

Need the Lights Go Out?

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A Keynote talk given at
Smart Grids and Cleanpower 2010
24/25 June at Cambridge University
<http://bit.ly/cleanpower>
organised by CIR

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Changes of Energy Minister in 10 years

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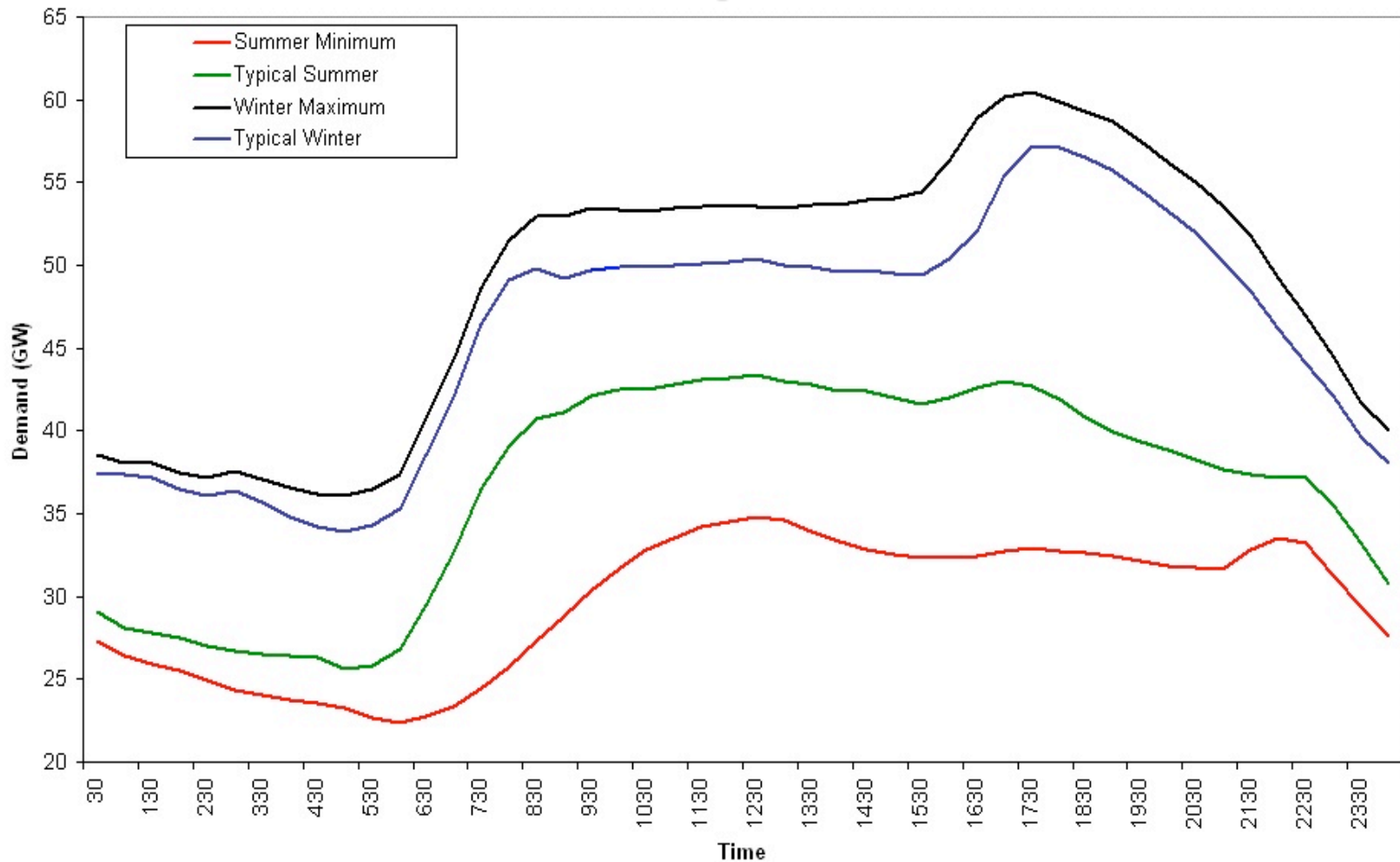
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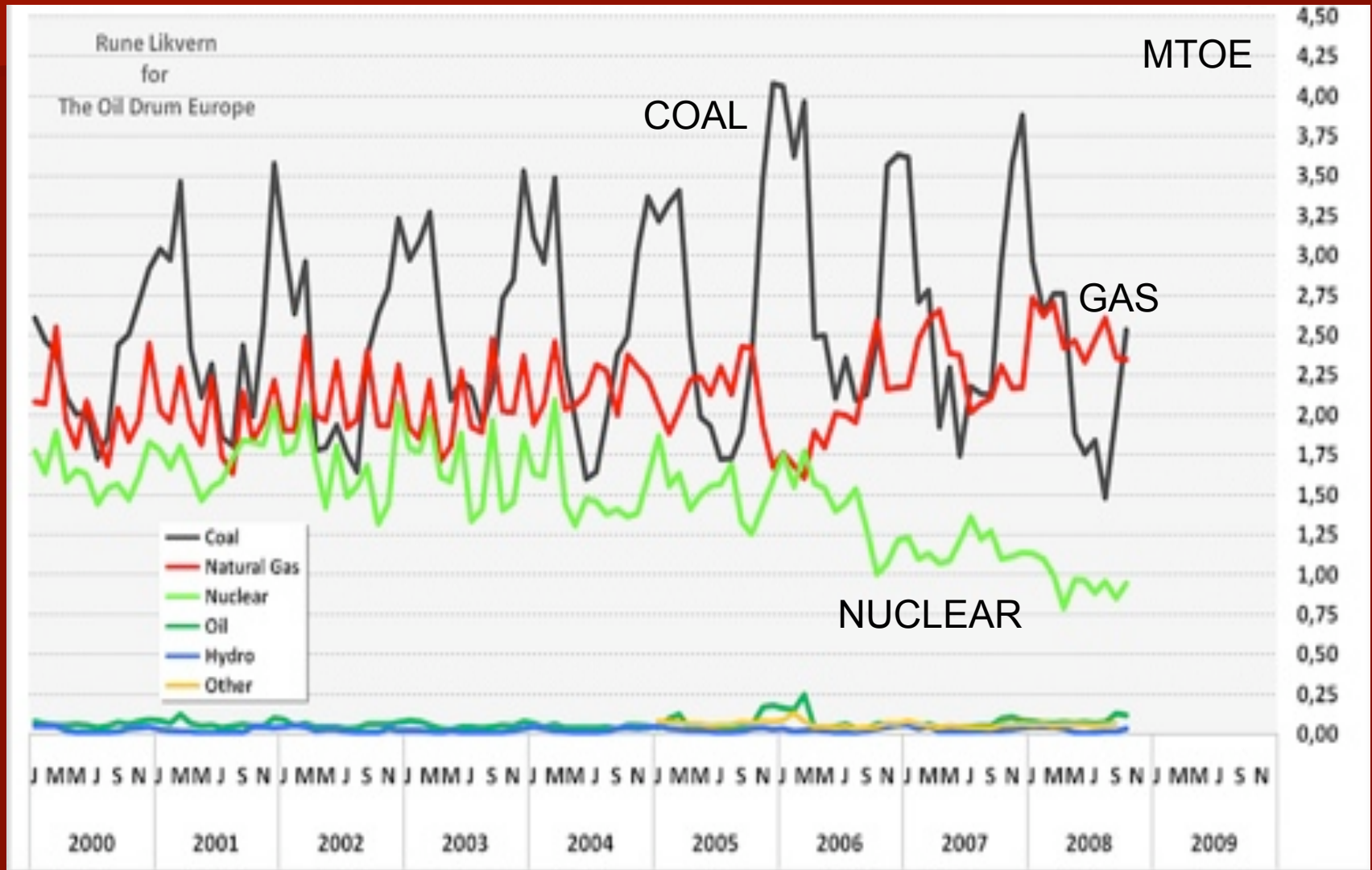
UK losing between 10 and 15 GW of
generation capacity over next five years

