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# Interim Management Statement and British Energy Investment May 2009

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# Interim Management Statement

- Good start to the year for British Gas
- UK upstream impacted by low wholesale gas price and narrow spark spreads
- Strong performance in Centrica Storage
- North America performing well in challenging conditions, helped by currency benefit
- Exit from SPE as part of British Energy deal
- Existing Group earnings ahead of 2008 and in line with expectations





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# Investment in British Energy

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# Why vertical integration?

- Reduces exposure to volatile wholesale commodity prices
- Delivers more robust Group earnings through cycle
- Reduces requirement for capital for procurement support

# Why nuclear?

- Source of power for British Gas customers which is:
  - low carbon
  - long-life
  - low cash cost
- Cost of producing power not exposed to wholesale gas price
- Participation in new nuclear programme provides long term hedge and growth opportunity

A black and white photograph of an industrial facility, likely a refinery or chemical plant. The image shows a complex network of large pipes, metal scaffolding, and structural beams. In the background, a tall distillation column or tower is visible, with a small plume of white smoke or steam rising from its top. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds. The overall scene conveys a sense of large-scale industrial operations.

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# Proposed Transaction



# Deal terms

## Net cash consideration of £1.1bn

- 20% equity stake in British Energy
- Average price per share 710p cash plus 0.242 CVRs
  - cash consideration of £2.3bn
- Partly financed through sale of SPE for €1.325bn
- 20% stake in new nuclear build
- Power offtake
  - 20% of available power, plus
  - additional firm 18TWh 2011-16

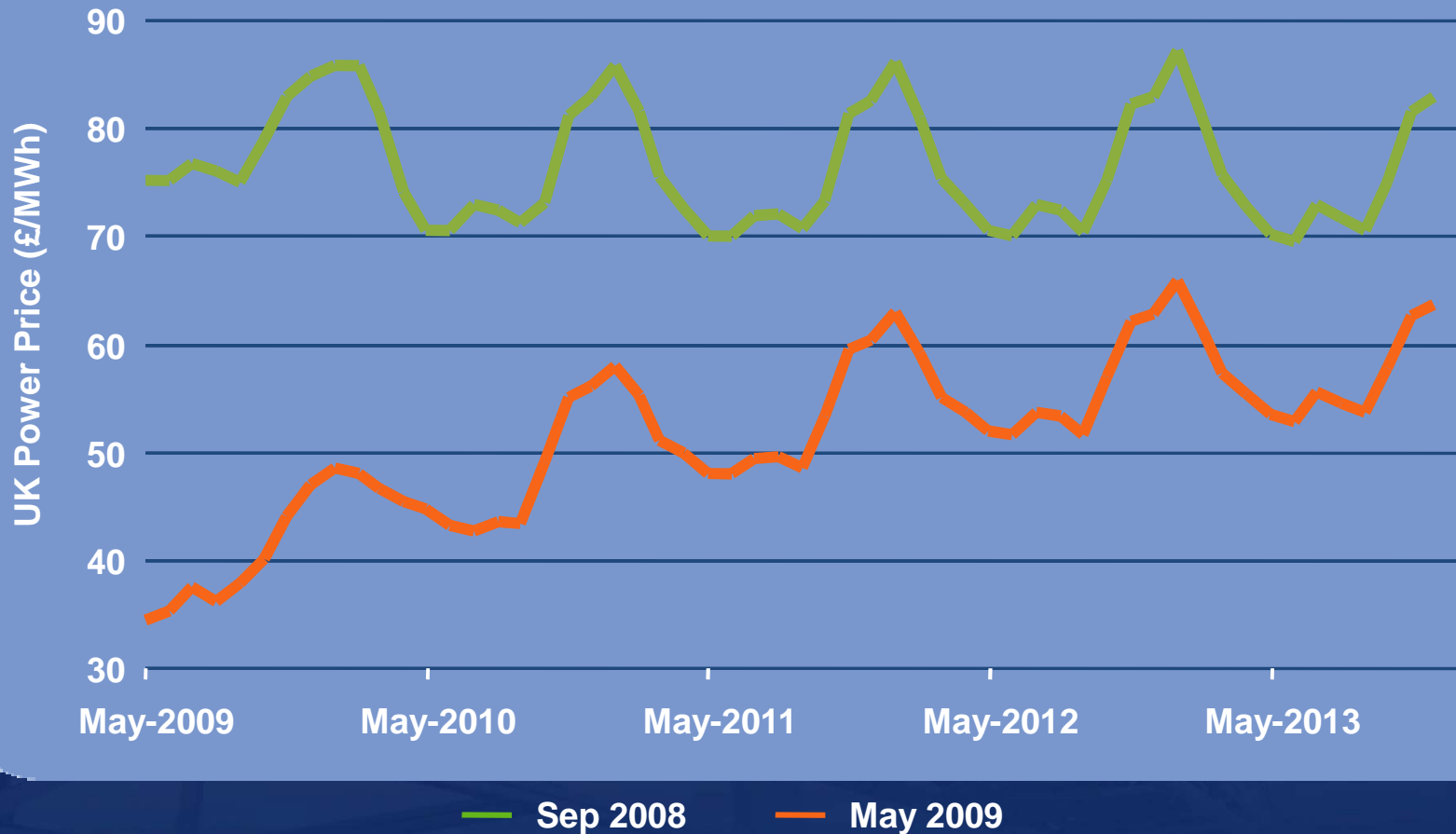
A black and white photograph of an industrial facility, likely a refinery or chemical plant. The image shows a complex network of pipes, scaffolding, and structural steel. In the foreground, there are large, curved pipes and a metal walkway. In the background, a tall distillation column or tower is visible, with a small plume of white smoke or steam rising from its top. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds. The overall scene conveys a sense of industrial scale and complexity.

