**SSC2030: Reading quiz for chapter 1 of ‘Clean Break’[[1]](#footnote-1)**

*If you like, you can type your answers into this Word document, add your name to the text and filename and submit the altered file.*

1. Germany’s energy transition plan ‘die Energiewende’ has ambitious goals.

(a) What are its goals?

(b) As of 2012 what was the state of renewable energy (RE) in Germany and who owned the existing RE infrastructure?

(a) 80% RE by 2050

(b) 25% of electricity from RE (solar, wind, biomass)

2. In 2012, what were the biggest hurdles to the transformation planned in die Energiewende?

Germany needs to add 5,000 miles of power lines (=$25 b) and they need lots of energy storage at decent cost

3. Who is Hans-Josef Fell and how did he describe the ‘problem’ of energy storage?

When I asked Hans-Josef Fell, the chief architect of the *Energiewende*'s legal framework, about the energy storage problem, he immediately corrected my terminology. "It is not a problem," he insisted. "It is a *task."*

4. What is the Reichstag and how is it a symbol of die Energiewende?

The Reichstag is Germany’s parliament building. I was heavily damaged in WWII so it’s renovation mirrors Germany’s; it’s a potent symbol. Rebuilding focused on change rather than historic renovation since the country didn’t want to go back to the system of government symbolized by the building. It now has PV panels on the roof, sunlight funneled in with a mirror system for daylighting and is co-gen powered by rapeseed oil in the basement; excess heat pumped to aquifer 1000 feet under the building. One-half of its power is produced onsite; the rest from offsite RE.

5. How is the US Capitol in Washington DC powered?

The Capitol is heated and cooled via a coal-fired plant built in 1910 that now cofires mainly NG. Its electricity from the larger grid. Greening programs have been proposed, stalled and dropped. Ironically, the White House added solar panels in 1970s, the first world capitol to do so. The PV was removed by Regan.

6. Who is Ursula Sladek and what did she think the US could learn from die Energiewende?

She owned a small German power company, Schönau Power Supply, that jumped into the changes proposed in die Energiewende. She won the Goldman Enviromental prize in 2011.

"This is something very American, isn't it? " she said. "The Americans are people who say: 'We can do it ourselves.'"

Sladek paused. Then she spoke slowly and simply like the schoolteacher she once was. "You can't wait for what you want to come from above," she said. "We are here. We can do something. And so, we begin."

1. <https://insideclimatenews.org/content/clean-break-story-germanys-energy-transformation> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)