



Press release

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Wind power is competitive

A recent scenario analysis made by Emerging Energy Research (EER) on behalf of Vestas Wind Systems A/S concludes that based on the economic and risk analysis of power generation, wind technology can no longer be marginalised in the power mix. Thus, wind power should be supported in its penetration of the conventional power market to ensure a cleaner, more balanced energy supply in the future.

The analysis (enclosed below) presents the following results:

- In a carbon constrained world, wind power can be competitive with several conventional power technologies depending on the price of carbon. EER's analysis considers the impact of the cost of carbon at 30 euros per metric tonnes.
- Much of the generation capacity we are currently using in Europe is more than 20 years old and has as such been 100 per cent depreciated. Therefore, this analysis is interesting in that it compares like with like, i.e. newly built wind power plants with newly built conventional power plants.

All things considered, wind power is a superb supplement to the current power mix as it increases the supply of electricity, reduces the consumption of conventional fuels, has little or no carbon footprint and is an inexhaustible local resource.

Any questions regarding this press release may be addressed to Peter Brun, Senior Vice President of Governmental Relations, telephone: +45 9730 0000.

Yours sincerely,
Vestas Wind Systems A/S

Peter Brun
Senior Vice President, Governmental Relations



emerging energy research



Comparative Costs of Energy Coal, CCGT, Wind

6 October 2006

Alex Klein

+1 617 551 8482

aklein@emerging-energy.com

About the Economic Comparison

- Three price scenarios have been provided: Low Case, Base Case, and High Case. For each of these scenarios, the price of electricity includes and excludes a €30 carbon penalty for the generation of CO₂ from fossil fuels.
- Estimates of the cost of electricity have been calculated using EER's in-house financial model. Our assumptions, presented in the following, are derived from various industry sources and internal judgments.
- The information provided is based on our estimates of the cost of building a new facility in continental Europe. Actual plant costs can vary significantly based on technology, supplier and location.
- Low and high cost scenarios define a broad range of market conditions to reflect price sensitivity to changes in capital, operating, commodity and fuel costs.
- Economics exclude the potential impact of financial distorters including grants and subsidies. Our assumptions also exclude the cost of land and taxes.

Key considerations in anticipating future electricity production costs

- **Natural Gas - CCGT**

- Fuel prices will be the single most critical factor contributing to the cost of electricity from new build CCGT plants.
- Efficiency of new CCGT plants is improving, in some cases exceeding 55%, with the industry targeting 60% in the short- to-medium term.
- Increased commodity prices and more advanced NOx control systems are adding to the investment cost of newer facilities.

- **Wind**

- Industry scaling and technology improvements have reduced capital and operating costs significantly over the last decade.
- Supply chain shortages and increased commodity prices have led to increased capital costs over the last 2-3 years.
- As the industry adjusts to greater demand globally, capital costs are expected to retrench somewhat.
- Costs are very site specific with costs impacted strongly by wind speed and variability.
- Wind can have relatively short planning and construction times helping to reduce overnight capital costs incurred and planning risk compared with other generation projects.

Key considerations in anticipating future electricity production costs

- **Pulverised Coal Combustion**

- New build coal in Europe must meet the EU Large Combustion Plant Directive (LCPD), which requires Flue-Gas Desulphurization (FGD) increasing the cost of new plants over those built in the previous decade.
- The efficiency of new combustion plants is improving, approaching 40%, helping to offset higher capital and fuel costs.
- Plant performance, and sensitivity to fluctuating carbon prices, will be impacted by the quality of coal used as the feedstock (ie anthracite, bituminous, sub-bituminous, lignite).

- **IGCC with carbon capture**

- A great deal of uncertainty surrounds true costs as no commercial plants have operated in this configuration.
- As with any novel technology, availability and performance will be crucial to realising theoretical costs predicted from engineering and design studies.
- Logistics and regulatory requirements associated with CO₂ storage have not yet been fully defined, and will have an important impact on actual future costs of operation.
- In some instances, value added end markets for CO₂, such as for use in EOR, may help to offset the required capital and operating costs associated with capturing, storing and transporting CO₂.
- Other technologies, such as Oxyfuel combustion, could become attractive for near zero emission coal fired generation, but due to the current high price of oxygen separation, this is likely to be more expensive than IGCC with carbon capture in the short-term.

Fixed Assumptions

	Nominal Capacity (MW)	Discount Rate	Economic Lifetime	Energy Content of Fuel
Pulverised Coal Combustion	1,000	8.6%	30	27 MJ / Kg
IGCC	600	8.6%	30	27 MJ / Kg
IGCC w/ CCS	600	8.6%	30	27 MJ / Kg
CCGT	500	8.6%	25	37 MJ/ m ³
Onshore Wind	100	8.6%	20	N/A
Offshore Wind	100	8.6%	20	N/A

Variable Assumptions – Base Case

	Base Case				
	Capex (€/ kW)	Opex (€/ MWh)	Plant Efficiency	Capacity Factor	Fuel Cost
Pulverised Coal Combustion	1,100	9.0	38%	.80	€50 / Tonne
IGCC	1,400	13.0	41.5 %	.75	€50 / Tonne
IGCC w / CCS	1,800	14.0	39 %	.75	€50 / Tonne
CCGT	550	3.8	55%	.80	€4.75 / GJ
Onshore Wind	1,150	3.0	N/A	.30	0
Offshore Wind	1,750	4.0	N/A	.40	0



Variable Assumptions – Low Case



	Low Case				
	Capex (€/ kW)	Opex (€/ MWh)	Plant Efficiency	Capacity Factor	Fuel Cost
Pulverised Coal Combustion	1,000	8	39%	.80	€40 / Tonne
IGCC	1,350	12.5	42%	.80	€40 / Tonne
IGCC w / CCS	1,650	13.5	39.5%	.80	€40 / Tonne
CCGT	500	2.8	57%	.80	€3.50 / GJ
Onshore Wind	1,050	2.5	N/A	.35	0
Offshore Wind	1,650	3.0	N/A	.43	0

