

# Italian grid planning, impact of growing RES and Storage

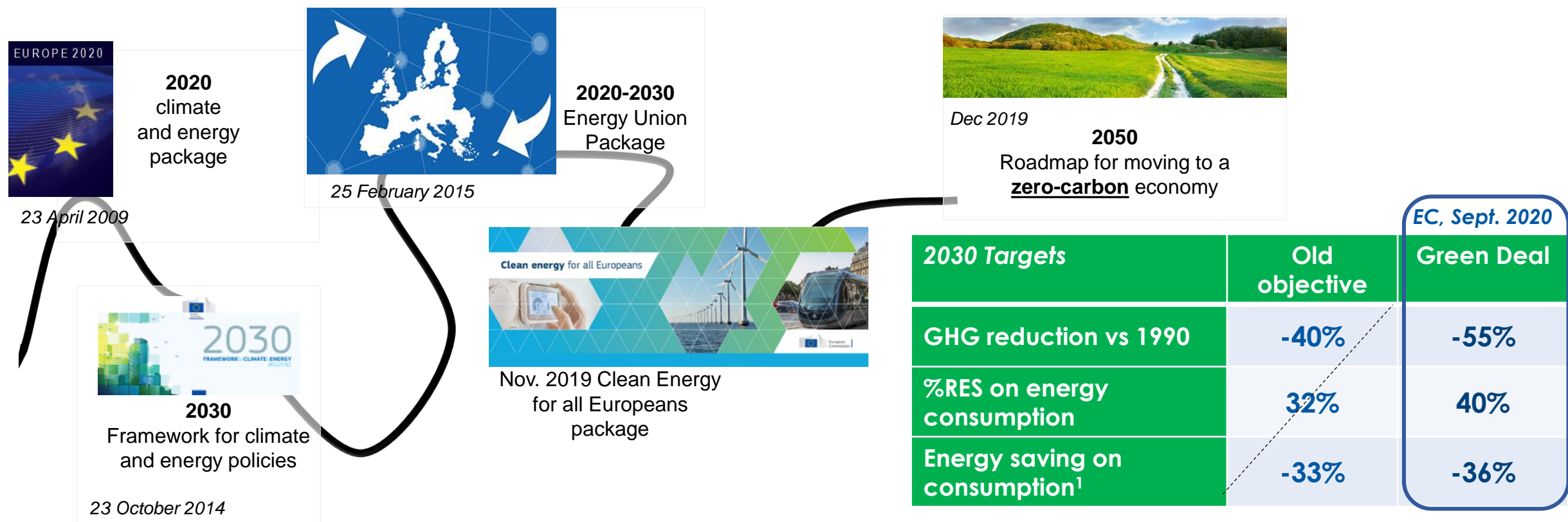
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*7<sup>th</sup> June 2021*



# The EU roadmap is targeting a 100% carbon free of human activities by 2050



Need for **flexibility** to operate a highly decarbonized power system in compliance with **reliability** and **security** standards

<sup>1</sup>Energy Savings evaluated against the 2007 Baseline projections for 2030

