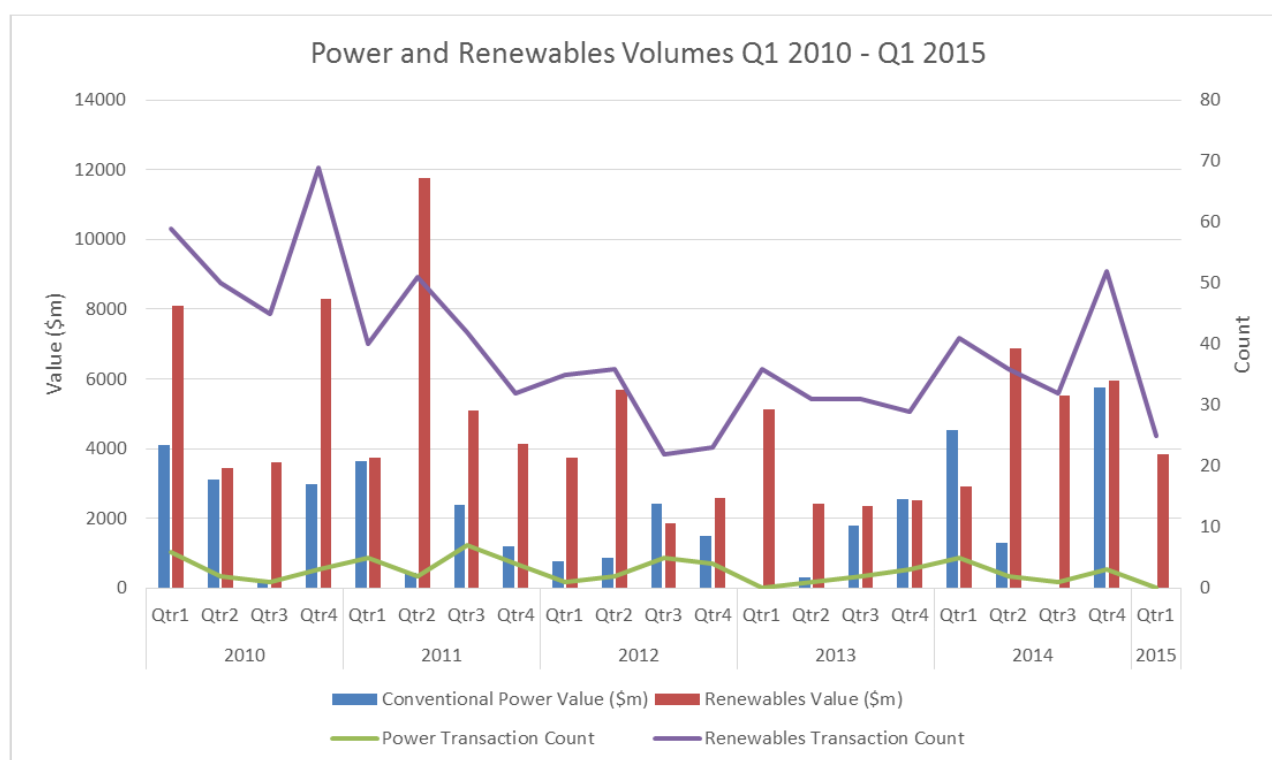


Q1 2015 League Table Analysis: European renewables vs conventional power

jordan.bintcliffe@ijglobal.com

21/04/2015

[IJGlobal's Q1 league tables for 2015](#) show investment into European power projects could be returning to 2010/2011 levels, though activity is increasingly concentrated in the renewables sector. Total investment in renewables and conventional power in Europe reached \$32.1 billion in 2014, closing in on 2010's height of \$33.1 billion whilst narrowly exceeding 2011 levels of \$32.4 billion. Renewables investment in Q1 2015 continued this trend.