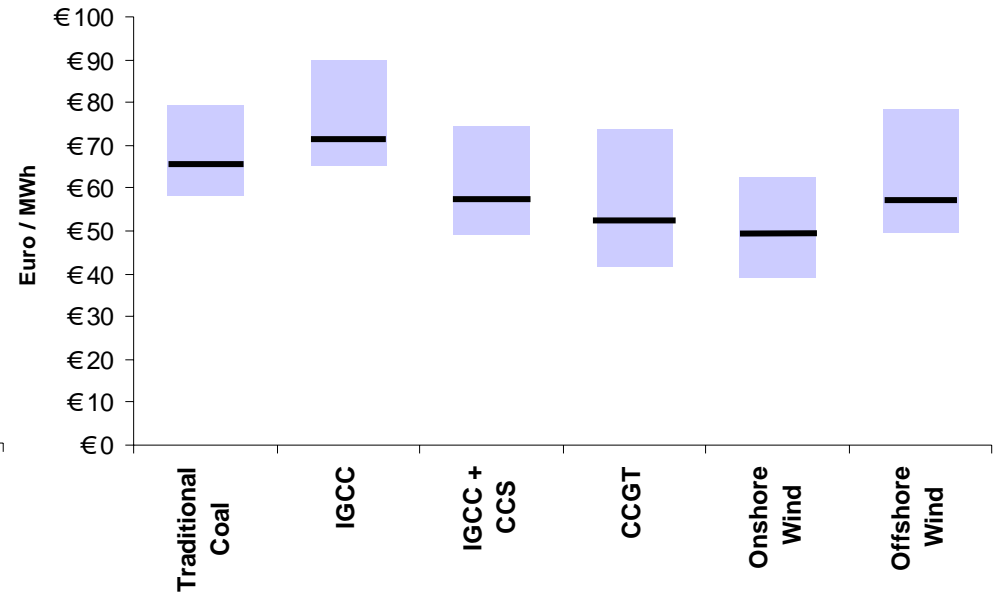
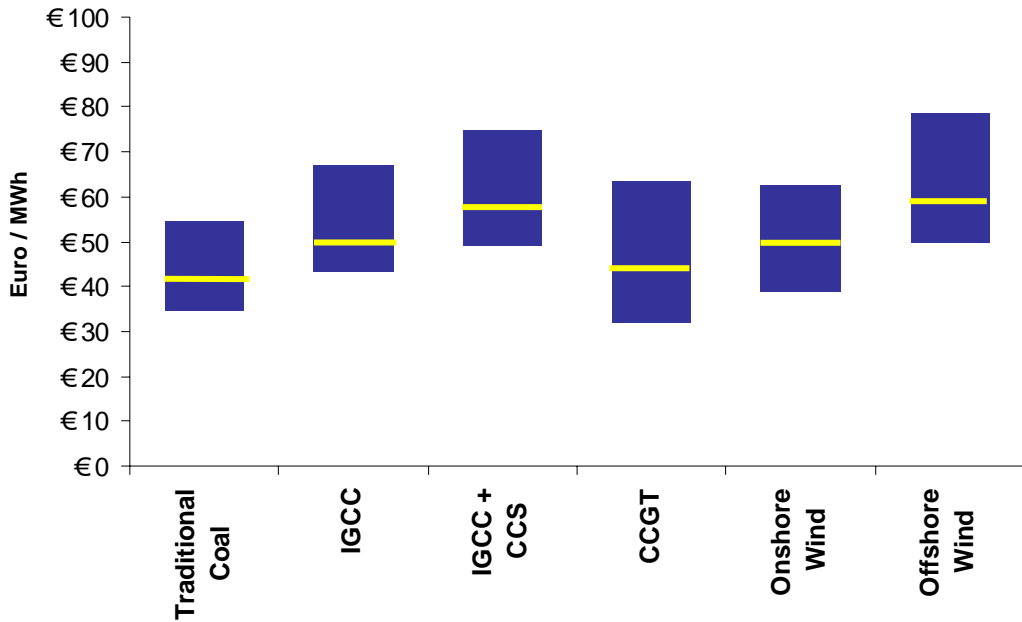
Variable Assumptions – High Case

High Case					
	Capex (€/ kW)	Opex (€/ MWh)	Plant Efficiency	Capacity Factor	Fuel Cost
Pulverised Coal Combustion	1,350	11.0	37%	80	€70 / Tonne
IGCC	1,700	15.5	40%	.65	€70 / Tonne
IGCC w / CCS	2,000	16.5	37%	.65	€70 / Tonne
CCGT	600	4.0	55 %	.80	€8 / GJ
Onshore Wind	1,350	4.0	N/A	.28	0
Offshore Wind	1,950	4.5	N/A	.32	0

