Renewed for the Future: Renewable and Non-Renewable Energy Sources and Their Costs

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Abstract:

Renewable energy sources have come to the forefront of energy production policy over the last twenty years. Studies of external and direct costs of both renewable and nonrenewable energy sources have contributed to growing understandings of ways in which these energy sources can be compared in a monetary context. Using data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) alongside international data from the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) among other sources, we have developed forecasts for the future costs, both direct and social, of each energy source as well as a difference-in-difference experiment to determine potential effects of state-level energy policy changes on state level energy prices. Forecasting is generally reliable as long as no major shocks to the variables in question present themselves during the period being forecast. This paper finds that renewable energy’s social and direct costs are both forecasted to be lower than nonrenewable energy’s cost even while considering renewable energy’s higher up-front costs. Additionally, statewide energy policy appears to have no significant effect on renewable energy prices in the three years following adoption, so further research with larger datasets is recommended.
I would like to thank Dr. Enami, Dr. Weinstein, and Dr. DeDad for their assistance provided for this project. I would also like to thank the entire Department of Economics for inspiring my classmates and me in our endeavors over our entire careers at The University of Akron.
I. Introduction

Energy markets across the globe have rapidly changed in the past twenty years in response to new technology, problems, and production solutions. Renewable energy’s technology and applications have advanced it to a position in which it can begin to compete with traditional nonrenewable energy sources. Problems of pollution affecting public health, the environment, and other resources have come to the forefront of national politics, and these new renewable technologies offer a solution to the dangers of fossil fuels. Governments invest in and look to these renewable energy sources to better serve their populations and maintain public wellbeing in addition to ending reliance on the financially volatile fossil fuel economy.

There exists an alternative to renewable energies when emissions reductions are the goal. One major alternative consists of a combination of the non-renewable sources with technologies that reduce their negative environmental impact, such as carbon capture technology. This alternative approach may be more cost-effective than adopting renewable energies in the near future as it supplements already existing energy facilities creating a potentially cheaper solution when compared to constructing entirely new renewable energy industries. Studies of the energy market’s alternatives to renewables have focused on how to determine the cost of greenhouse gas emissions reduction (Gillingham and Stock, 2018; Kiuila and Rutherford, 2013), potential new forms of carbon abatement (Lin and Ge, 2019), the economic and environmental impacts of renewable energy sources (Varun, Bhat, and Prakash, 2009), and even a discussion of how much fossil fuels would continue to be demanded in the future through a review of a worldwide demand analysis (Pyper, 2018). However, there have been few publicly available analysis of if prioritizing renewables would be an overall cheaper and more effective option for producing energy in the near future, particularly in the next ten years.
Will it be more efficient to continue using fossil fuels with new carbon abatement technologies in the US alongside renewables or will fossil fuels fall out of use due to abatement technologies not making it as cost effective as renewables? Comparing the forecasted costs of each of these energy sources while including the abatement cost of carbon emissions and the public and environmental costs of fully utilizing renewable energy will allow policymakers to see if it is more efficient for renewables to be used alongside fossil fuels for many years or if a full switch to renewables should be done as soon as is technologically possible. Additionally, an analysis of the relationship of costs to determine if and how renewable energy costs and fossil fuel energy costs are related could prove useful in determining future actions. Finally, another important question is: How have energy costs changed for US states that passed policy requiring a certain percentage of energy production to be renewably produced? As the data is looked into more deeply, these questions will be adjusted to determine which can be reasonably answered with present day data.

Through the forecasting of key variables related to the costs of energy sources and an application of these forecasted values to equations in order to craft estimates of per-kilowatt-hour costs in the near future, comparisons between these two groups of energy sources are made. Additionally, an analysis of differences in energy prices between states that have energy portfolio requirements and those that do not is done to determine the short term effects of these policy actions. The rest of this paper is organized as follows: a review of previous studies on various facets of renewable energy followed by exploration of the data. From this foundation, a review of economic theory informs the development of a methodology for creating a cost benefit analysis alongside a difference-in-difference analysis. Finally, the results are organized into graphs and conclusions are drawn from the models and projections created.
II. Literature Review