- Maximum winter demand ca. 60GW
- Minimum summer demand ca. 20 GW
- Demand met by
 - Long term supply agreements
 - short term bids to supply
 - price as low as possible
- Will demand increase or decrease?
 - Improved efficiency and energy saving

Annual & Diurnal Variation in UK Electricity Demand



Fuel Use: UK Electricity Generation 2000-2008



The Challenge

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- Evolve a market system that:
 - Aligns commercial incentives with national requirement
 - Near term – meets demand over next five years
 - Longer term – develops an evolving system of sustainable electricity generation

Requirements:

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 - Secure (availability & fuel security)
 - Flexible
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- Functions under BETTA (British Electricity Trading and Transmission Arrangement) - designed to minimize cost:
- Attaches value to non-commercial benefits
 - security
 - carbon

Electricity supply SYSTEM

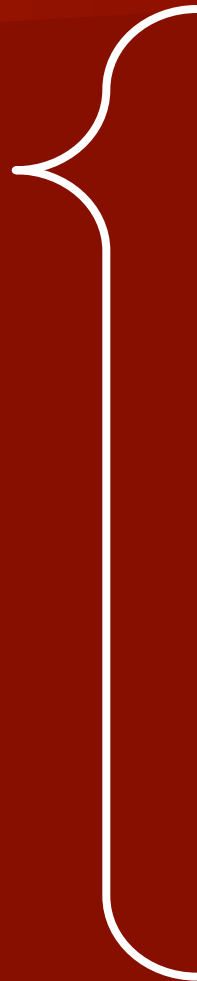
System =

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- Local
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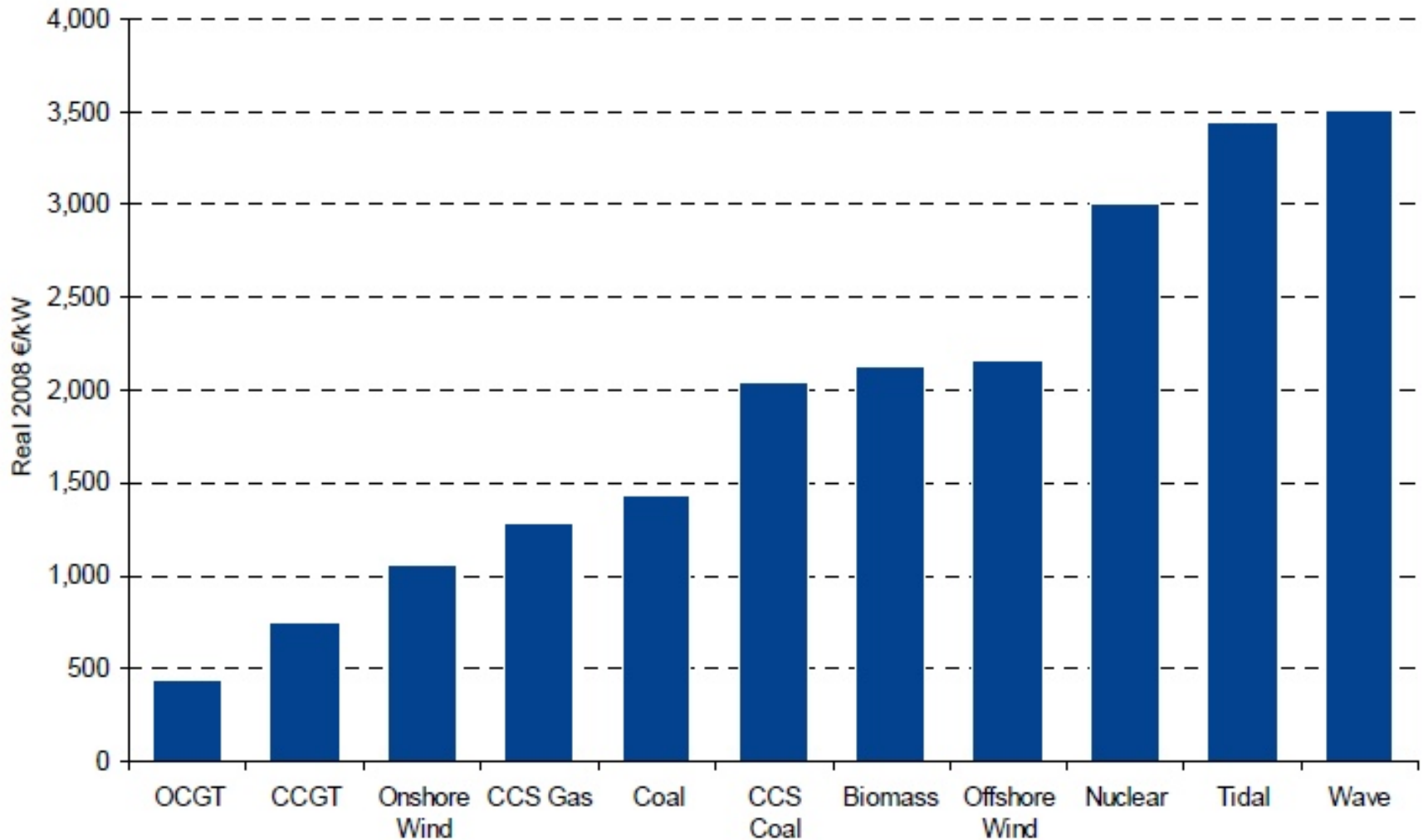
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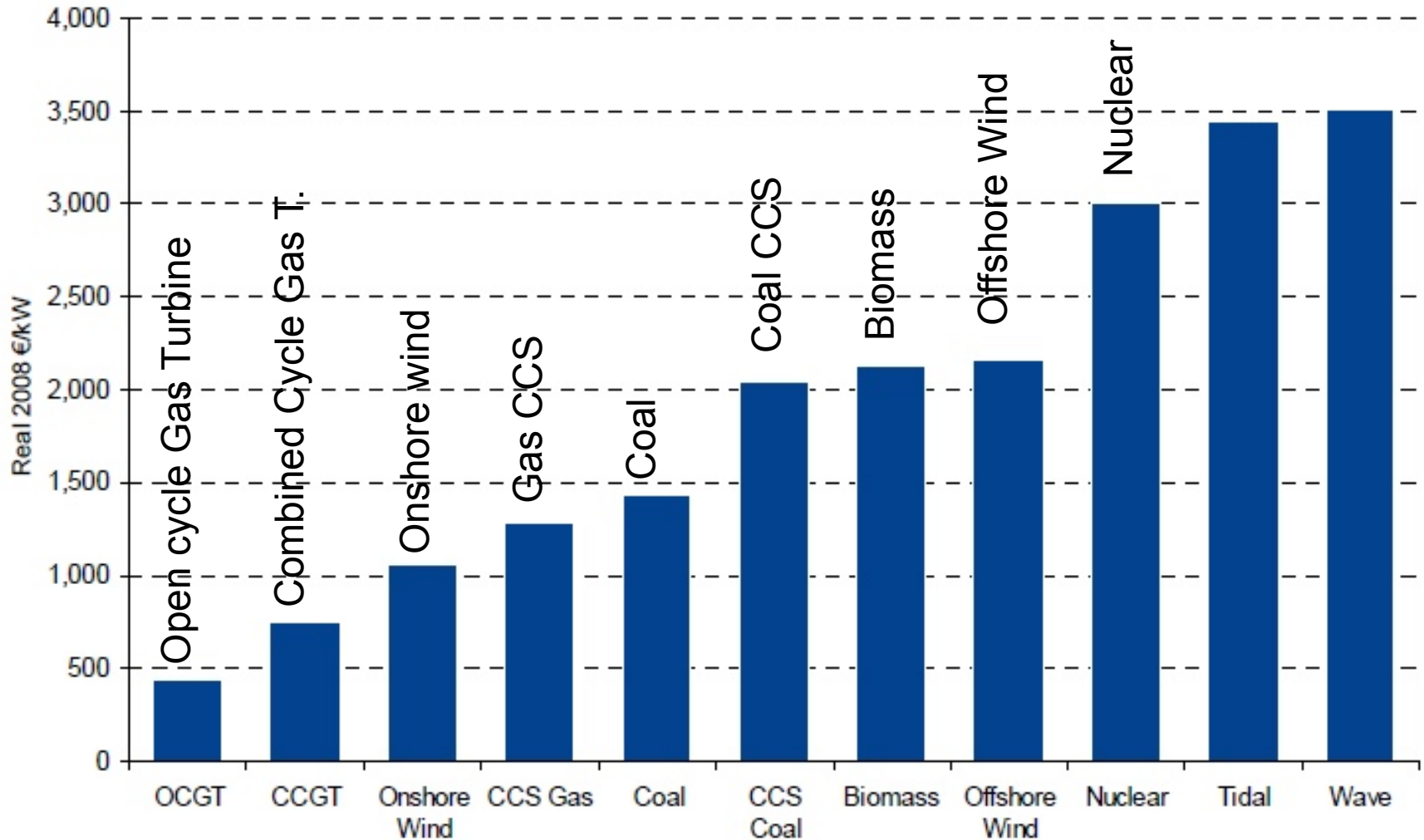
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Capital Costs of Generation Technologies (Poyry, 2010)



