churchill wearing a hat, serving as the background for a collage of text boxes.

Energieaussichten für das nächste Jahrhundert
Szenarien mit vielen Ungewissheiten

Der Berg
hat eine Maus geboren

Eiszeit in der helvetischen Energiepolitik

Strom-Lückenfüller gesucht

Drei Kernkraftwerke
als Ersatz gefordert

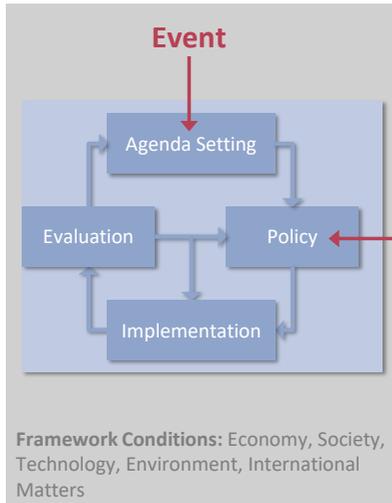
Stromeffizienz erübrigt Bau von Grosskraftwerken

Es gibt keinen Königsweg

Eklat um Bericht für langfristige Energiepolitik

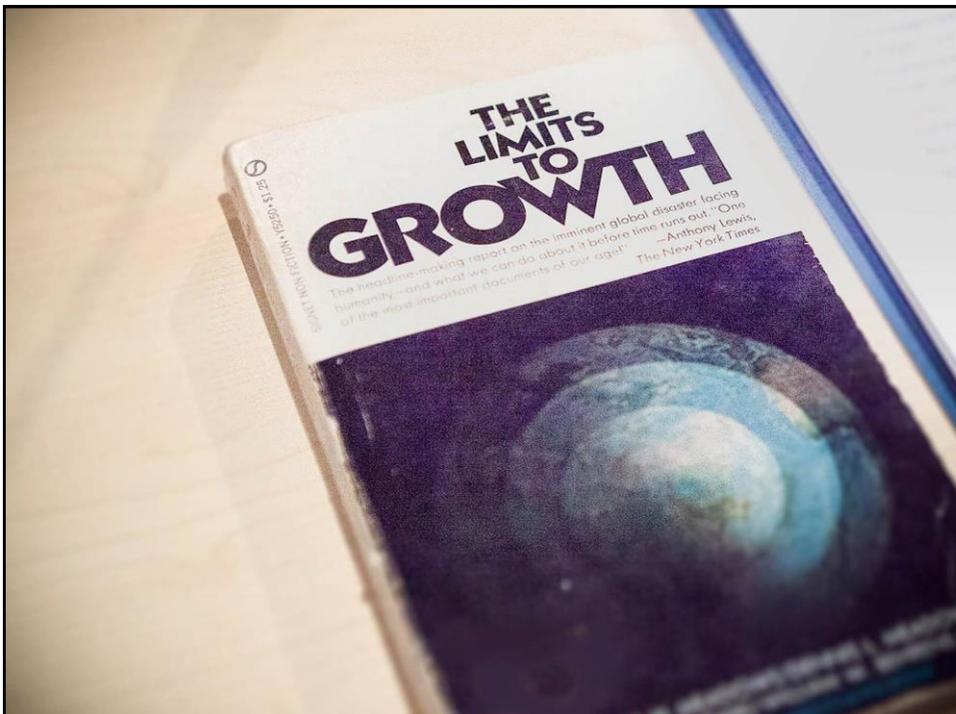
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Scenario Analysis in the Policy Cycle



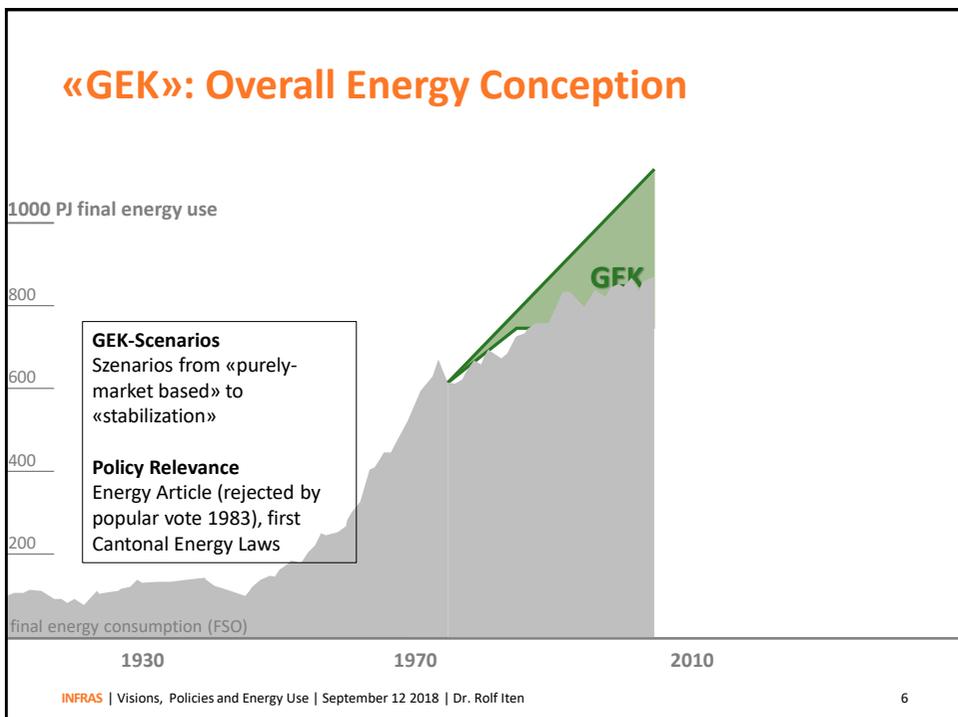
- What is technically and behaviourally feasible?
- Which goals can be achieved?
- At what cost? for whom?