Previous cost benefit analyses (CBAs) have been conducted on both large and small scales. The International Energy Agency (IEA) conducted a large-scale cost benefit analysis throughout countries participating in their Renewable Energy Technology Deployment project (RETD) to analyze technologies, costs, and externalities as well as more specific variables relating to present day electrical systems. Given its comprehensive nature, this study provides a general structure for how to conduct a CBA and data for variables such as the estimated external costs of nonrenewable energy resources. For this study, costs are defined as long-run marginal costs and benefits are excluded for simplicity’s sake. Some research has utilized consumer willingness to pay to determine the benefits of renewable energy specifically, but no clear data is available for this and the results of studies like this particularly Roe, et. al. (2001) are restricted to the 1990s and early 2000s. The IEA analysis was in depth and attempted to discover which forms of renewable energy have positive net benefits in comparison to more traditional sources when externalities are not considered. The findings of this research point to hydro and wind power having the lowest lifetime costs of generation with coal following close behind. Biomass and Gas had roughly the same cost per megawatt hour, but biomass having much lower CO2 emissions. Additionally, analyses are done by the IEA that included externalities in total cost, allowing an early comparison between renewable and nonrenewable sources despite limited data. (IEA RETD, 2007).

Previous literature also discusses ways of determining costs and proper valuation on external costs associated with energy production. The literature is not conclusive on the projected costs and benefits of renewable energy, and no real benchmark numbers for energy costs are available from the studies discussed. In Mathioulakis et. al. (2013), one such CBA was
undertaken in Greece and applied to “solar domestic hot water systems,” or water systems heated by solar energy. The paper describes a utilization of net present value as one option in determining the costs and utilizes an average of initial costs as well as maintenance costs and an “expected lifetime” cost of their particular energy product (in this case, photovoltaic panels) to develop the overall energy cost for their CBA (Mathioulakis et. al., 2013). The findings of this study included the real energy savings by consumers who utilized these solar hot-water systems and how these types of benefits can assist in supporting a more efficient power grid. Benefits were developed in this model based largely around the “cost of saved electrical energy” from the Athens network (Mathioulakis et. al., 2013). Despite the importance of net present value for cost-benefit analyses as detailed in Mathiolakis et. al. (2013), the wide variation in estimates for emissions costs creates a challenge in creating an NPV strategy for this study, so United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates will instead be used.

A major focus of renewable energy is the added benefit to consumers as can be revealed in retail prices. Using retail prices to reveal these benefits have been done in past studies, specifically hedonic housing studies. Roe et. al. (2001) conducted a survey of 1001 adults across eight US cities and utilized a hedonic housing model controlling for premium prices of regional “green energy” plans offered by electricity companies. The overall outcome of this research is a linear regression model where each additional percent of renewable energy utilized increases premiums by roughly $0.81, each percent of newly created renewable energy sources increases these premiums by $6.21, and a “Green-e” certification for the energy provider provides a $60.86 premium; this “Green-e” certification is representative of lower emissions. The authors interpret these coefficients alongside their survey to conclude that the people surveyed most likely value environmental benefits from both renewable energy and lower emissions, but lower
emissions are enough to convince consumers to pay premiums, even if renewable energy is not championed (Roe et. al., 2001).

On the other hand, other researchers prefer to focus on more direct costs; the following studies focus more closely on these direct costs. One study prefers to value renewable energy via total life cycle benefits of each general type of plant (geothermal, wind, solar) available on military bases and the total lifetime costs associated with these plants (McFaul and Rojas, 2012). Although useful, the authors discuss the potential environmental benefits and costs associated with these renewable sources but do not include them in their cost-benefit analysis. Some have also attempted determining renewable energy cost through the abatement costs of nonrenewable sources. Although not considered a true “valuation,” but instead a general “evaluation” by Menegaki, abatement costs remain useful in developing, but not providing, effective estimates of the cost of renewable energy (Menegaki, 2014). These abatement costs are utilized by the EPA to develop the social costs utilized in our analysis. Finally, some researchers chose to value renewable energy via determining the costs incurred to replace nonrenewable sources. Replacement costs rest on the assumption that nonrenewable energy sources will be completely replaced by renewables at some point in the future. In determining “sustainability” and “economic welfare,” replacement cost theory is deemed sound by a critic of indices that utilize replacement costs, but the same author champions a different, more complex, valuation method. (Lawn, 2005). This is also in line with Menegaki’s approach, with an orientation around public welfare being an essential part of cost-benefit analyses.