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Different Generation Modes

	Capex Euro/ kW	Opex	Flexible ?	CO2?	Fuel Secure	Availa bility?
Wind & Intermit. R	1000 – 2200	Low	Nil	Almost none	N/A	25-35%
Nuclear	3000	Low	Low	V. Low	N/A	90%
Gas	750	Intermed	High	High	Fair	90%
Coal & Biomass	1450	Intermed	Fairly	VV High (Coal)	Good	90%

No account taken of connection costs

Wind Intermittency

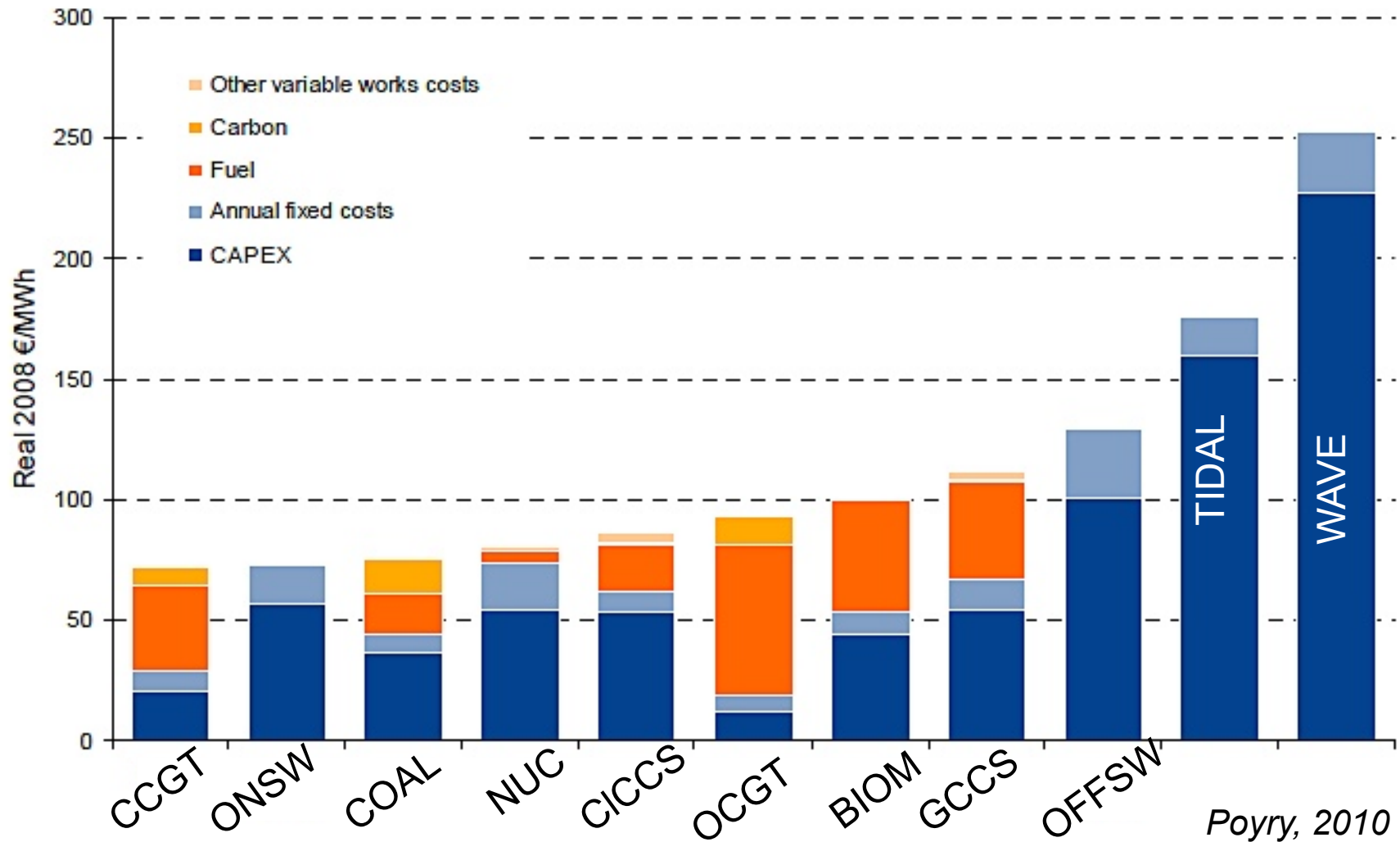
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- Two different but related issues:
 - regional calm rare, but other capacity needed in those periods
 - Wind can change at 16MW/min - other parts of the system must be able to balance rapidly

