The energy policy palette



MONEY

Direct financial transfers

TAXES =

Deductions and credits

CUSTOMS

International trade tools

REGULATIONS

Domestic controls on firms and markets

LOANS

Government finance and credit support

BOONS

Services or property without cost, or below cost or market price

RISKS

Transfer of exposures to industry, government, or public

EXTERNALITIES

Transfer costs of product impacts, near or far—or failing to do so?



The Energy Policy Palette

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MONEY

Direct financial transfers to producers or consumers

ENERGY:

fuel subsidies (Iran petrol, \$0.10/liter)

BEYOND:

grants for and purchases of biofuel crops

LOANS

Low-interest, low security, preferential loans and guarantees, government full faith and credit

ENERGY:

DOE loans, guarantees; ARRA guarantee programs

BEYOND:

Agricultural loans and guarantees for efficiency; Eximbank financing

TAXES'

Deductions and credits on income and excise taxes, special rates and depreciation

ENERGY:

depletion, depreciation, EOR credits, ITC (solar), PTC (wind); expensing of drilling costs; MLPs

BEYOND:

foreign income and excise credits; loss carryforwards; LIFO accounting practices; ethanol credits

BOONS

Government services and property without compensation, or below cost or world prices

ENERGY:

Low royalties; data, R&D; transportation networks

BEYOND:

TVA power and water improvements; highways

CUSTOMS

Quotas, tariffs, duties, embargoes, international marketaccess restrictions

ENERGY:

ban on imports of fuel; tariffs on solar cells

BEYOND:

tariffs on import of ethanol, steel and aluminum

RISKS

EXTERNALITIES

Transfers of exposures to industry or public

Incorporating, or

possibly failing to

product price

incorporate, costs of

pollution, health care or

other impacts into the

ENERGY:

Price-Anderson Act; decommissioning expenses; Strategic Petroleum Reserve

BEYOND:

deduction of legal settlements and judgments

REGULATIONS

Price controls, rate caps, domestic market-access, localeontent requirements

ENERGY:

prioritization of coal; renewable portfolio standards, feed-in tariffs; eminent domain powers

BEYOND:

Opportunity zones; domestic manufacturing priorities; employment and relocation incentives

ENERGY:

Particulate, healthcare costs; CO₂ and CH₄ emission impacts; traffic, congestion, accidents

BEYOND:

same impacts for autos, power and cement plants, sprawl; national security deployments and foreign aid in Middle East