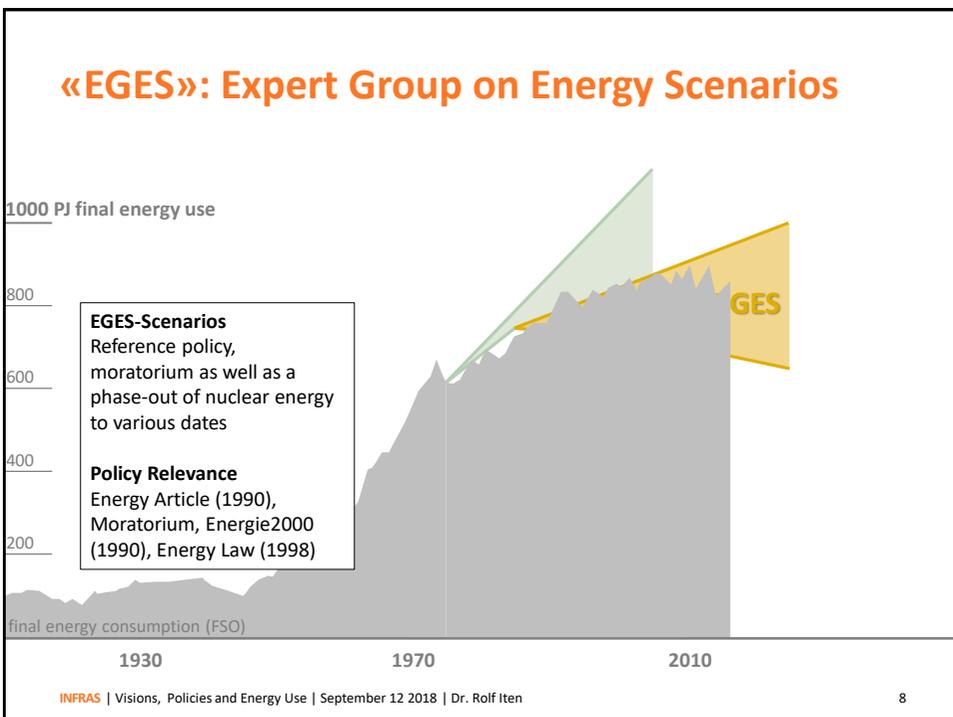
- What are the impacts on the environment and on the economy?
- What public and private measures are necessary to achieve the goals?