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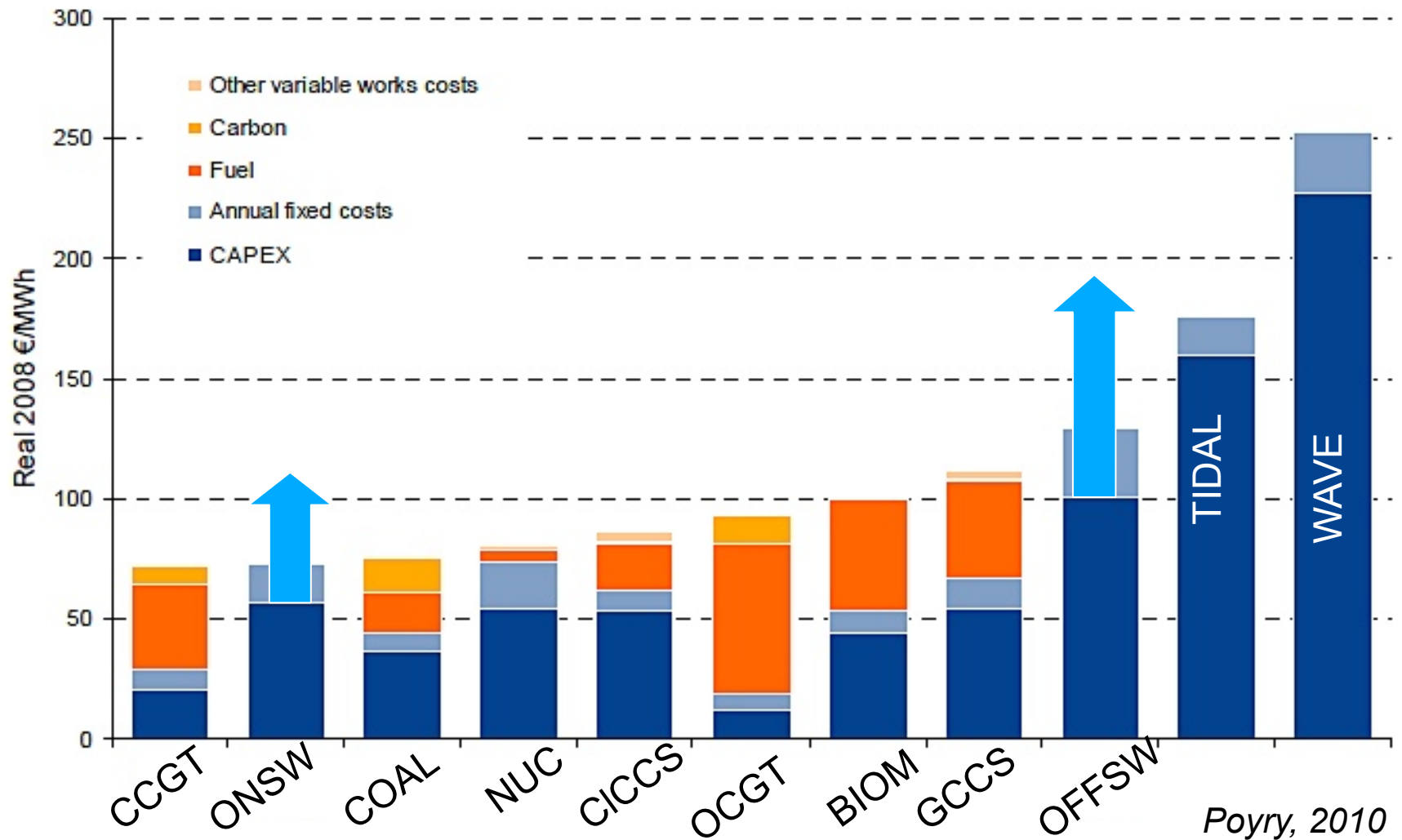
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- Balancing
 - Inter-connectors?
 - Electricity storage
 - Gas back-up
 - Gas storage