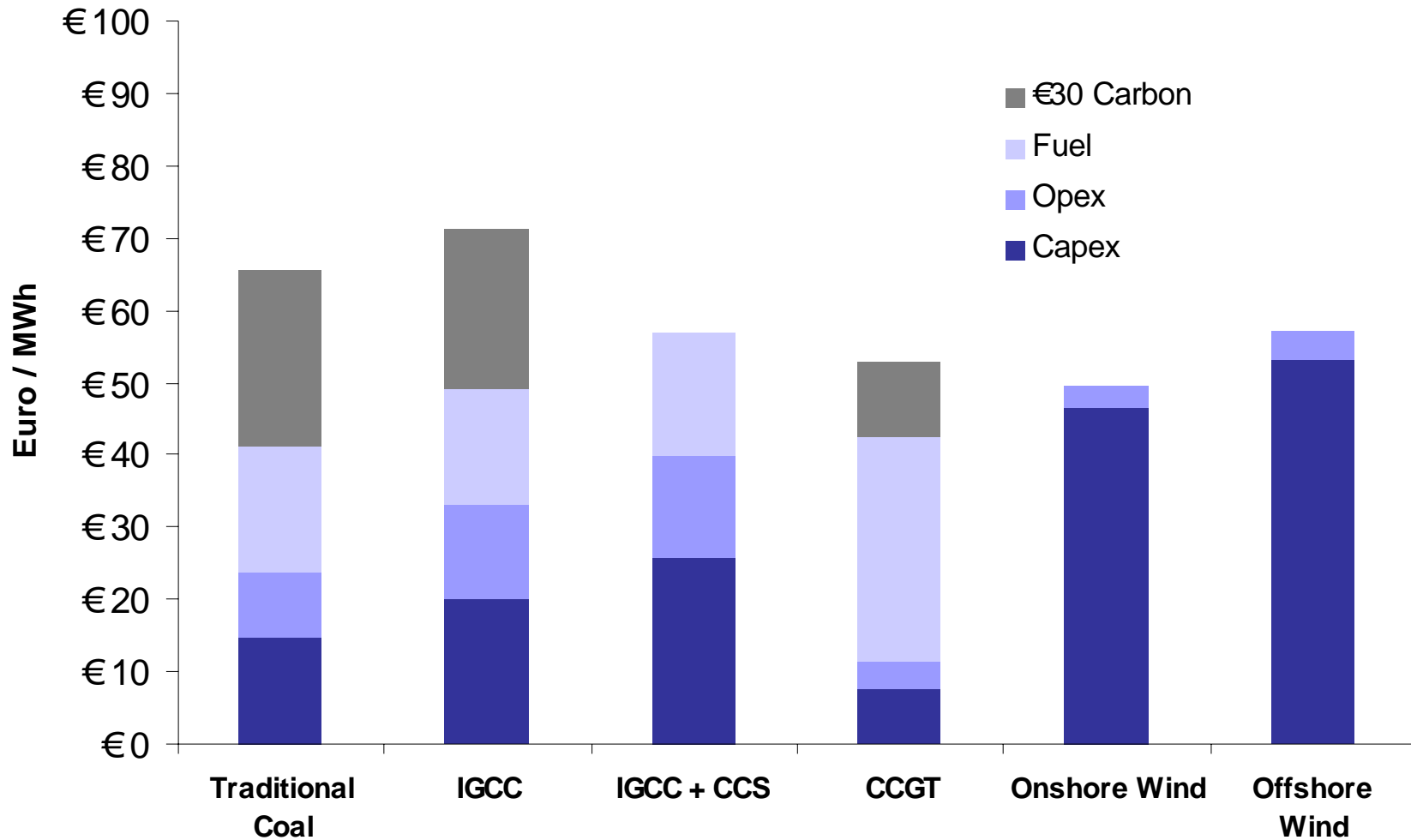
Range of Potential Electricity Costs from Various New Power Plants

 Cost of electricity range without considering the potential cost of carbon
 Base Case

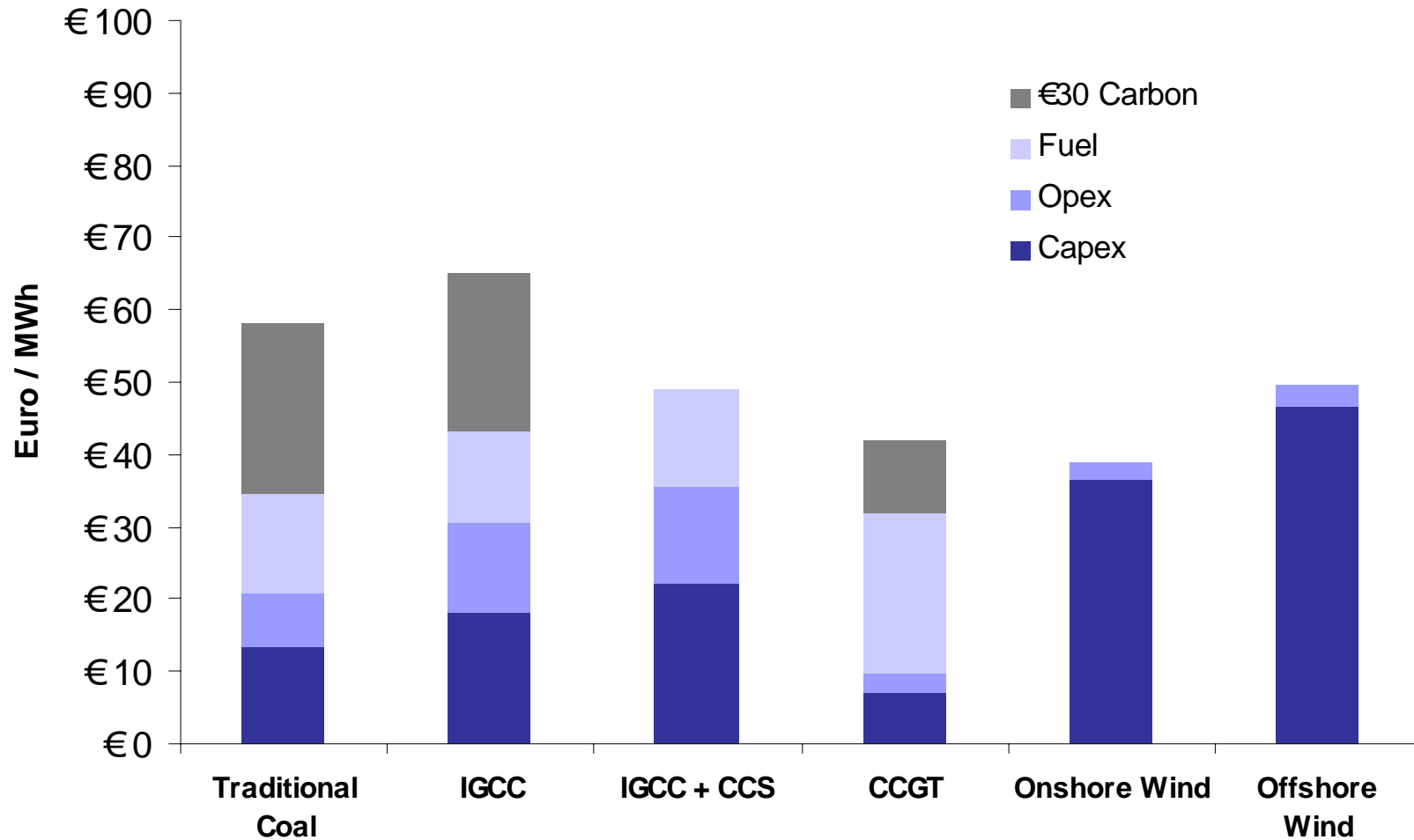
 Cost of electricity range assuming a carbon penalty of €30 / tonne for CO2 derived from fossil fuels
 Base Case