Süddeutsche Zeitung

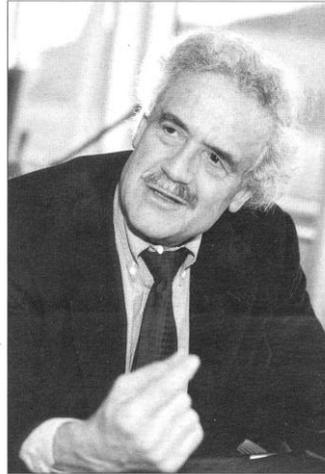


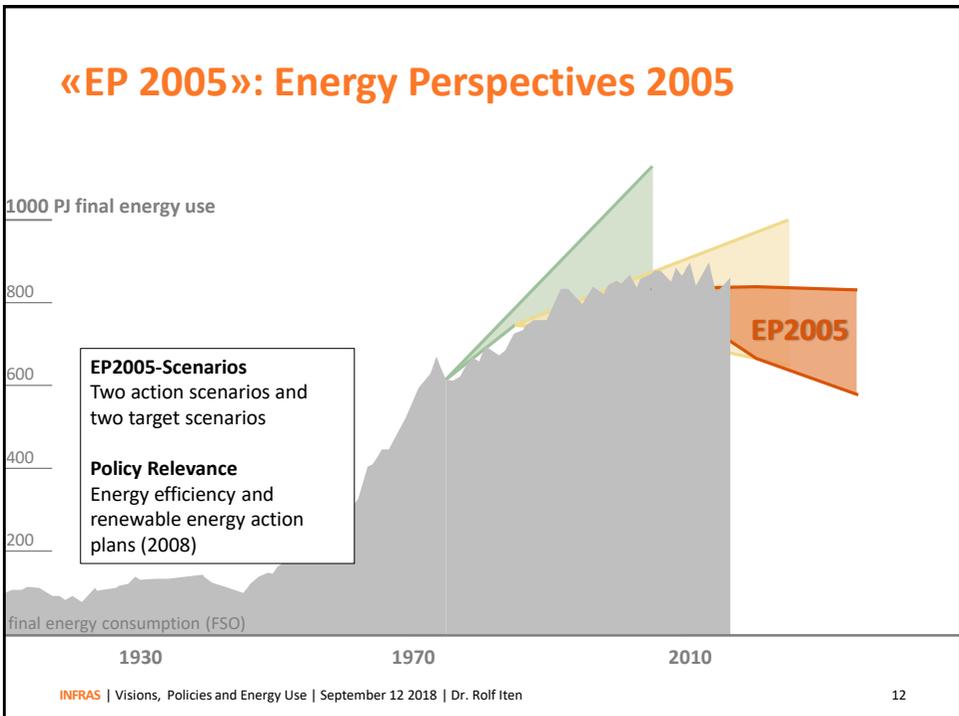


Interim conclusion: Hans-Luzius Schmid 2004

“Results after 15 years (1974-90):
Hundreds of perspectives and
scenarios, tons of paper. All
referendums rejected, mainly because
of the dispute on nuclear power during
all these years.”

„The turn came with the ‚Yes‘ to the
Energy article and the nuclear energy
Moratorium in September 1990. For
the first time, there was a broad
consensus on the
energy policy priorities of energy
efficiency and renewable energy.”





**STROMEFFIZIENZ UND
ERNEUERBARE ENERGIEN –
WIRTSCHAFTLICHE ALTERNATIVE
ZU GROSSKRAFTWERKEN**

Schlussbericht
Zürich, 7. Mai 2010

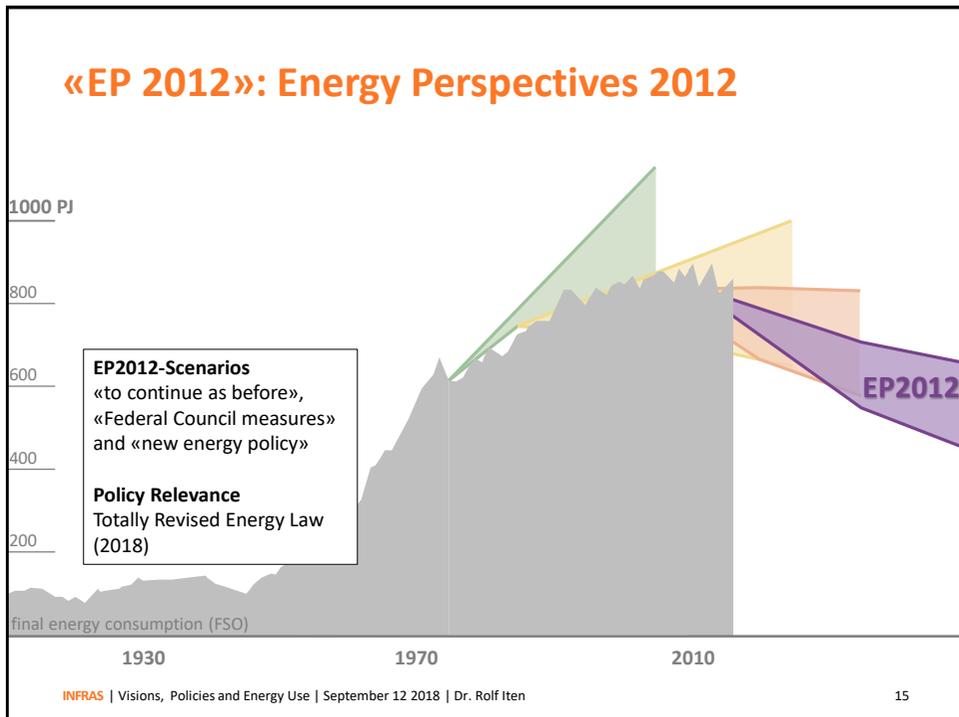
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Summary: Events – Scenarios – Policies