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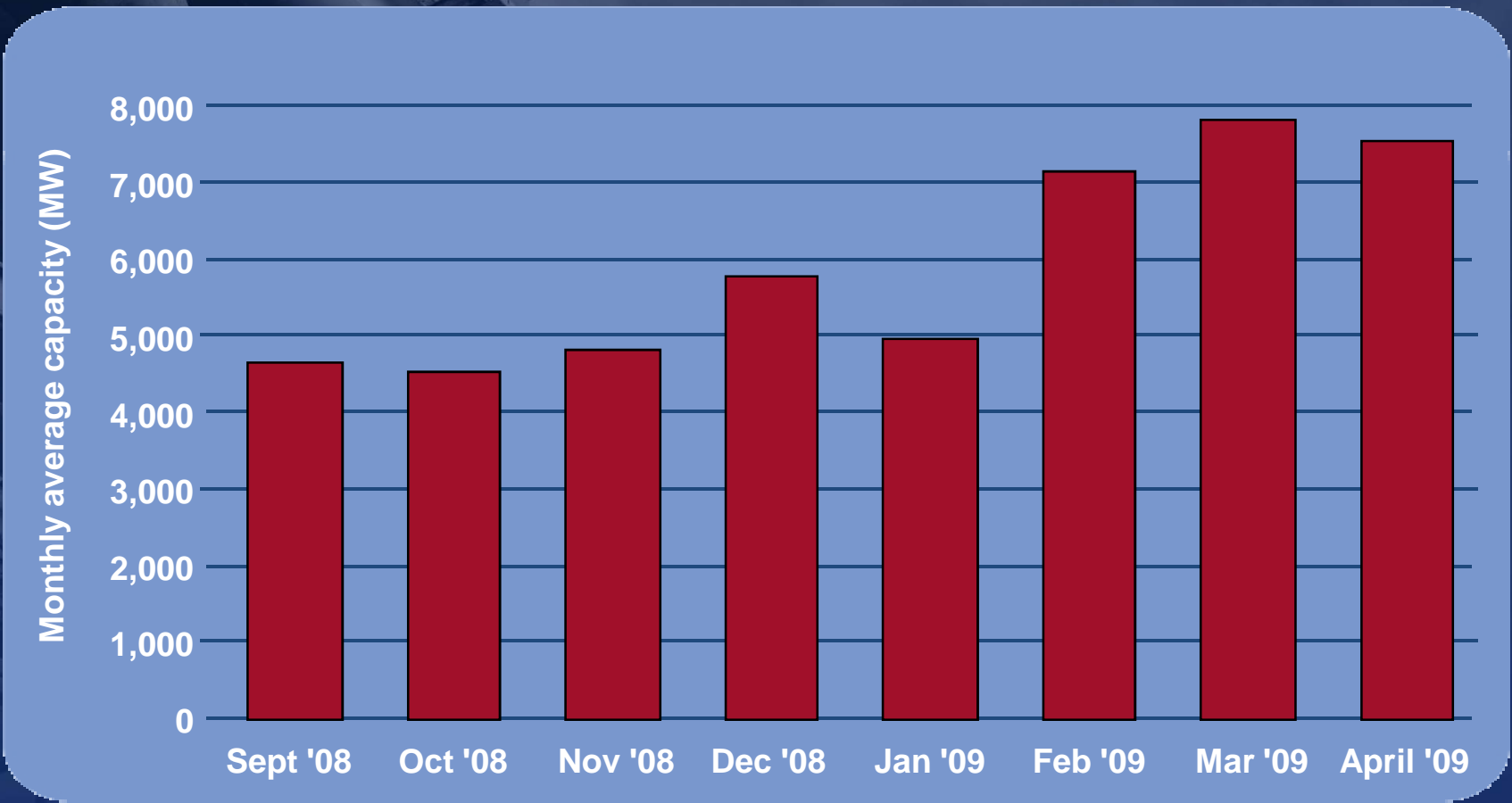
Drivers of value