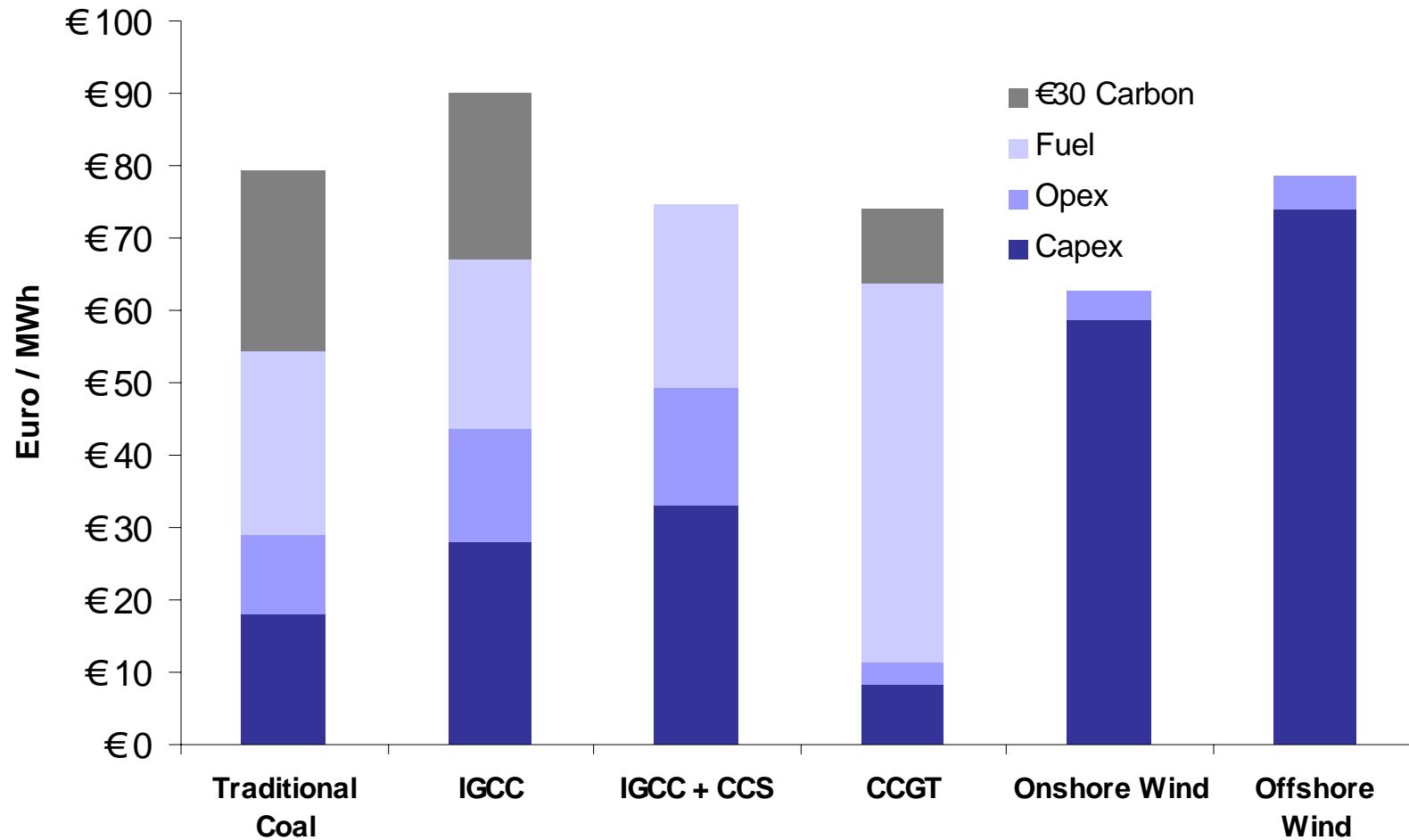
Cost of Electricity – Base Case Comparison w/ €30 Carbon Penalty



Cost of Electricity – Low Case Comparison w/ €30 Carbon Penalty



Cost of Electricity – High Case Comparison w/ €30 Carbon Penalty



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For more information on EER's advisory services, please contact Marcel van Galen at mvangalen@emerging-energy.com, or contact one of our offices:

Cambridge

Emerging Energy Research
700 Technology Square
Cambridge, MA 02139 USA
Phone: +1 617 551 8480
Fax: +1 617 551 8481

