Abstract

This bachelor thesis examines two very important subparts of the German energy revolution called Energiewende, specifically the level of consensus of the population with the costs of the whole transformation reflected in rising electricity prices and the necessity of expanding and building new power grid sections. The coalition government of SPD and the Greens, which led the state in years 1998-2005 started the whole process by announcing the nuclear phase-out of German Federal Republic and by implementing a renewable energy law (*Erneubare Energien Gesetz, EEG*) that serves as an instrument through which the renewable energy sources are being subsidized. The law lays all the burden on the final consumer, namely the households and companies, through an electricity surcharge. This surcharge has increased significantly since the year 2000, making the German electricity prices the highest in Europe. Thanks to its massive support, the number of renewable energy sources has risen to a rate, for which the transmission system operators were not prepared. It is obvious that in order to successfully continue with the Energiewende, the power grid has to be expanded. While the consensus of the population with these subparts is crucial, it is useful to know its levels. This thesis comes to the conclusion that the majority of the population supports or tolerates both the high electricity prices and the power grid expansion, nevertheless a significant opposition is being formed against this development.