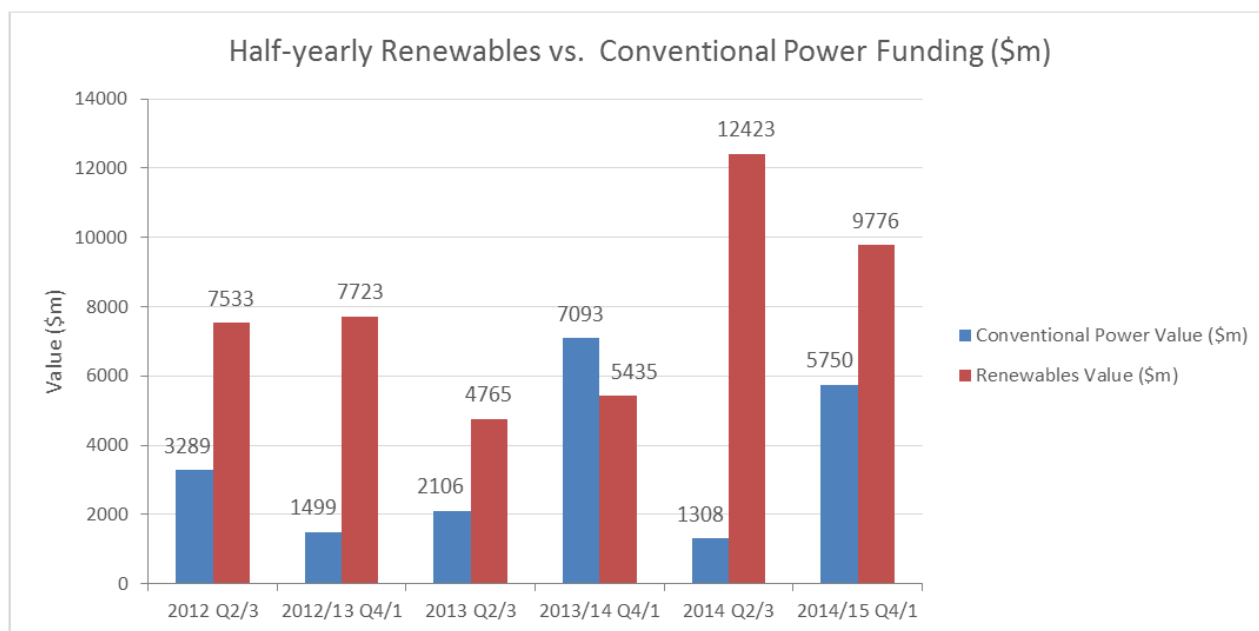


The largest European power deal to reach financial close in the quarter was the \$1.38 billion [332MW Nordsee One offshore wind project in Germany](#). It was Europe's only greenfield offshore deal in the quarter however the roughly \$660 million acquisition of [the 576MW Gwynt y Mor's OFTO transmission assets](#) in the UK was Europe's second largest Q1 transaction. This recent trend for offshore investment is set to continue this year, with [Germany's €1.8 billion Veja Mate projected to close in June](#).

The UK biomass sector was also very active, producing four deals with a combined investment of \$877 million. The largest transaction was [Macquarie European Infrastructure Fund's \\$307 million refinancing of its biomass portfolio](#). This rush of deals was due to developers trying to complete commissioning before the [March 2017 deadline for the UK's renewable obligation certificate \(ROC\) scheme](#).

Total investment in European solar fell in the quarter to \$306 million from \$1.28 billion in Q4. This decline reflected

[Western European governments peeling back support schemes](#). Germany, France and the UK, all previously seen as leaders in solar, have reduced government support, and private capital is failing to fill the gap. The UK in particular is unlikely to see much solar investment in 2015, with the [new CfD regime forcing solar to compete against other technologies](#). [Two projects previously granted £50/MWh strike prices](#) in the country recently failed to sign contracts.



While there was an absence of conventional power deals in Q1, looking at that data in isolation may give a skewed impression. Looking at the data in half years – with the most recent quarter included with Q4 2014 – recent investment values for both sectors have been above average for the past few years.

Access the full Q1 2015 league tables and analysis [here](#).

Thank you for printing this article from IJGlobal.

As the leading online publication serving the infrastructure investment market, IJGlobal is read daily by decision-makers within investment banks, international law firms, advisory firms, institutional investors and governments.

If you have been given this article by a subscriber, you can contact us through www.ijglobal.com/sign-in, or call our London office on +44 (0)20 7779 8870 to discuss our subscription options.