One of the simplest ways of estimating the production cost of electricity is to divide the “annualized expenses of the [energy] system” by the “annual electricity generated by the [energy] system” to gain a cent/kWh measure (Varun and Prakash, 2009). This may be simple
enough to utilize when comparing overall energy costs as renewables begin to represent a greater percentage of overall energy usage. A report from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) also contributes in part to developing a lifetime cost of energy production facilities. Through a study on the lifetime greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by fuel source, it will be possible to apply a cost to each fuel source utilized in a CBA to internalize this emissions externality (NREL, 2013). Additionally, renewable energy sources reduction of GHG’s over their lifetimes is an important benefit to discuss in implementing a holistic, welfare-oriented CBA as described by Menegaki, and data on these benefits are presented in the NREL study. In determining raw energy rates, another direct approach is available directly through data releases from the US Department of Energy.

Externalities are another key part of costs discussed in the literature. Benefits, or reduced costs as our study defines them, can be calculated through energy savings and environmental wellbeing via emissions reductions (Mathioulakis et. al., 2013; Varun and Prakash, 2009). One additional benefit that may be included is public health benefits, as emissions reductions also influence this. One study estimated costs of abating CO₂ and willingness to pay for “reduced mortality risk” to develop estimated benefits of renewable energy in each US region. This more recent research provides useful numbers for estimating overall external costs associated with health externalities (Buonocore et. al., 2019).

In addition to influencing public health and environmental factors, renewable energy infrastructure (notably wind turbines) has also been assumed to create aesthetic externalities. Hoen et. al.’s 2014 analysis Spatial Hedonic Analysis of the Effects of US Wind Energy Facilities on Surrounding Property Values utilized a hedonic analysis in the US and found no evidence of significant influence of wind energy’s visual or auditory status on nearby home prices, despite
previous studies with smaller sample sizes resulting in different conclusions. One such study found that housing prices in Illinois were potentially lowered by 12-20% due to the presence of visible wind turbines (Hinman, 2010). Although aesthetic externalities do not appear to influence housing prices on a large scale, consumer preferences may not be fully explained in this analysis or may be offset by some other feature of the region from which the data came. (Hoen et. al., 2014)

III. Data

First, data is gathered from the US Energy Information Administration (EIA), the EIA’s State Energy Data System (SEDS), the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), and the International Energy Agency (IEA). Data on electricity prices were unavailable in the time period of 1984-1989 so they were left blank for that period of time. A large amount of SEDS data also covers different variables associated with each energy source, so averages had to be taken when they were not available directly within the data. Renewable energy costs before 2010 were not available, so forecasts were developed using only 2010-2019 data with zeroes excluded from the fit procedure. Similarly, nonrenewable cost per kWh were not available after 2016, so it had to be computed through available data on cost per short ton\(^1\) of coal, cost per thousand cubic feet of natural gas, and cost per barrel of crude oil each divided by the average kWh produced by each of those metrics. Renewable energy as percent of total energy was developed through dividing total renewable energy consumed by total primary energy consumed.

\(^{1}\) Short ton is equivalent to 2000 pounds and roughly 0.91 metric tons
The variables of interest as shown in Table 1 consist of energy production and consumption metrics, price and cost data, and emissions data in determining the social cost of each energy source as well as comparing reactions to state policy. The time series for these variables are shown in Appendix A. First, energy production and consumption data are available for certain sources, with most available data on fossil fuels being measured by production and more renewable sources being calculated through consumption. These metrics are not equivalent, due to losses while transporting, storing, and converting energy for use. Thus, it is imperative to remember that the total energy consumed will be less than the total energy produced. However, they will be assumed to be close enough for the comparison in this study. Both production and consumption are assumed to increase over time with growing economies and growing populations. Emissions data is largely available through the EPA, which determines social cost of emissions (while including abatement costs in this estimate) for each unit of CO2 released into the atmosphere and these emissions are expected to have a positive relationship with energy cost due to environmental and health externalities. Energy cost is available through levelized cost