Barcelona

Emerging Energy Research
Paseo de Gracia 60, 3B
Barcelona 08007 Spain
Phone: +34 93 467 6750
Fax: +34 93 467 6754



emerging energy research



Comparative Costs of Renewable Power Generation

22 December 2006

Alex Klein

+1 617 551 8482

aklein@emerging-energy.com

About the Economic Comparison

- **Estimates of the cost of electricity have been calculated using EER's in-house financial model. Our assumptions, presented in the following, are derived from various industry sources and internal judgments.**
- **The information provided is based on our estimates of the cost of building a new facility in continental Europe. Actual plant costs can vary significantly based on technology, supplier and location.**
- **Low and high cost scenarios define a broad range of market conditions to reflect price sensitivity to changes in capital, operating, commodity and fuel costs.**
- **Economics exclude the potential impact of financial distorters including grants and subsidies. Our assumptions also exclude the cost of land and taxes.**

Comparative Costs of Renewable Power Generation

Fixed Assumptions

	Nominal Capacity (MW)	Discount Rate	Economic Lifetime	Energy Content of Fuel
Biomass	10	8.6%	30	18 MJ / Kg
Geothermal	50	8.6%	25	N/A
Solar PV	10	8.6%	25	N/A
Solar CSP	50	8.6%	25	N/A
Onshore Wind	100	8.6%	20	N/A
Offshore Wind	100	8.6%	20	N/A

Comparative Costs of Renewable Power Generation

Variable Assumptions – Base Case

	Capex (€/ kW)	Opex (€/ MWh)	Plant Efficiency	Capacity Factor	Fuel Cost
Biomass	1,550	20.0	23%	.75	€50 / Tonne
Geothermal	2,200	13.0	N/A	.85	0
Solar CSP	3,800	40.0	N/A	.23	0
Solar PV	6,100	7.0	N/A	.17	0
Onshore Wind	1,150	3.0	N/A	.30	0
Offshore Wind	1,750	4.0	N/A	.40	0

Comparative Costs of Renewable Power Generation

Variable Assumptions – Low Case

	Capex (€/ kW)	Opex (€/ MWh)	Plant Efficiency	Capacity Factor	Fuel Cost
Biomass	1,500	16.0	25%	.80	€40 / Tonne
Geothermal	1,800	20.0	N/A	.90	N/A
Solar CSP	3,500	30.0	N/A	.24	N/A
Solar PV	5,600	5.0	N/A	.19	N/A
Onshore Wind	1,050	2.5	N/A	.35	0
Offshore Wind	1,650	3.0	N/A	.43	0

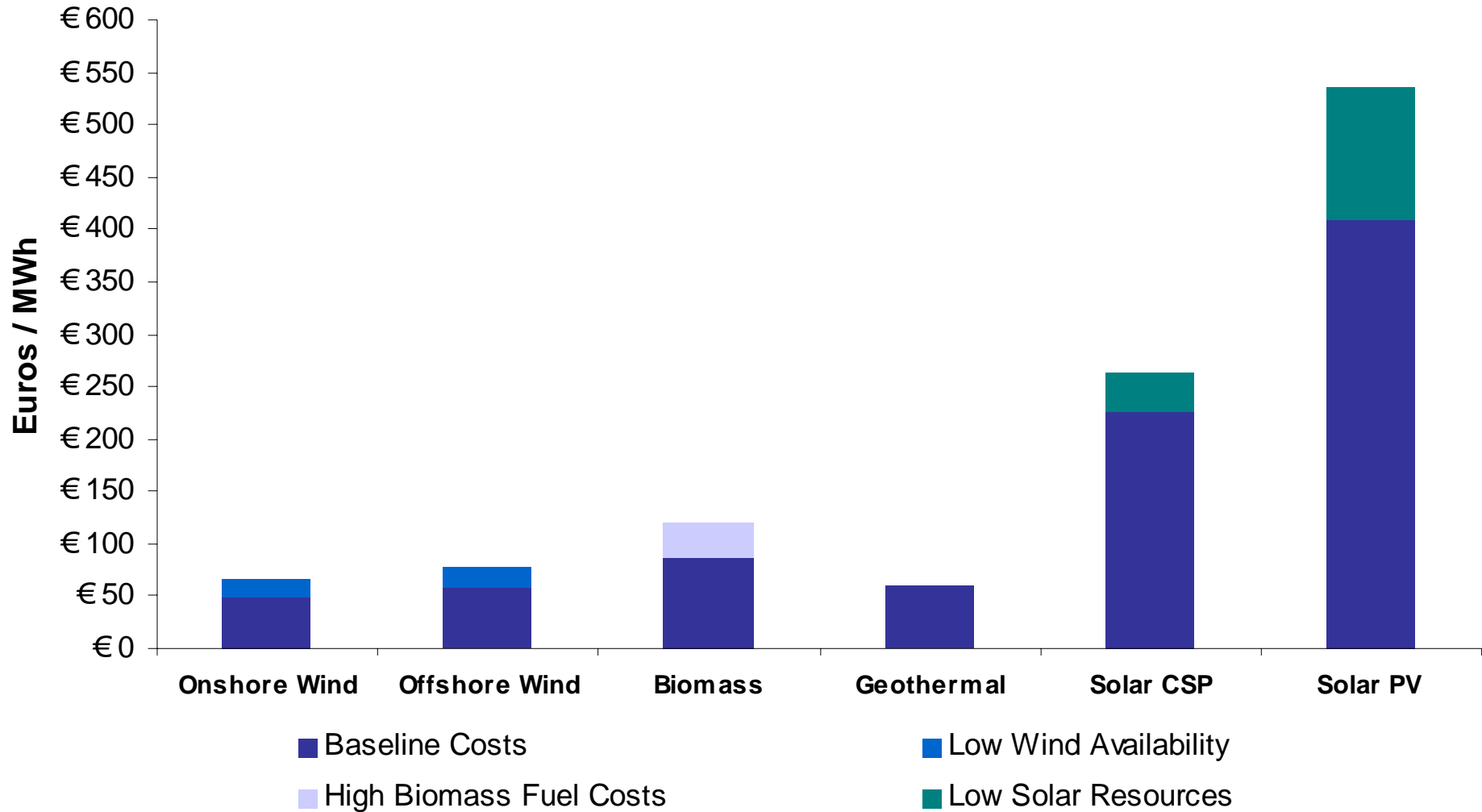
Comparative Costs of Renewable Power Generation