Annual Costs of Electricity Generation Technologies

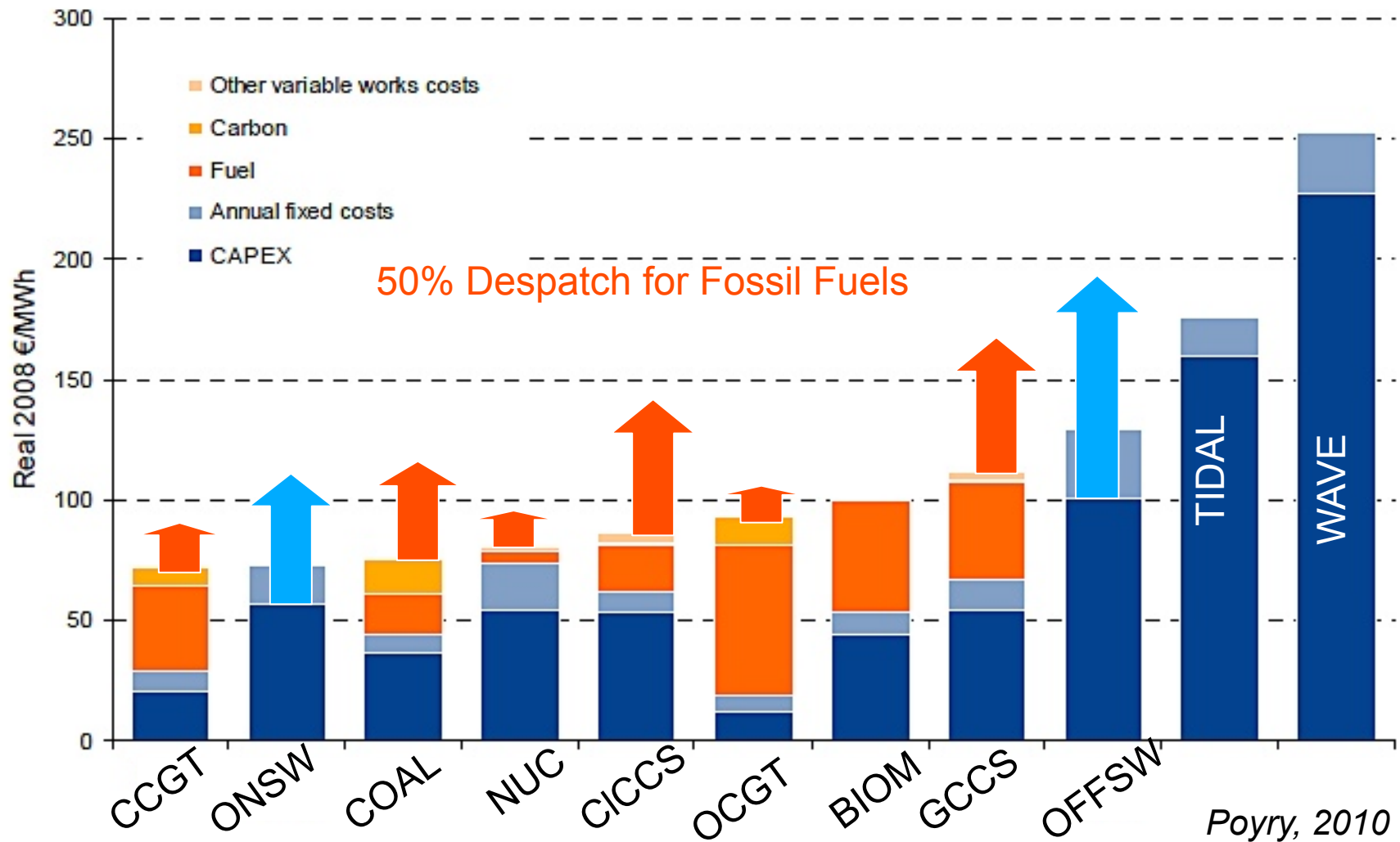


Poyry, 2010

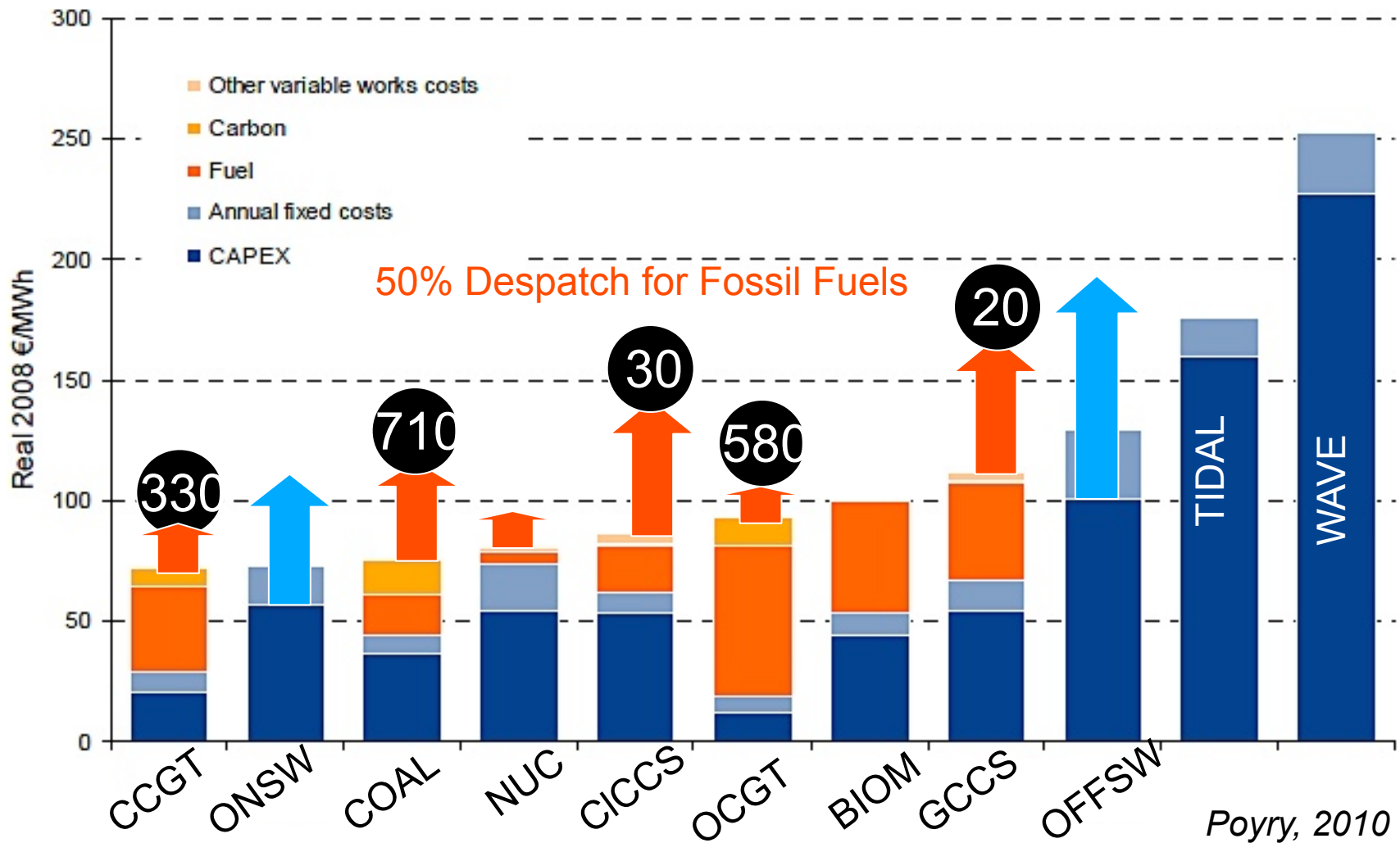
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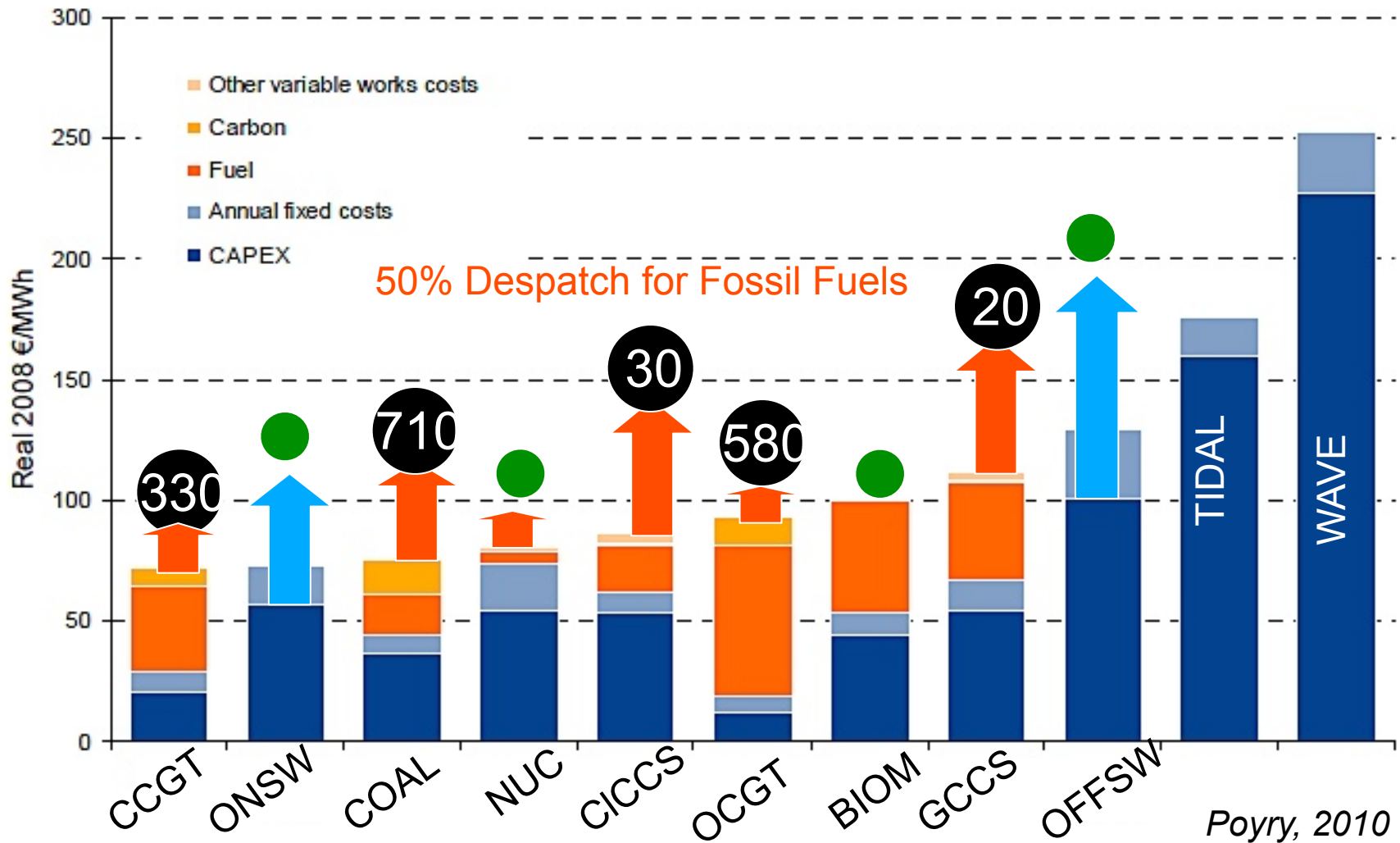
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