# **Implicit Fuel Hedge**

# Understanding the value of RWE's hedging approach

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# RWE follows a risk mitigating and value enhancing hedging strategy

- Risk mitigating hedging strategy focuses on reducing commodity price risks of outright generation position (Lignite & Nuclear)
- > Earnings from RWE's lignite and nuclear power plants are positively correlated to outright power prices and can be defined as "long power" and "short carbon"
- A perfect hedge of the outright ("long") power position against commodity price risks would be to sell power (fully hedged)
- > However, liquidity in national power markets can be limited and therefore constrain hedging volumes. Further, it is sometimes forecast that the spreads are undervalued

# RWE generally covers outright position first by implicit fuel hedging

- > Power prices in any time period are determined by the marginal or price setting power plants during that period, which are often hard-coal or gas-fired power plant in Germany
- > Therefore, power prices correlate well with the price setting fuel complex (coal, gas and CO<sub>2</sub>)
- > Selling the fuel complex is therefore an adequate proxy hedge to sell outright power, mitigating the majority, but not all, of the risk and allowing to retain any upside in spreads
- > The fuel complex matches the estimated ratio at time gas, coal (and other) power stations are the price setting power plant



 Specific proportion of CO<sub>2</sub> intensity of fuel complex is smaller than specific CO<sub>2</sub> intensity for RWE's outright generation

> RWE buys CO<sub>2</sub> certificates to fill this gap – CO<sub>2</sub> financially hedged (earnings-neutral)

Important feature of a price setting power plant is the ability to pass through changes in fuel costs

# Hedge path of outright production volume – **RWE differentiates between two hedge types**

## Hedging types of outright production volume



<sup>1</sup> CO<sub>2</sub> requirements are covered to close the gap between higher CO<sub>2</sub> intensity of outright generation and CO<sub>2</sub> intensity of the price setting power plant |<sup>2</sup> Total CO<sub>2</sub> requirements covered RWE AG | Implicit Fuel Hedge | July 2018

# Valuation of average hedge price derives from both hedged positions and is driven by spreads & hedge volume

 $\emptyset$ Hedge price<sub>t</sub> =  $p\% * (FC + PSS_{\star}) + f\% * PWR$ 

average Hedge price at t (€/MWh) Ø hedge price, implicit fuel hedged ratio (%)<sup>1</sup> p% fully hedged ratio (%)<sup>1</sup> f%

weighted average hedge price for all implicit fuel hedges (€/MWh) weighted average hedge price for all power hedges (€/MWh) PWR PSS₊ Price Setting Spread at t (€/MWh)



Average hedge price is the weighted sum of the hedged fuel complex (implicit fuel hedged) and the hedged power price (fully hedged) >

FC

Current Price Setting Spread is added to hedged fuel complex to reflect required conversion from implicit fuel hedged into fully hedged at a later point in time. This conversion is priced into the average hedge price at current market levels

#### Valuation of Ø-Hedge price – Impact of changes in parameters

## What if prices change<sup>2</sup>...

- > ...power price increases, but fuel complex increases less
- ...power price increases, but fuel complex increases more
- > ...power price and fuel complex change in an equal proportion

#### What if hedge proportions change...

- ... change open position into implicit fuel hedge or fully hedge
- ... change implicit fuel hedge into fully hedge

<sup>1</sup> Note that  $p\% + f\% = 100\% | ^2$  Only relevant for implicit fuel hedged volume RWE AG | Implicit Fuel Hedge | July 2018

## Impact...

- Increase of price setting spread hence hedge price increases
- Decrease of price setting spread hence the hedge price decreases
- No change of price setting spread hence neutral for hedge price

#### Impact...

- Hedge price increases, if current power price > Ø hedge price
- Hedge price decreases, if current power price  $< \emptyset$  hedge price
- Neutral for hedge price



# Collection of average hedge price calculations illustrating the impact of changes in parameters on its development

#### Implicit Fuel Hedge: Overview of scenarios illustrating development of the average hedge price - ILLUSTRATIVE

Reminder  $\emptyset$  Hedge price<sub>t</sub> =  $p\% * (FC + PSS_{*}) + f\% * PWR$ Α В С D Market situation 29 Power Price – PWR, (€/MWh) 35 35 40 Start Fuel Complex – FC, (€/MWh) 25 28 37 A 31 Price Setting Spread – PSS, (€/MWh) 4 4 7 3 В Spread unchanged **Hedge situation** С Spread increase **Proportion Proxy Hedged (p%)** 75% 75% 75% 75% **Proportion Fully Hedged (f%)** 25% 25% 25% 25% D Spread decrease Weighted Hedge Price Proxy Hedged (€/MWh) 21,8 21,8 24,0 21.0 FC (€/MWh) 25.0 25.0 25.0 25.0 FC + PSS, (€/MWh) 29,0 29.0 32.0 28.0 Weighted Hedge Price Fully Hedged (€/MWh) 7,3 7.3 7,3 7,3 PWR (€/MWh) 29.0 29.0 29.0 29.0 29,0 **E** 31.3 28,3 🕙 Ø Hedge price<sub>t</sub> (€/MWh) 29.0

Note: Changes in the Ø hedge price stemming from different hedge proportions would require a more comprehensive formula

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# Profitability of lignite plants are determined by hedged power prices and hedged carbon prices

## Deep dive on commercial implications of RWE's 'Lignite' outright position

- > RWE's specific CO<sub>2</sub> intensity of its outright generation portfolio is higher than specific CO<sub>2</sub> intensity of average price setting power plant
- > Financial CO<sub>2</sub> hedge brings RWE's CO<sub>2</sub> intensity in line with average price setting power plant to be earnings-neutral to changes to the CO<sub>2</sub> price
- > For the profitability of the outright position both, the hedged power price as well as the hedged CO<sub>2</sub> price, are relevant



# Hedging figures Q1/2018 – lower Ø hedge price for 2020 due to strong decline of spreads since beginning of 2018

## Expected positions and hedge status as of 31 March 2018



<sup>1</sup> Total in-the-money spread | <sup>2</sup> Equivalent to emission costs of ~€6 – 7/MWh for lignite generation

# Significant decline of fuel spreads since end of 2017





<sup>1</sup> Fuel spread defined as: Power price – (pass-through-factor carbon × EUA price + pass-through-factor coal × coal price + pass-through-factor gas × gas price) |

<sup>2</sup> Note: Shown figures based on average fuel spreads per month (€/MWh) | Source: Bloomberg; data until 31 March 2018

# CAO activities extract additional value on top of hedging

# **CAO** value contribution



> Frequency response, black start

# Key messages of outright generation hedging



In general, a perfect hedge for outright generation positions against commodity price risks is selling power at attractive market conditions



The implicit fuel hedge (selling the fuel complex) is the best proxy hedge to substitute outright hedge



Implicit fuel hedging allows to overcome liquidity constraints in the power market and accelerated risk reduction compared to purely outright hedging of power



Implicit fuel hedging retains upsides and downsides from an under/overvaluation of the power price relative to the fuel complex (price setting spread)



 $CO_2$  is financially hedged until 2022: power price changes driven by  $CO_2$  (via the price setting plant) have no impact on RWE's earnings

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#### **Financial Calendar**

14 August 2018
Interim statement on the first half of 2018
14 November 2018
Interim statement on the first three quarters of 2018
14 March 2019
Annual report 2018
3 May 2019
Annual General Meeting
15 May 2019
Interim statement on the first quarter of 2019

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