Excerpt from Sydney Morning Herald, August 21, 2013 http://www.smh.com.au/business/carbon-economy/grids-lock-in-funds-as-focus-shifts-to-distribution-week-in-review-20130821-2s9ze.html

Grids lock in funds as focus shifts to distribution: Week in review

The faithful old servants of the power system – the grids that deliver electricity from producers to consumers – are facing new challenges the world over as a result of the addition of renewable generation.

Last week there were a number of developments as countries moved to adapt their grids to the new energy realities.

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Also in India, the cabinet approved a proposal to reinstate a subsidy for onshore wind generation of 500 rupees (\$9.02) per megawatt hour and raise a cap on the total amount that can be received by 61%.

The so-called Generation Based Incentive expired at the end of March 2012 but wind installations fell 46.8% in the following 12 months compared to the year before.

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European grids

Many European countries are building smarter, as well as bigger, grids. The UK's roll-out of 53 million smart meters by 2020 took a step forward last week, as the government announced preferred bidders for 2.4 billion pounds (\$4.14 billion) of contracts.

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In the US, SolarCity agreed to buy solar direct-marketer

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The WilderHill New Energy Global Innovation Index, or NEX, lost 0.7% last week amid a broader market sell-off. The NEX is up 33.6% year-to-date but still down two thirds from its peak in late 2007.

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