Variable Assumptions – High Case

	Capex (€/ kW)	Opex (€/ MWh)	Plant Efficiency	Capacity Factor	Fuel Cost
Biomass	1,650	24.0	22%	.70	€85 / Tonne
Geothermal	2,300	30.0	N/A	.85	N/A
Solar CSP	4,000	50.0	N/A	.21	N/A
Solar PV	7,000	12.0	N/A	.15	N/A
Onshore Wind	1,450	4.0	N/A	.28	0
Offshore Wind	1,950	4.5	N/A	.32	0

Comparative Costs of Renewable Power Generation

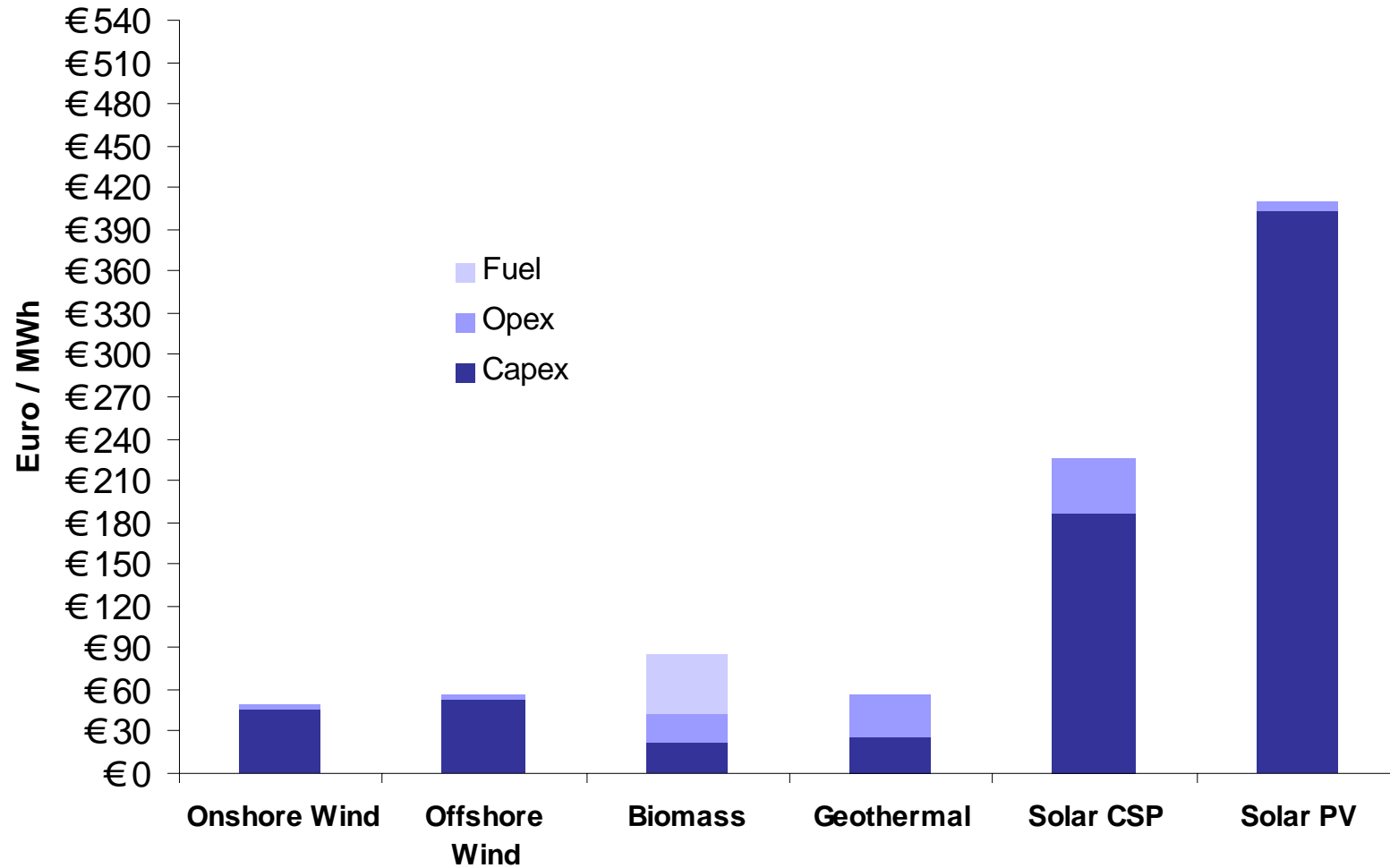
Costs under varying conditions