# Current situation and targets for energy transition: focus on Italy



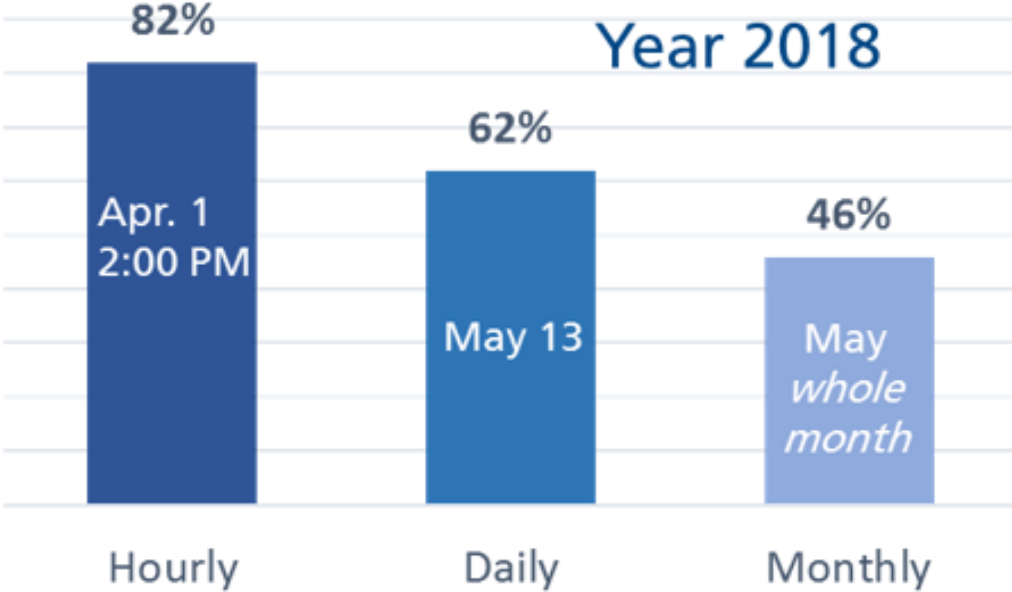
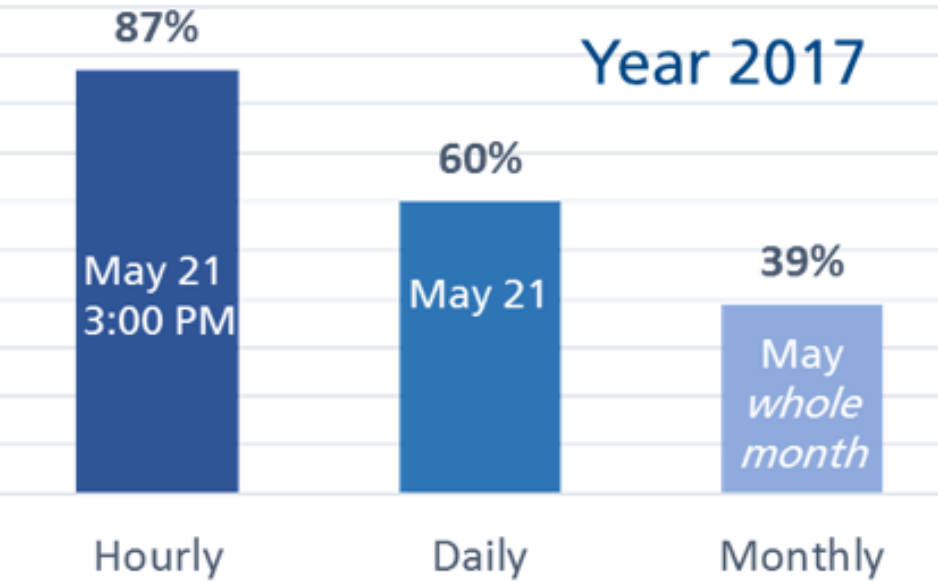
	2020 Preliminary <sup>1</sup>	2030 Target PNIEC 2019	2030 Potential new target <sup>1</sup>
GHG reduction vs 1990	-25%	-40%	-55%
%RES on electric consumption	38%	55%	70%
%RES on energy consumption	19%	30%	40%

To attain the new 2030 target on the power sector, **6.5 GW/yr of new RES power plants** shall be commissioned. The current trend is 1 GW/yr of new RES power plants

<sup>1</sup>Elettricità Futura estimates, Parliamentary Hearing on National Resilience and Recovery Plan (PNRR)

# The Future is coming on soon...

Despite a still moderate RES penetration, peaks of RES generation, namely V-RES, are already occurring now

