

Jan Rosenow's paper

A Phil perspective

An ecological economics perspective
on energy efficiency

Structure

- Origins of energy efficiency debate
 - Includes a very detailed section on the rebound effect (Khazzoom-Brookes Postulate!)
- The case for policy intervention
 - ...as seen by the three different schools of thought
- The framework
 - Scale/Persistence/Flexibility/Holism
 - Applied to Supplier Obligations

~~1. Ecological modernism~~

(Technological optimists?)

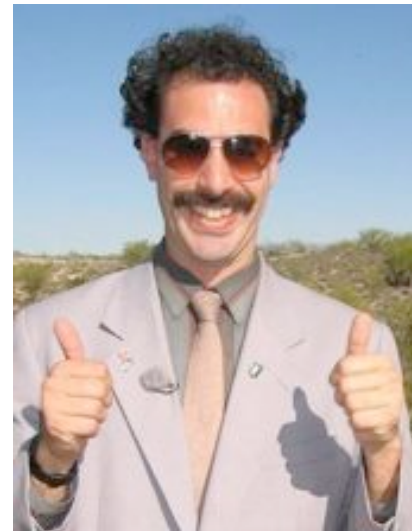


~~2. Neoclassical economics~~

(Economic pessimists?)

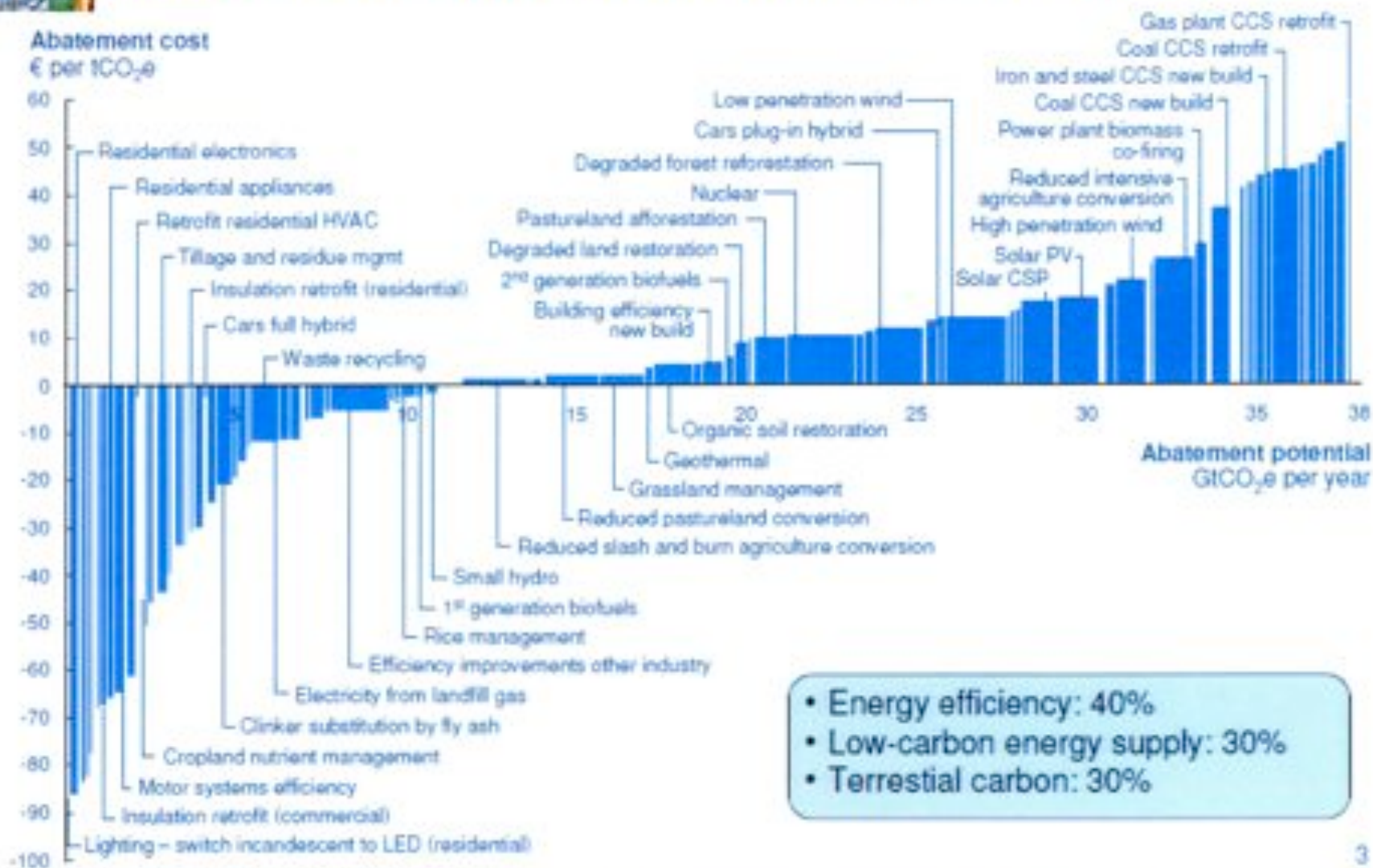


3. Ecological economists





Global GHG abatement cost curve beyond business-as-usual – 2030



Note: The curve presents an estimate of the maximum potential of all technical GHG abatement measures below €60/tCO₂e if each lever was pursued aggressively. It is not a forecast of what role different abatement measures and technologies will play.

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Strength

- Very thoroughly researched
- Good body of literature
- Highlights conflicting views and controversies in literature extremely well
- Clearly written, well structured

Comment

Review and judgement are entwined:

- “[neoclassical economics] views are **very problematic**” (p.7)
- “Ecological Economics therefore **rightly** focuses on [...]” (p.9)
- “seems to be the most **convincing** one [...]” (p.9)
- “[loss of wall insulation over time] needs to be accounted for [...]” (p.11)

Danger of perceived bias

- “Ecological modernisation highlights the vast potential for energy efficiency”
later (same section)
“[...] the issue of consumption is barely problematised [...]”

Suggestions

The economic models are explained by example (or their shortcomings).

- A generic “definition” of the underlying principle of each school of thought helps the reader to distinguish the 3 types more clearly.

Suggestions

Use figures and tables

(they help me pick out key information)

Serving suggestion:

Framework	Guiding principle	Strength	Failings
Neo-classical	If the market doesn't see a problem, there ain't no problem		
Ecological modernism	Technology will save the world		
Ecological Economics	Whole systems approach grounded in thermo-dynamics		

Thank you for a
good,
informative, and
thought provoking read