



The German 'Easter Package' – RES and Grid Deployment Acceleration

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German Easter package – An example?

REPowerEU context:

- Simplify and shorten planning and permitting processes
- Consider planning, construction and operation of RES projects and the related grid itself as being of overriding public interest and qualify them for the most favourable procedure available
- MS should swiftly map and assess suitable land and sea areas

What is the Easter Package?

- Extensive proposal to change German energy legislation
 - Renewable Energy: Offshore wind & Solar
 - Grids
- Complementary Summer Package was expected – focusing on onshore wind and including a new strategy on reconciling renewable energy and nature conservation



Overriding principle

- Expanding renewable energy production (and related grid development) is in the overriding public interest and serves public security

What does this mean?

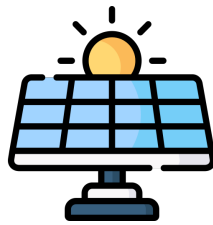
- Likely, when different interests are weighed up, renewables are to be viewed as a priority interest
- Planning and permitting will become easier/quicker
- De-regulation? Conflict between RES expansion and biodiversity?

Main ambitions

- 80% of electricity from RES by 2030 (= 600 Twh) and (nearly) 100% by 2035
- Tripling pace of expansion of RES and doubling current amount



Offshore wind:
30 GW in 2030



Solar:
17.4 GW/year
215 GW in 2030



Onshore wind:
6.5 GW/year
115 GW in 2030

Specific measures: Expanding Wind



ONSHORE:

- Developing capacity in low-wind locations by improving revenue models

OFFSHORE:

- Planning and permitting will be accelerated
- Environmental impact assessment and public consultations will be bundled
 - Opportunity to create a successful process:
- The planning process for offshore grid connections can start earlier



Specific measures: Expanding Wind



- Offshore wind tenders will include areas that have not yet been mapped
- For mapped sites:
 - The project will go to the bidder who offers the lowest 'Contract for Difference' price
 - Excess returns will be allocated to the Energy and Climate Fund
- For non-mapped sites:
 - Project developers will have to fulfil qualitative criteria
 - Use of auctioning revenues:
 - 70% support to offshore grid
 - 20% for nature conservation
 - 10% for environmentally friendly fisheries
- Prohibition of construction in protected areas replaced by case-by-case approach

Specific measures: Expanding PV



- Funding for solar will be significantly increased
- Specific funding schemes/measures for different types of solar will be created:
 - Rooftop will receive higher funding if it is fully fed into the grid as compared to self-consumption
 - Developing Agri-PV, Floating PV and Marsh-PV will lead to the designation/allocation of new types/categories of solar areas

Specific measures: Biomass & Hydrogen

Biomass

- Strength of biomass is that it can be stored: Focus on plants that can cover peak load and difficult to decarbonise sectors
- Overall, tenders for biomass will be reduced
- Tenders for biomethane will be increased to 600 MW annually
- The use of biomethane will be restricted to highly flexible power plants

Hydrogen

- Renewables-based hydrogen production will be funded to steady the use of hydrogen storage and regenerative power

Specific measures: Grids



- The Federal Network Development Plan will include additional projects to accommodate the RES expansion pace:
 - 19 new grid projects will be included
 - 17 existing projects will be adjusted
- Planning and permitting will become easier/quicker
- Grid planning will be directly linked to climate neutrality targets – including on distribution level

Specific measures: Acceptance/Community benefits

- Increase transparency on energy suppliers
- Greater rights/importance for citizens energy/prosumers:
 - Citizen energy project can be realised without having to partake in official tenders (max. 18 MW wind and 6 MW solar)
- Increased financial involvement of municipalities – especially for wind
- Municipalities will be allowed to issue environmental requirements
- Renewables will no longer be cross-financed via consumers' electricity bills – instead the expansion will be covered by the new Energy and Climate Fund

Additional legislative act: Wind on land

- Proposal to earmark 2% of the total land area for onshore wind projects by 2023 (from 0.9% now) (2% in each federated state)
- Combined with repowering, 2% of land area could host 200 GW of onshore wind
- Studies (BWE, Fraunhofer e.a.) indicate 8-12% of land 'potentially' available

Challenges and Opportunities?

- What does this acceleration mean for public engagement timelines?
- Are there any dangers of downgrading nature?
- What are the drawbacks and opportunities of bundling environmental impact assessments and public consultations?
- How can we make sure that we take people along?