Source: emerging energy estimates

Comparative Costs of Renewable Power Generation

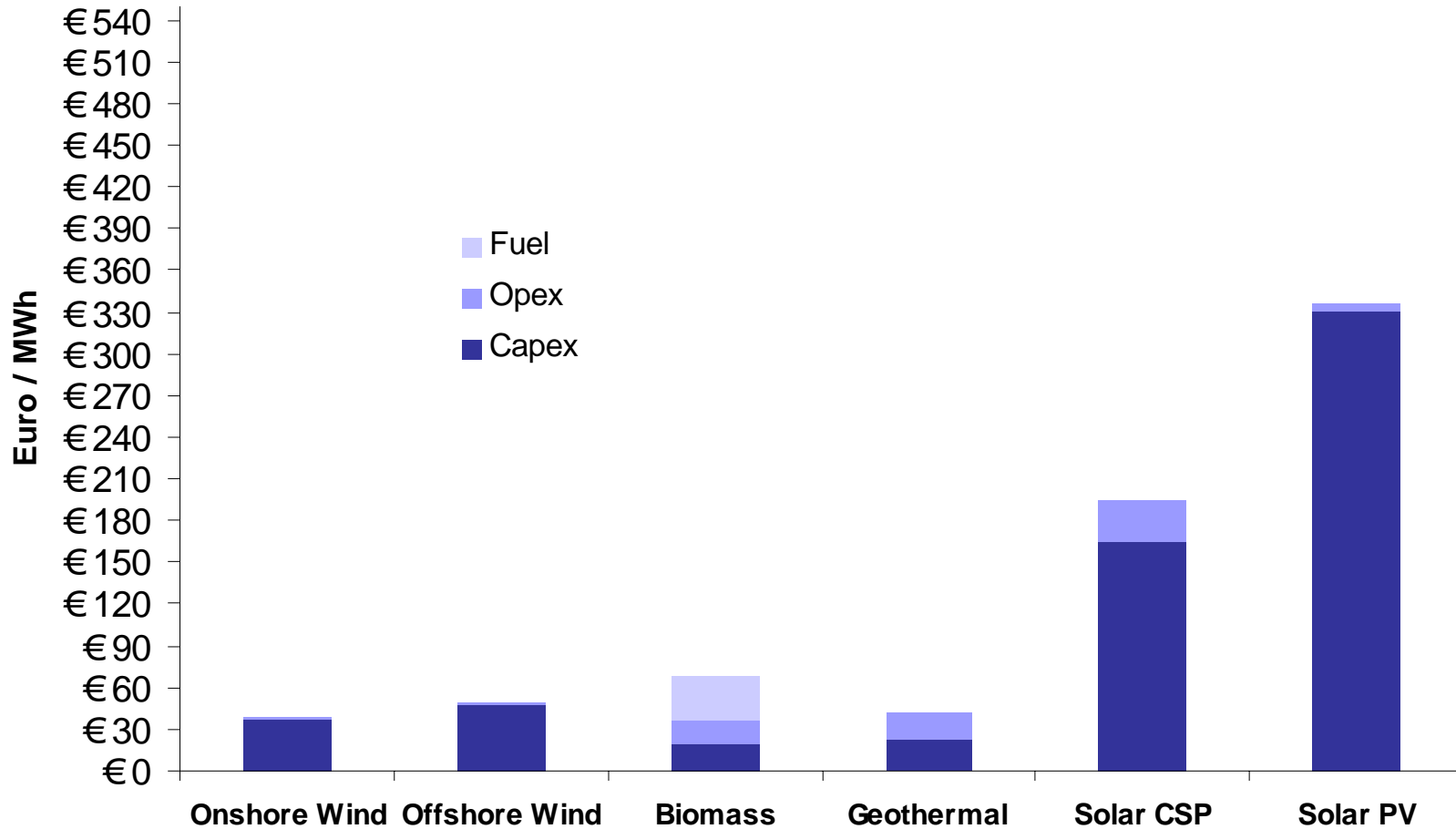
Base Case



Source: emerging energy estimates

Comparative Costs of Renewable Power Generation

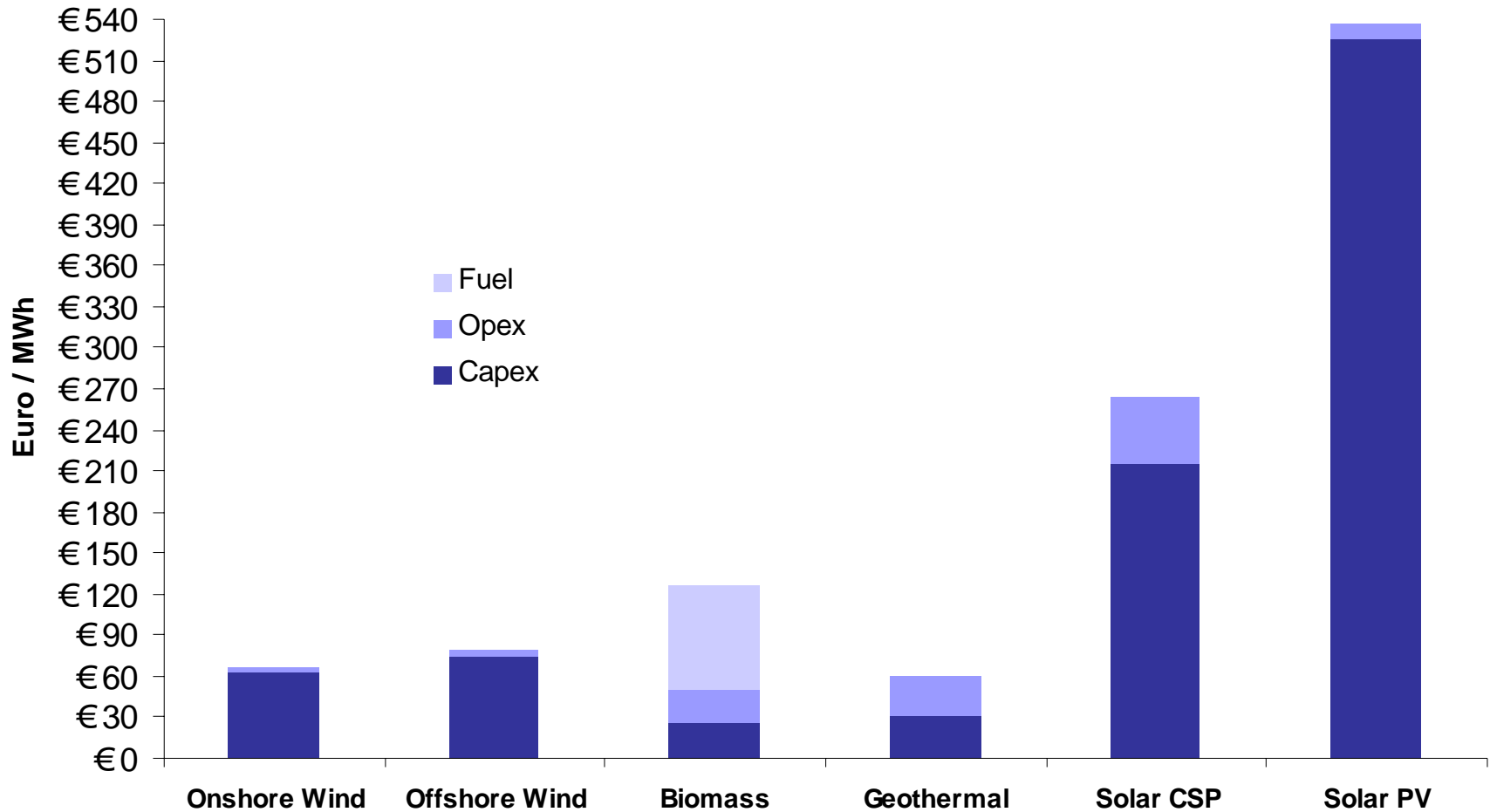
Low Case



Source: emerging energy estimates

Comparative Costs of Renewable Power Generation

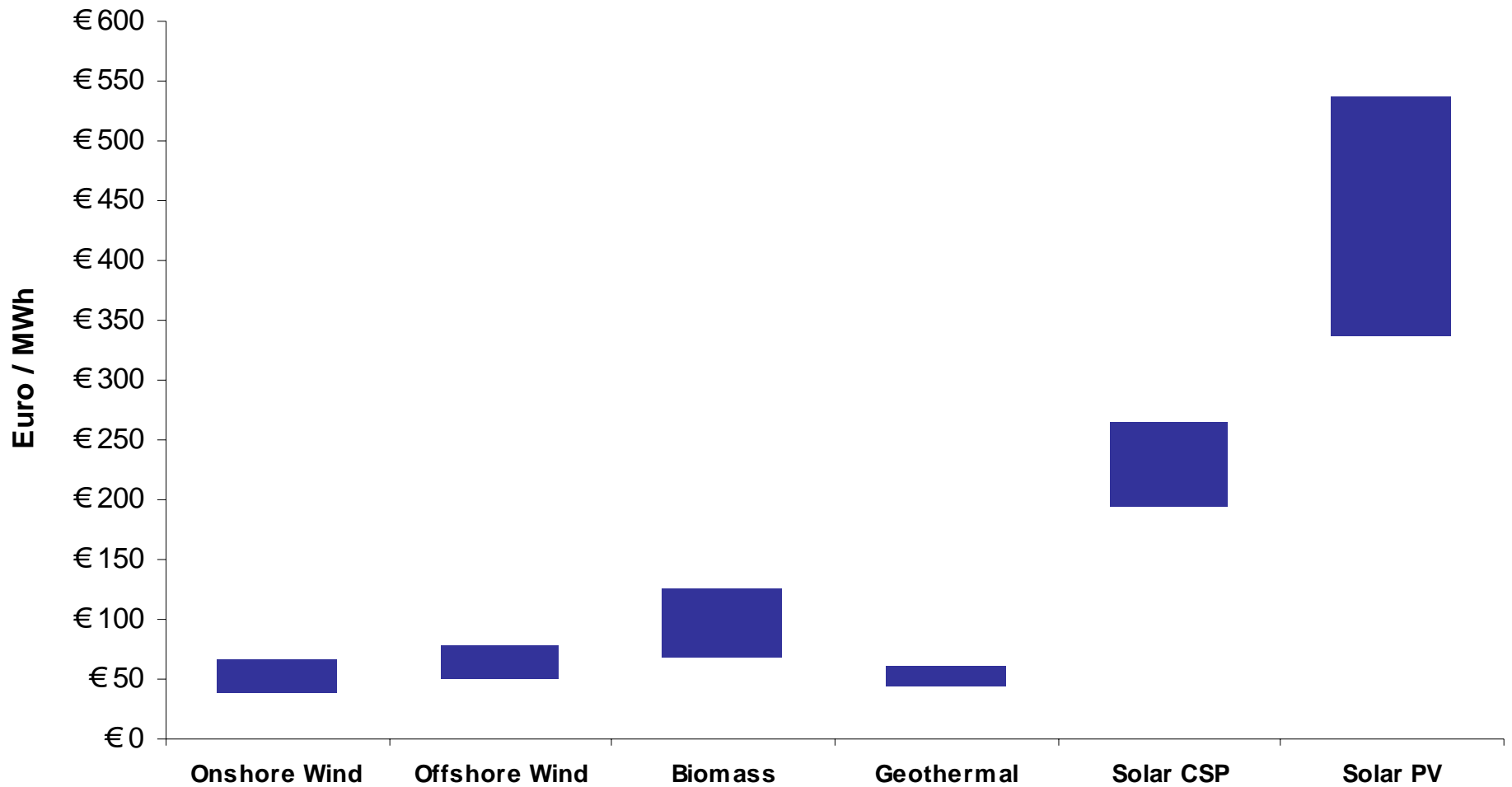
High Case



Source: emerging energy estimates

Comparative Costs of Renewable Power Generation

Range of Potential Energy Costs



Source: emerging energy estimates

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Cambridge

Emerging Energy Research
700 Technology Square
Cambridge, MA 02139 USA
Phone: +1 617 551 8480
Fax: +1 617 551 8481

Barcelona

Emerging Energy Research
Paseo de Gracia 60, 3B
Barcelona 08007 Spain
Phone: +34 93 467 6750
Fax: +34 93 467 6754