Event	Scenarios	Policies
1973 Oil Price Shock	Overall Energy Concept (GEK, 1974-78)	Energy Article (rejected by popular vote 1983) Cantonal Energy Laws
1986 Chernobyl	Expert Group on Energy Scenarios (EGES, 1987)	Energy Article (1990), Moratorium, Energie2000 (1990), Energy Law (1998)
1997 Kyōto	Various scenario analyses between 1994 and 2004	CO2 Law (2000)
2000's Electricity gap discussion	E-Perspectives 2005	Energy efficiency and renewable energy action plans (2008)
2011 Fukushima	E-Perspectives 2012	Totally Revised Energy Law (2018)

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Lessons from 40 years of scenario analyses

1. No policy without fundamentals - i.e. scenario analyses
2. Scenario analyses are ...
 - ... always associated with uncertainties
 - ... part of the political process
 - ... provide an important basis for decision making
3. But the impact on politics is restricted

The irony – or dilemma – of scenario analyses

Scenario analyses...

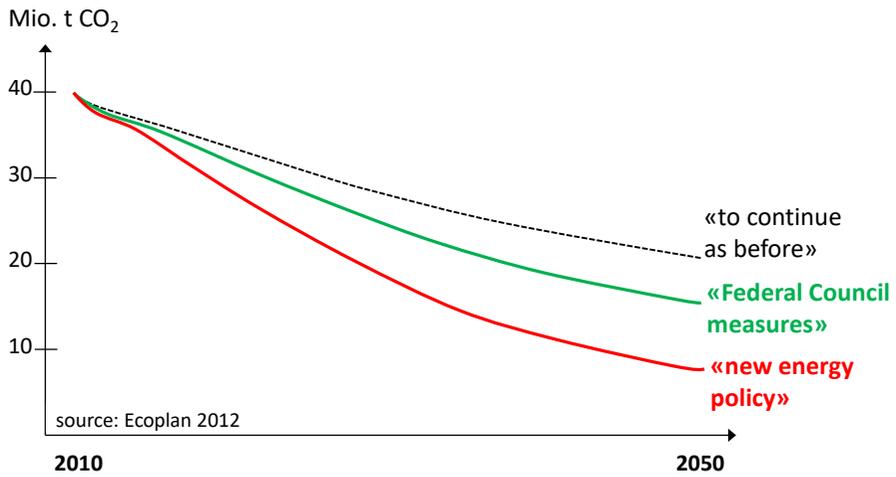
- provide the "facts", show that the goals would be attainable, translate targets into imaginable measures which is actually positive 😊!

...at the same time...

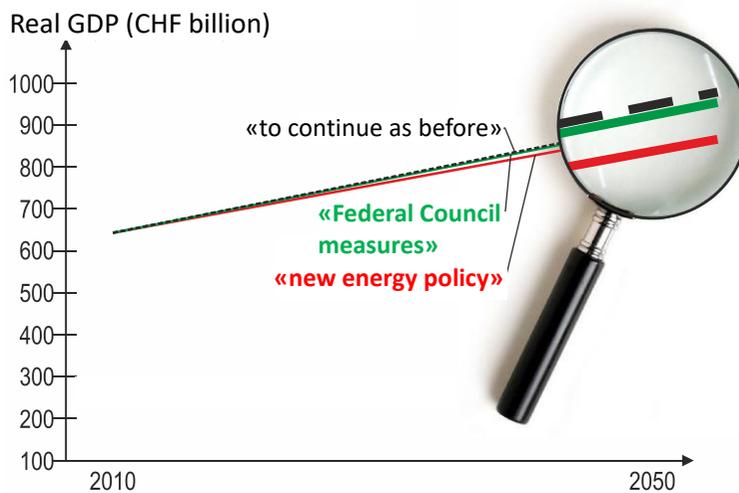
scenario analyses...

- set a barrier to the achievement of goals by pointing out concretely which political decisions are needed for this 😞!

Illustration: Targets are achievable...



... at negligible economic costs!



... but insufficient policy implemented!

Adieu, Lenkungssystem
Die Verteuerung von Strom und Brennstoffen erhält von keiner Partei Unterstützung

source: OFEN

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How can we turn the «energy transition» into reality?

Impact of energy/environmental policy

a "big case" is needed!

<p>Price steering</p> <p>E.g.: Combined energy/CO2 tax, mobility pricing</p>	<p>Combined approach</p> <p>E.g.: Individual CO2 budgets</p>	<p>Regulations</p> <p>E.g.: Oil heating ban</p>	<p>or we subsidize, but it's more expensive and less effective</p>
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Awareness raising, information, consulting, education/training

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Five Theses for the future

1. Scenario analyses are necessary but not sufficient
2. Careful handling of the tool is decisive
3. The dilemma of scenario analysis has to be handled
4. A trustworthy interaction of stakeholders is a “sine qua non” condition
5. Scenario analyses do influence politics but are - at the same time - an element of politics

...and as we know...

“Politics is the art of the possible, the attainable, the art of the next best”

Otto von Bismarck





Thank you!

Rolf Iten

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