

# The ISCCS Crisis

The Perspective of the World Bank  
and GEF on Solar Thermal  
Generation



## GEF's OP7: Reducing the long term costs of low GHG emitting technologies

- Promote the increased use of 'backstop' technologies with low emissions of GHG
- Reduce costs by moving down the technology learning curve
- PV, biomass, solar thermal, wind, fuel cells and advanced fossil fuel generation technologies
- Targeted research, capacity building and investment



## So what does OP7 tell us?

- Although early stage OP7 projects do not necessarily demand them, these must offer a pathway to a sustained and significant reductions in fossil fuel use
- Projects must lead to real market development, not create an artificial market of its own



## History of Project Preparation of Mathania

Date	Design	ç (%)	Size (MW)	Avoided CO <sub>2</sub> Comparison
1988	SEGS	15	35	100% with coal as baseline
1992	SEGS + Boiler (LSHS fuel)	15 33	35	28% with LSHS as baseline
1994	ISCCS LSHS ⇒ Frame 6	15 44	35 115	11% with LSHS in CCGT but 6% if auxilliary firing is employed
1998	ISCCS Naphtha ⇒ Hi-ç GT	15 55	35 115	6% with Naphtha in CCGT but 0.5% if auxilliary firing is employed



# So what is Mathania telling us?

- Bottom firing in an ISCCS negates the solar contribution
- Even without bottom firing, ISCCS is still difficult to justify
- We believe these issues are not confined to Mathania



# Why is bottom firing necessary?

- To meet baseload:
  - Operator must maximize full load hours
- To meet peak or intermediate loads:
  - Peak demand in developing countries (almost always) occurs after dark

*Restricting the use of bottom firing would be an artificial constraint to the least cost operation of the plant*



# Can ISCCS be justified without bottom firing?

- ‘Low impact’ (Bechtel) concept
  - Will 2% of output contribute to the OP7 objective and revitalize the industry?
  - How will it lead to sustained and significant reductions in fossil fuel use?



# Can ISCCS be justified without bottom firing?

‘Regular’ concept (oversize bottom cycle ST by as much as 100%)  
without bottom firing

## ■ Benefits?

- Incremental ST cost
- Better ‘with sun’  $\zeta$
- Lower O&M
- Others?

## ■ Penalties?

- For 75% of time ST runs below capacity (as much as 50%)
- Integration costs in the WHRS
- To build a 40MW plant must create a 200MW opportunity
- Ensures head to head competition with gas



# The dilemma

- ISCCS gives you:
  - High capacity factor and/or dispatchable power
  - More efficient use of fossil power than a straight forward CCGT
  - High solar contribution
- Pick any two