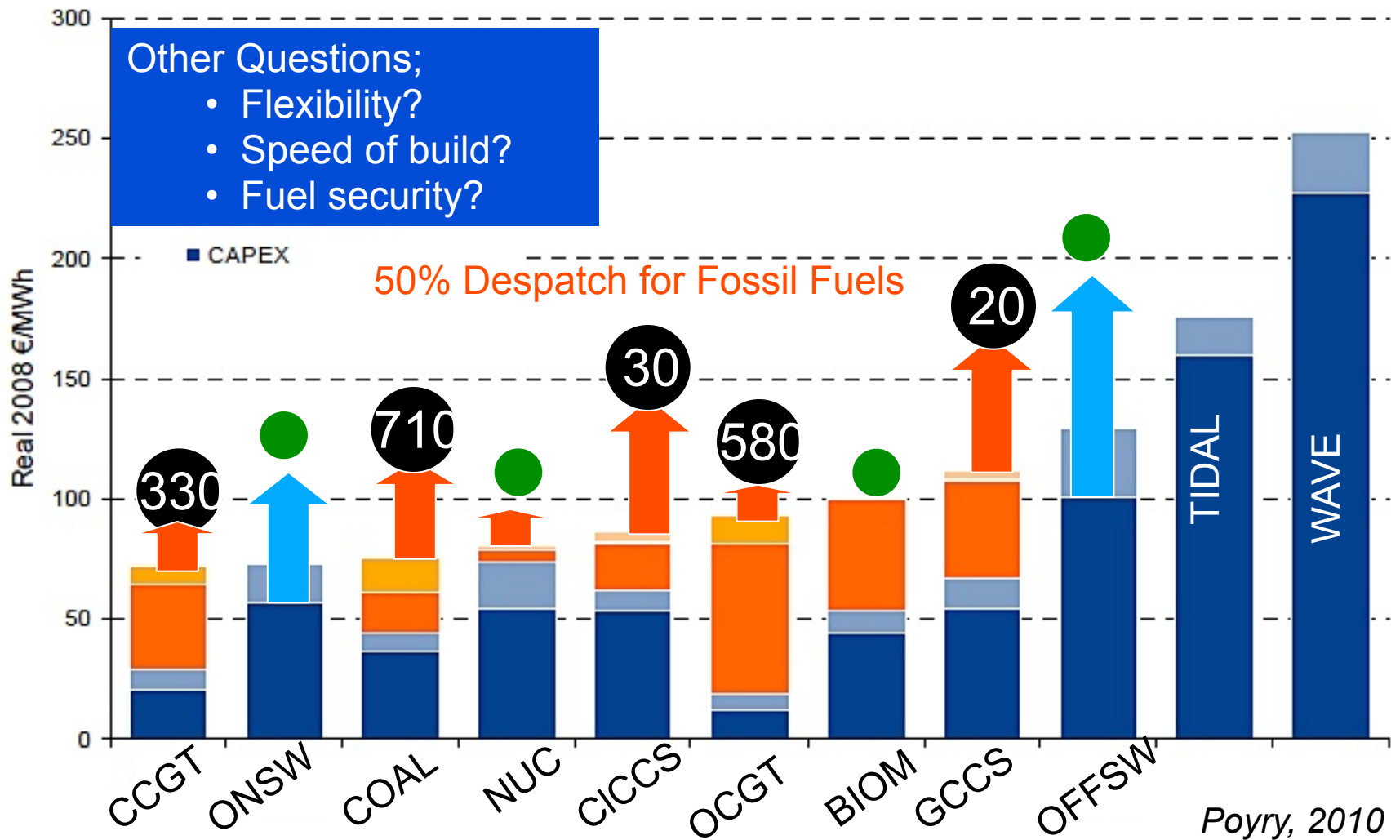
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Annual Costs of Electricity Generation Technologies



Costs & Emissions of Generation

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- ❑ Cost of electricity & CO₂/kwh are for system as a whole
- ❑ Depend on;
 - ❑ Demand profile
 - ❑ Depend on despatch policy
 - ❑ Capacity payments

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- Urgency leaves little immediate alternative to gas - gas availability? – shale gas

Wind Variation in N-Germany, Christmas 2004