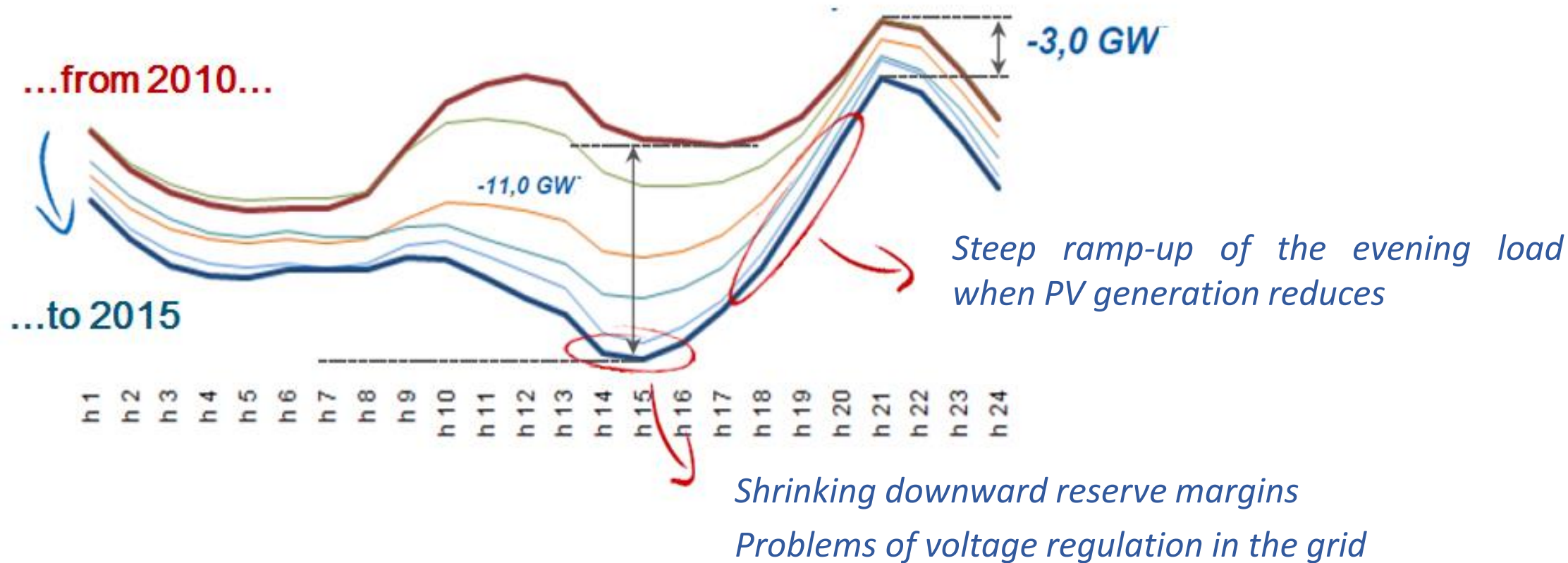


Source Terna CESI elaborations

# The Future is Now...

The “duck curve” belly grows as solar output grows

*Average residual demand on Sundays in April*

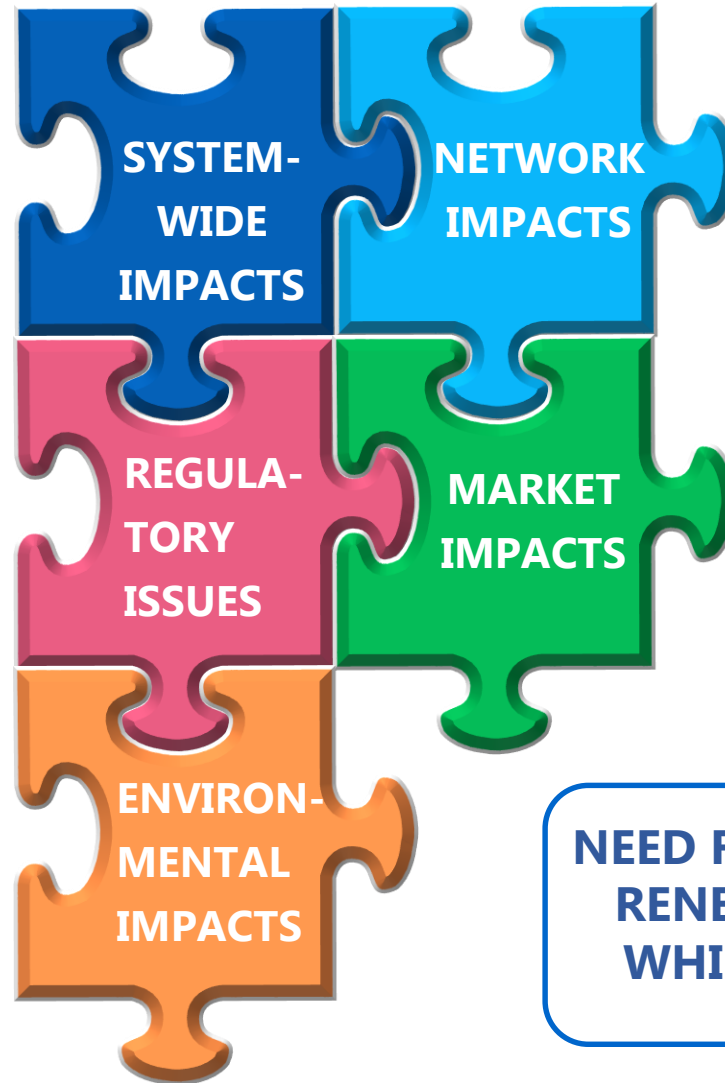


Source of the graphs: Terna, the Italian TSO