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable Name</th>
<th>Time Period</th>
<th>Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Energy Expenditures</td>
<td>1980-2018</td>
<td>EIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Energy Emissions</td>
<td>1980-2018</td>
<td>EIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Renewable Cost</td>
<td>2010-2018</td>
<td>IRENA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Nonrenewable Cost</td>
<td>1970-2018</td>
<td>Created from many EIA sources (SEDS)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 1: Variables Utilized to determine social costs.

Note: Total Expenditures, Emissions, and Renewable Energy Percent were removed from the analysis as ARIMA models were adopted, replacing VAR model.
research, and much of the cost of renewable energy is calculated through these research releases like those compiled by IRENA whereas fossil fuel cost is calculated through a combination of production price determined by markets within the US and external costs associated with reductions in CO2 emissions.

Each state also had data available in terms of prices and production costs from 1960 to 2018 through the EIA SEDS, allowing a difference-in-differences analysis to be attempted to determine the change in energy cost as a result of renewable energy policy. Estimates of abatement costs to develop a comparison between non-renewables and renewables are also useful yet quite hard to determine. A plethora of studies have been done to determine abatement costs in different industries, so applying one to the entire nation is not easy. In this general case for comparison’s sake, an estimate of the social cost of CO2 as determined by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is utilized. It must be noted that this estimate is not perfect but considers the general social cost of each ton of CO2 rather than the cost needed to abate CO2, allowing each industry’s (and even each plant’s) unique abatement cost to be ignored in favor of a general cost summary. Abatement costs differ depending on industries and fuels, but the cost of CO2 developed by the EPA takes into account these costs weighted by the amount of energy produced by each nonrenewable energy source. Because of this method of estimation, it is possible that, for example, despite the whole group of nonrenewable sources potentially being more expensive than the whole renewable group, certain nonrenewable sources may be less expensive than certain renewable sources.

Due to the nature of time series data, traditional descriptive statistics are not useful in describing the data. Instead, augmented Dickey-Fuller tests assist in the determination of stationarity in the data as that is required for the ARIMA model to function properly. In the
below figure (Figure 2), any p-values above 0.05 represent a significant probability of stationarity in the data, so adjustments must be made in the ARIMA models to account for this. The only non-stationary variable in this case is the cost of renewable energy (seen below as “Renewable Cost”).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data Series</th>
<th>D-F Value</th>
<th>Lag Order</th>
<th>p-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenditures</td>
<td>-1.3965</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.8023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Emissions</td>
<td>-2.1048</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.5325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renewable Percent</td>
<td>-1.7995</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.5488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renewable Cost</td>
<td>-3.7674</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.03805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonrenewable Cost</td>
<td>-1.2103</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.8732</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail Price</td>
<td>-1.38</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.8086</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 2: ADF Tests.

Note: Supported by clear visible trends in the graphs of the data

Additionally, autocorrelation functions like those below are utilized to ensure no autocorrelation in the residuals of a series, which allows for more accurate forecasts. Autocorrelation is essentially when the value of a time series is correlated with its own lags, which Each data series is manipulated to ensure no autocorrelation within the residuals through differencing or logarithmic transformation.
IV. Theory and Methodology

Theory

The most common costs discussed in theory and literature are the direct costs for producing the energy. Both renewable and nonrenewable energy production requires set-up, transportation, storage, and direct production costs. Further costs are incurred with the production of energy through the traditional non-renewable methods such as coal, oil, and natural gas. Gasses emitted from these sources such as CO$_2$ cause a plethora of health and environmental problems that increase the costs of energy production on society (Buonocore et al., 2019). Renewable energy technology aims to not only decrease the external costs of energy to society but also the monetary costs associated with each kilowatt-hour of energy produced. The combination of private costs and external costs create a cost to society for producing energy. Renewable sources, such as solar and wind energy, have fewer negative effects on the health of
society and wellbeing of the environment, leading to their place as a possible replacement or supplement to traditional fossil fuel energy production. On the other hand, non-renewable energy sources, that may have a lower production costs, may be able to address their higher external costs through technologies such as carbon abatement. The question then boils down to: Will traditional energy sources with carbon abatement technology or renewable energy sources be more socially efficient in producing energy in the future? Moreover, are renewable sources economically feasible to compete with non-renewable energy on the national or international stage without considering externalities?

