Errata Note

Infographic

Green Energy Choices: The Benefits, Risks and Trade-Offs of Low-Carbon Technologies for Electricity Production

Apologies to those of you who have downloaded the infographic before March 31, 2016. The following changes were made in the PDF and printed versions of the infographic:

1. The data reflected impacts in Europe but was normalized with the global electricity mix. The updated graphic reflects global-average impacts of the displayed technologies, normalized with the global electricity mix.
2. All reference to "per kWh" below the indicators were removed for legibility.
3. The following phrase has been removed for legibility: “The environmental impacts of producing the materials required by different energy technologies are included in the below life cycle results. Material requirements are identified here as an indication of resource use. The higher material requirements represent a manageable share of global production. To meet the world’s electricity needs in 2050 – as per the International Energy Agency’s ‘Blue Map Scenario’ – would require one year of current global iron production and two years of copper production.”
4. In the summary text box about “site-specific environmental concerns”, the expression “can sometimes” was removed.
5. The summary text box about “potential solutions for additional material requirements” was added.
6. The caption of the graph has been changed from “This infographic compares electricity generation technologies and highlights the environmental benefits, and trade-offs of each technology. The assessment is based on a comparison of clean technologies with conventional fossil fuel power plants. The graphic presents an overview over the life cycle impacts of different technology groups compared to the global electricity generation mix in the year 2010” to “This infographic compares electricity generation technologies and highlights the environmental benefits, and trade-offs of each technology. The graphic presents an overview over the life cycle impacts and material requirements per unit of electricity produced by different technology groups compared to the global electricity generation mix in the year 2010. Indicators for materials are shown for reference; the environmental impacts associated with material production are already included in the results for the other indicators.”