# Wholesale power prices have fallen



# British Energy output has increased



Source: Exelon "Balancing Mechanism Reporting System (BMRS)"

# Governance Package

- Joint venture is a long term partnership
- Centrica is a 20% investor in Lake Acquisitions
  - EDF has day-to-day operational control
- Centrica rights
  - Board representation on both Lake Acquisitions and British Energy Group
  - full information rights
  - minority protections
- 100% dividend policy
- Centrica will benefit from synergies EDF extracts from British Energy



# Nuclear new build opportunity

- Centrica has the right to participate in EDF's new nuclear build programme in the UK
  - final investment decision on 1<sup>st</sup> reactor in 2011
- British Energy sites best positioned for building new nuclear reactors
  - disposal of certain sites as agreed with EC
  - recent NDA auction showed strong value of sites
- EDF intends initially to build four EPRs (6.4GW)
  - 2 reactors at each of Sizewell and Hinkley Point
  - first commissioning targeted for end 2017
- New build will make a long term contribution to the structural hedge and deliver lower cost electricity

A black and white photograph of an industrial facility, likely an oil or gas processing plant. The image shows a complex network of large pipes, metal scaffolding, and structural beams. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds. In the foreground, a large, curved pipe is visible on the left side. The overall scene conveys a sense of industrial scale and complexity.

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SPE sale

# Disposal of SPE

- Landscape for energy retailing in Europe remains difficult
- Short term profit outlook reduced by lower commodity prices
- Attractive sale price
- Remaining European positions are under strategic review
- Will retain a presence in Europe
  - infrastructure for delivery of gas remains important to Centrica's business
  - continued need for midstream market intelligence