Methodology

The foundation of the methodology lies in developing forecasts that can be used to create useful estimated cost values. Each of the variables described in the data section will undergo forecasting to obtain estimated values in the future. To develop overall costs of each method of energy production, Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average (ARIMA) models are utilized to forecast each cost to a specific point in the future and a summation of these costs gives us an estimated total cost of that energy source per kilowatt-hour. Each specific variable has been either sourced from government agencies and NGOs or created using available variables from the former.

Autocorrelation Functions and Cross-correlation functions are utilized to ensure there is little or no autocorrelation within individual variables or across different variables. As the time series are annually reported, seasonal adjustment is unnecessary, but they are adjusted, if
necessary, to be stationarity. Differencing is also utilized to account for trends within the data series, which makes the model an ARIMA model. Upon completion of fitting the model to the data, autocorrelation functions are utilized to ensure no autocorrelation in the residuals of each lag, which is essential for models such as these. Autocorrelation within the data from which the forecast is created can lead to greater errors in our forecasts and generally make the forecast less reliable. The overall process begins with a forecast of each aforementioned variable ten years into the future using the fitted ARIMA models. As renewable energy has only come to the forefront of production in the last twenty to thirty years, models based on the full dataset from 1980-2018, referred to later in the results as the “40 year data”, were supplemented with fits for data from 2000-2018, referred to later as the “20 year data”. Each variable will have a forecast generated using each length of data. The ARIMA\((p,d,q)\) where \(p\) is the number of lags in the model, \(d\) is the number of differences, and \(q\) is the order of moving average, can be described with Equation 1:

Equation 1.

\[
\hat{y}_t = \mu + \phi_1 y_{t-1} + \cdots + \phi_p y_{t-p} - \theta_1 e_{t-1} - \cdots - \theta_q e_{t-q} + \epsilon
\]

where \(\Phi\) is the AR parameter, \(\Theta\) is the MA parameter, and the number of differences is how many times a previous lag of \(y_t\) (also known as \(y_{t-1}\)) is subtracted from \(y_t\), where \(y\) is our variable of interest. 2 Each parameter is a single value applied by the forecast to develop the model to be most accurate based on AIC values. Energy production costs are available from our energy sources as per kwh measures. The external cost of emissions is calculated using estimates from the EPA and applying it to average emissions per kWh of nonrenewable energy produced.

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2 In this equation, \(e_{t-q}\) is simply the moving average error at lag \(t\), which is the residual of the model to the actual data.
Summing the per kilowatt-hour production cost and the per kilowatt-hour external costs results in a per kilowatt-hour social cost of nonrenewable energy. On the other hand, renewable energy cost results in negligible emissions and so the social cost equals the per kilowatt-hour production cost. Variables for total energy expenditures, percentage of total energy produced by renewable sources, and total emissions ended up not being utilized due to a change in the methodology from a VAR model to multiple ARIMA models. These variables were still forecasted and are present in Appendix B.

