



The French Debate on Energy Transition

Pr. Jean - Marie Chevalier

**Centre de Géopolitique de l'Énergie et des Matières Premières
(CGEMP) de l'Université Paris- Dauphine**

Senior Associate Cambridge Energy Research Associates (IHS- CERA)

Paris, 30 Mai 2013

The French debate on energy transition

- ❑ The emergence of a new word: Energy transition—an historical trend: National Transitions within a European Transition
- ❑ The French presidential and national assembly elections—a new energy approach
 - Closure of Fessenheim 1 (connected in 1977) before 2017
 - Reduce the share of nuclear in power generation: from 75% to 50% in 2025
 - Prohibition of hydro-fracking for gas and oil shale
 - Setting up a national and regional debate on energy transition



The French debate on energy transition (2)

- Five questions to be answered
 - What energy dynamic to reach the 2025 energy mix?
 - What governance for energy policy?
 - What choices for renewables, new technologies and industrial development
 - What evolution toward more energy efficiency and more sobriety
 - Costs and benefits? What financing?

Organization of the French debate on energy transition

- ❑ 12 September 2012: conférence environnementale—François Hollande set up the debate on energy transition
- ❑ The energy transition has to be considered as a driving force for economic, social and environmental progress
- ❑ Organization of the national/regional debate:
 - Conseil National du débat with seven colleges
 - UNIONS OF EMPLOYEES
 - UNIONS OF EMPLOYERS
 - NGO FOCUSED ON ENVIRONMENT
 - OTHER NGOs (CONSUMERS, FUEL POVERTY)
 - LOCAL BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS (CHAMBRES CONSULAIRES)
 - ASSOCIATIONS OF ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES
 - STATE REPRESENTATIVES
 - Comité de pilotage (7 members)
 - General delegate
 - Expert group (44 members)
 - Citizen committee (15 members)
 - Committee for connection with local debates
 - Committee for connection with energy companies



Organization of the French debate on energy transition

REPORTS—DISCUSSIONS—HEARINGS—RECOMMENDATIONS

TRANSPARENCY

NATIONAL ENERGY DAY: 25 MAY 2013

PROPOSAL FOR A LAW PROGRAMMING ENERGY TRANSITION

(OCTOBER 2013)

UN ENVIRONNEMENT A RISQUES ?

- The question of managing existing nuclear facilities (closure)
- The question of oil and shale gas
- The question of natural gas

THE INTERNAL DYNAMIC OF THE DEBATE

- Energy as a tool for meeting needs
- Energy efficiency in line with 'Le Grenelle de l'Environnement'
- Energy governance
- Local energy dynamic and initiatives → Green Growth?

EMBARRASSING QUESTIONS

- Prices, tariffs, taxes
- Fuel poverty (précarité énergétique)
- Financing
- Transport and oil

Peter Altemeier et Delphine Batho: *"Energy Transition: a driving force for the French-German Couple"* (Le Monde May 15, 2013)

Gérard Mestrallet and 7 other energy companies' managers : *"The European Energy Question is a failure"* (Le Monde May 22, 2013)