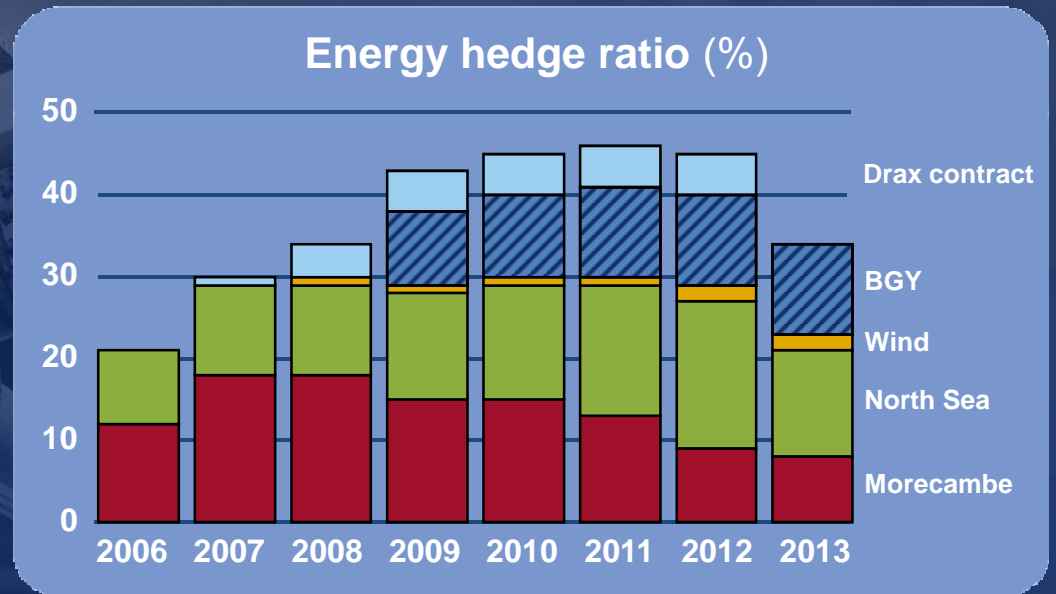


A black and white photograph of an industrial facility, likely a refinery or chemical plant. The image shows a complex network of large pipes, metal scaffolding, and structural beams. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds. The overall scene is industrial and somewhat desaturated.

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# Impact of the Transaction

# Substantially increases the upstream hedge



Energy hedge ratio: Proportion of UK floating gas demand covered by own production. Floating gas demand includes non-fixed price BGR and BGB demand, I&C gas demand, power station fuel requirements and equivalent gas requirements to meet floating power demand in BGR and BGB.

2009 British Energy output shown as full year proforma position

# Earnings impact

- Key variables – output, power prices, operating costs, synergies
- Forward power sales: 2010: 46TWh, 2011: 28TWh, 2012: 14TWh
- Based on prices achieved plus current forward curve for remaining output, acquisition (net of SPE sale) expected to be broadly neutral from 2010 (before the impact of fair value adjustments)
- Power price sensitivity:  $\pm \text{£}5/\text{MWh} \Rightarrow 2010/11 \pm 1\%$  on EPS
- Output sensitivity:  $\pm 5\text{TWh} \Rightarrow 2010/11 \pm 2.5\%$  on EPS
- Fair value adjustments
  - mark to market of forward sales – negative in 2009, small positive in 2010 and 2011
  - additional depreciation – estimated earnings impact  $\text{£}80\text{-}100\text{m pa}$
- Assumes net cash cost funded by equity – remaining Rights Issue proceeds applied to other investments; from current position, post Rights Issue, funding cost is minimal given low interest rate being received on cash on deposit



# 2010 / 2011 earnings impact

	Starting from pre Rights Issue	Starting from post Rights Issue
Before Fair Value accounting	neutral	accretive
After Fair Value accounting	dilutive	neutral

# Group structure going forward

- Reduced Group earnings volatility
- More balanced portfolio of upstream and downstream positions
- Business concentrated in UK and North America
- Investment opportunities
  - Nuclear new build
  - North Sea gas
  - UK gas storage
  - UK wind
  - North America – strengthen downstream positions, upstream integration
- Strong balance sheet will be maintained

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# Timetable



# Timetable for completion of transaction

- Sign and announce transactions - - - - -> 11 May
- Commence regulatory processes - - - - -> mid May
  - British Energy acquisition subject to UK competition approval
  - SPE sale requires EC approval
- Post Circular to shareholders - - - - -> mid May
- General Meeting - - - - -> June
- Estimated closing - - - - -> Q3
  - closing of the two deals is interconditional

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# Summary

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- Significant reduction in scale of net transaction
- Improved terms reflect commodity price environment
- Joint venture delivers value for Centrica shareholders
- Positions Centrica strongly
  - improves business risk profile
  - reduces earnings volatility
  - enhances long term value growth
- Strong funding position integral to Group going forward
  - wide range of investment opportunities