In addition to a forecast and a comparison of cost, this analysis will include state-to-state comparisons to attempt to determine the effect of energy policy on retail energy price in that state through a panel difference-in-differences analysis. This portion of the analysis will not be utilizing forecasted values but will instead be a separate analysis utilizing the same data sources between the years of 2004 and 2014. One additional data source, “State renewable portfolio standards and goals” from the NCSL, is necessary to determine which states have which policies. Marked differences in retail energy prices between two similar states who have different makeups of energy production will be a sign that policy has an effect on cost in one way or another. Energy cost differences between states can be influenced by demand for energy and fuel costs, but nearby states with similar resources should be roughly comparable. T-Tests will be utilized for the retail energy prices in these states to determine if their energy prices are before a treatment (in this case, the treatment will be policy mandating increased utilization of renewable energy) and then an analysis of the difference between an untreated state and a treated state will estimate the effect of these policies on retail energy prices. Equation (2) represents the difference-in-differences model in this analysis. The variables of interest are the left side variable "EndPrice" which is made up of a three year average before and after the treatment is applied.
for each state, the treatment variable “policy” which takes a value of “1” if the state establishes a renewable energy portfolio policy between 2004 and 2014 and takes a value of “0” if no policy is established or had been established before 2004, the time dummy variable “after” which uses a value of “1” to identify the states in the post treatment period and “0” in the pre-treatment period, and an interaction term between “policy” and “after.” The coefficient ($\beta_3$) of this interaction term is the estimator for this diff-in-diff analysis. If this coefficient is deemed significant in the final analysis, then we can say there is evidence of different retail prices after the treatment takes place. The variable $\varepsilon$ represents the error term of this model.

Equation 2.

$$EndPrice_{it} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 Policy + \beta_2 After + \beta_3 (Policy * After) + \varepsilon_{it} \ (2)$$
V. Results

Due to changes in the energy landscape throughout the 1990s and early 2000s, only the “20 year” data was utilized to develop forecasts and begin to determine social costs based on different energy sources. Figures for each individual forecast and the individual orders of each ARIMA model are in Appendix B below. These results point toward lower per-kWh social and production costs for renewable energy sources going into the future. Figures 3 and 4 demonstrate these differences with mean estimates alongside highs and lows with 95% confidence intervals. The production cost and social cost graphs look quite similar because the estimates for the emissions cost of nonrenewable energy is between one and two cents per kilowatt-hour (EPA). External costs other than the cost of emissions were assumed to be negligible due to examples in the literature, but there may be some external costs unaccounted for that could influence the results. The results of the difference-in-differences point toward there being no significant difference between retail energy prices in states that had renewable energy portfolio policies and those that did not.
Figure 3: Forecasts of Social Costs and 95% Confidence Intervals

Forecasted Energy Social Cost per kWh

- Renewable Energy Cost
- Nonrenewable Energy Cost

2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028

Cents Per Kilowatt-Hour

-$0.10 $0.00 $0.10 $0.20 $0.30 $0.40 $0.50
Figure 4: Forecasts of Direct Costs and 95% Confidence Intervals

Forecasted Energy Direct Cost per kWh

- Nonrenewable Energy Cost
- Renewable Energy Cost
VI. Conclusion

The findings of this research can be summarized the social cost of renewable energy being clearly lower than the social cost of nonrenewable energy. Additionally, we found no significant differences in retail energy prices between states with and without renewable energy portfolio policies. Renewable energy now appears to be a reasonable investment as the cost continues to fall and the real reductions in external costs as a result of an increased use of renewable energy sources further make the case for greater utilization of renewable energy. Even when including the up-front costs of renewable energy facilities through the use of levelized cost data, renewable energy provides lower direct per-kWh costs and vastly lower social per-kWh costs. The lack of significant differences in retail prices between treated states and untreated states in the three years following could imply the effects of these policies exist in the long term rather than the short term or that incentives to energy producers to employ renewable energy facilities would be more effective than policy requirements.

The models used for estimation could undoubtedly be improved. Future studies could better define costs and benefits of energy sources and develop a more equal footing between the energy sources. The lack of available production cost data for renewable energy sources and the reliance on levelized cost research may have influenced the results in a biased manner and may not represent the costs of renewable energy within the United States.
VII. References


Lawn, P.A. An Assessment of the Valuation Methods Used to Calculate the Index of Sustainable Economic Welfare (ISEW), Genuine Progress Indicator (GPI), and
https://doi.org/10.1007/s10668-005-7312-4


VIII. Appendix A

Time Series Graphs

The following figures are plotted data from IRENA (for renewable cost data) and the EIA (all other variables) from 2000-2019.

Figure A1

Figure A2
Figure A3

Percent of Energy Produced by Renewable Sources in the US 2000-201

Figure A4

Average Renewable Cost 2010-2019
IX. Appendix B

Forecast Graphs

The following figures are plots of the forecasted values for each variable. The bright blue line is the mean estimated value with the area of gray representing a 95% confidence interval for that forecast. Additionally, B7 contains the order of the ARIMA model for each variable.

