# The 22<sup>nd</sup> World Energy Congress Some Observations

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### The Congress - background

- the World Energy Council ('WEC') World Congress
  - is the world's premier energy gathering
  - has been (mostly) running every three years since 1924
  - is WEC's global flagship event
  - enables dialogue among ministers, CEOs, industry experts and future leaders on critical developments in the energy sector
  - is also known as "the energy Olympics"



#### **The Congress - by the Numbers**

- held in Daegu, South Korea, pop 2.465 million
- opened Sunday 13 October, closed Thursday 17 October
- more than 7,500 delegates from 123 countries
- over 50 government ministers and 272 expert speakers from 72 countries
- 5 delegates from New Zealand



#### **WEC Executive Assembly**

- the Congress was preceded by WEC business (Friday to Sunday)
  - 2013 Executive Assembly held in Daegu
    - Secretaries Day
    - WEC Working Committee meetings
    - Asia regional meeting
    - Executive Assembly plenary



### Securing Tomorrow's Energy Today

- the Congress was 'built' around this theme
- the event sessions aimed to challenge existing thinking on energy issues and define the future global energy environment
- a real desire to have an 'honest' conversation about
  - where we are now
  - where we might end up
  - how to get there



#### **Release of marque publications**



#### **Some observations**

- current circumstances matter major events have impacted on the global energy context
  - the global financial crisis
  - the development of unconventional hydrocarbons
  - the global impact of Fukushima
- but some things stay the same
  - the need for sound, flexible policy frameworks
  - focus on competition
  - clear, least-cost objective



### **Some observations [cont]**

- tangible shift from "renewables or fossil fuel" to "renewables <u>and</u> fossil fuel"
  - part 'honest' story telling, regional realities
  - part recognition of the complex 'trilemma' trade-offs
- it's all about business-as-*un*usual
  - commercialising new technology
    - clean technology without borders
    - mobile technology, 3-D printing
  - lowering capital risk
- energy efficiency to help bridge the gap



## What next?

- WEC ambitious to become key global energy interlocutor
  - Clean Energy Ministerial hosted by South Korea in 2014
  - support the objectives of United Nation Secretary General's Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) initiative
- BEC to develop a picture of where to influence WEC output, and how to use it in New Zealand context