Figure B1

Forecast of Total Energy Expenditure
### Figure B6

**Forecast of Energy Retail Price**

![Graph showing the forecast of energy retail price with a line indicating the trend from 2000 to 2025.](image)

### Figure B7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>ARIMA Order</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Energy Expenditure</td>
<td>(1,0,0) (0,1,0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Emissions</td>
<td>(1,0,0) (0,1,0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renewable Percent</td>
<td>(1,0,0) (0,1,0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renewable Cost</td>
<td>(1,0,0) (0,1,0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonrenewable Cost</td>
<td>(0,0,0) (0,1,1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Retail Price</td>
<td>(2,0,0) (0,1,0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### X. Appendix C

#### R Code

```r
# loading in datasets
library(readxl)
overall <- read_excel("C:/Users/joesc/Documents/SeniorYear/spring/Senior Projec/doc3/data/mds.xlsx",
                      sheet="overall")
```

32
overall20 <- read_excel("C:/Users/joesc/Documents/SeniorYear/spring/Senior Projec/doc3/data/mds.xlsx",
  sheet="overall20year")

library(forecast)

t.s.totex <- ts(data=overall$TEE, start=1980, freq=1)
t.s.totem <- ts(data=overall$TEM, start=1980, freq=1)
t.s.renpct <- ts(data=overall$RPT, start=1980, freq=1)
t.s.avgrencst <- ts(data=overall$REC, start=1980, freq=1)
t.s.avgnoncst <- ts(data=overall$NEC, start=1980, freq=1)
t.s.avgretprc <- ts(data=overall$REP, start=1980, freq=1)

t.s.totex20 <- ts(data=overall20$TEE, start=2000, freq=1)
t.s.totem20 <- ts(data=overall20$TEM, start=2000, freq=1)
t.s.renpct20 <- ts(data=overall20$RPT, start=2000, freq=1)
t.s.avgrencst20 <- ts(data=overall20$REC, start=2010, end=2018, freq=1)
t.s.avgnoncst20 <- ts(data=overall20$NEC, start=2000, freq=1)
t.s.avgretprc20 <- ts(data=overall20$REP, start=2000, freq=1)

# View Graphs

ts.plot(ts.totex20, main="Total Expenditures 2000-2018", ylab="Millions of US Dollars")
ts.plot(ts.totem20, main="Total Emissions 2000-2018", ylab="Million Metric Tons of CO2")
ts.plot(ts.renpct20, main="Percent of Energy Produced by Renewable Sources in the US 2000-2018", ylab="Percent")
ts.plot(ts.avgrencst20, main="Average Renewable Cost 2010-2019", ylab="Dollars/KWH")
ts.plot(ts.avgnoncst20, main="Average Nonrenewable Cost 2000-2018", ylab="Dollars/KWH")
ts.plot(ts.avgretprc20, main="Average US Energy Retail Price 2000-2018", ylab="Dollars/KWH")

# Making stationary

stl.totem <- (diff(log(ts.totem)))
stl.renpct <- (diff(log(ts.renpct)))
stl.avgrencst <- (diff(log(ts.avgrencst)))
stl.avgnoncst <- (diff(log(ts.avgnoncst)))
stl.avgretprc <- (diff(log(ts.avgretprc)))

acf(stl.totem, main="Autocorrelation Function Graph for Total Emissions")
acf(stl.renpct)
acf(stl.avgrencst)
acf(stl.avgnoncst)
acf(stl.avgretprc)

ccf(stl.totem, stl.renpct)
ccf(stl.totem, stl.avgrencst)
ccf(stl.totem, stl.avgnoncst)
ccf(stl.totem, stl.avgretprc)
ccf(stl.renpct, stl.avgrencst)
ccf(stl.renpct, stl.avgnoncst)
ccf(stl.renpct, stl.avgretprc)
ccf(stl.avgrencst, stl.avgnoncst)
ccf(stl.avgrencst, stl.avgretprc)
```r
ccf(stl.avgnoncst, stl.avgretprc)

stl.totem20<-diff(ts.totem20)
acf(stl.totem20)

#correlations
library(ggpubr)
library(Hmisc)
library(corrplot)
coroverall<-cor(overall)
corrplot(coroverall)

#time series visual analysis

ts.plot(cbind(ts.totex, ts.renpct))
layout(1:2)
ts.plot(ts.avgrencst)
ts.plot(ts.renpct)
layout(1:2)
ts.plot(ts.totem, main="Total Emissions 1980-2018", ylab="Total Emissions (Million Metric Tons CO2)")
  abline(v=c(2008), col=c("blue"))
ts.plot(ts.renpct, main="Renewable Percent of Total Energy 1980-2018", ylab="Renewable Percent of Total Energy (%)")
  abline(v=c(2008), col=c("blue"))

#Time Series Dickey Fullers
library(tseries)

adf.test(ts.totex20)
adf.test(ts.totem20)
adf.test(ts.renpct20)
adf.test(ts.avgrencst20)
adf.test(ts.avgnoncst20)
adf.test(ts.avgretprc20)

#ARMA models

#ARMA 20 Year Data
fit.totex20<-auto.arima(ts.totex20, stepwise=FALSE, d=FALSE)
fc.totex20<-forecast(fit.totex20, h=10, level= c(95))
plot(fc.totex20, main="Forecast of Total Energy Expenditure", ylab="US Dollars")

fit.totem20<-auto.arima(ts.totem20, stepwise=FALSE, d=FALSE)
fc.totem20<-forecast(fit.totem20, h=10, level= c(95))
plot(fc.totem20, main="Forecast of Total Emissions", ylab="Metric Tons of CO2")

fit.renpct20<-auto.arima(ts.renpct20, stepwise=FALSE, d=FALSE)
```
fc.renpct20 <- forecast(fit.renpct20, h = 10, level = c(95))
plot(fc.renpct20, main = "Forecast of Renewable Percent",
ylab = "Percent of Energy from Renewable Sources")

fit.ren20 <- auto.arima(ts.avgrencst20, stepwise = FALSE)
fc.ren20 <- forecast(fit.ren20, h = 10, level = c(95))
plot(fc.ren20, main = "Forecast of Renewable Energy Cost",
ylab = "USD per kWh")

fit.non20 <- auto.arima(ts.avgnoncst20, stepwise = FALSE, d = FALSE)
fc.non20 <- forecast(fit.non20, h = 10, level = c(95))
plot(fc.non20, main = "Forecast of Nonrenewable Energy Cost",
ylab = "USD per kWh")

fit.ret20 <- auto.arima(ts avgretprc20, stepwise = FALSE, d = FALSE)
fc.ret20 <- forecast(fit.ret20, h = 10, level = c(95))
plot(fc.ret20, main = "Forecast of Energy Retail Price", ylab = "USD per kWh")

# exporting forecasts

write.csv(rbind(fc.non20$mean, fc.ren20$mean, fc.renpct20$mean, 
                fc.ret20$mean, fc.totem20$mean, fc.totex20$mean), 
          file = "C:/Users/joesc/Documents/SeniorYear/spring/SeniorProj/forecasts.csv")
write.csv(rbind(fc.non20$upper, fc.ren20$upper, fc.renpct20$upper, 
                fc.ret20$upper, fc.totem20$upper, fc.totex20$upper), 
          file = "C:/Users/joesc/Documents/SeniorYear/spring/SeniorProj/forecastsupper.csv")
write.csv(rbind(fc.non20$lower, fc.ren20$lower, fc.renpct20$lower, 
                fc.ret20$lower, fc.totem20$lower, fc.totex20$lower), 
          file = "C:/Users/joesc/Documents/SeniorYear/spring/SeniorProj/forecasts.lower.csv")

# Difference in Difference

did <- read_excel("C:/Users/joesc/Documents/SeniorYear/spring/SeniorProj/DataForRevisedDiffInDiff.xlsx",
                  sheet = "treatmenttest")
didreg <- lm(EndPrice ~ policy + after + int, data = did)
summary(didreg)
# No significant difference between states after treat