# Challenges to deal with highly decarbonized power systems shall be addressed now

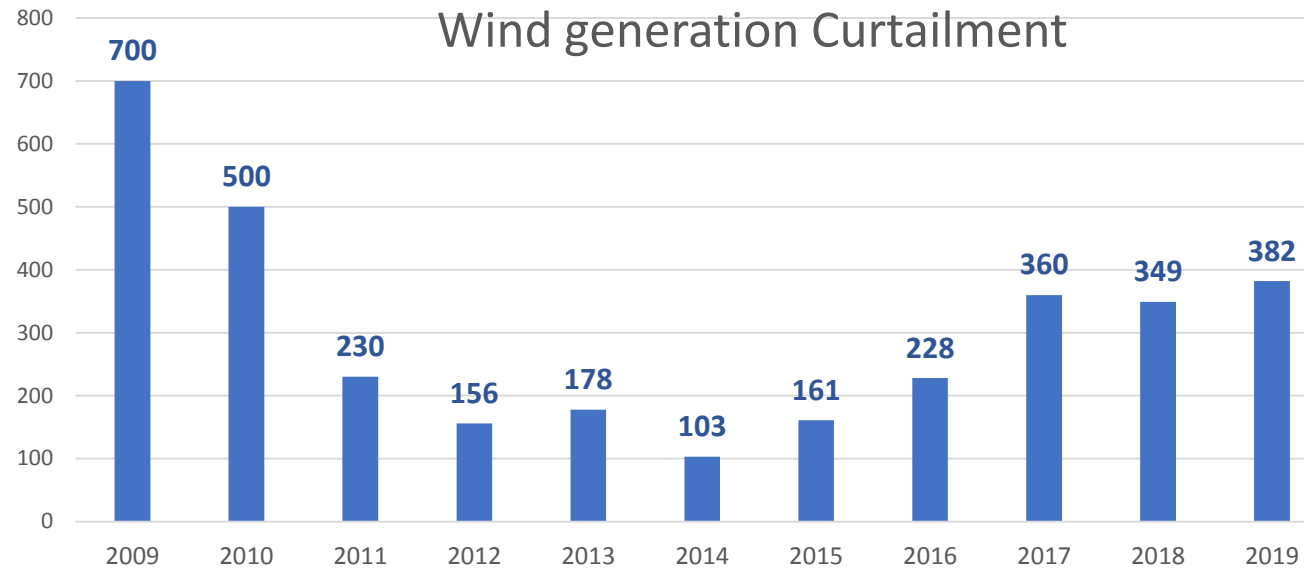
- Additional reserve & balancing capability
- Difficult up/down ramp hours
- Over-generation risk
- More challenging frequency regulation
- TSO/DSO interaction
- Incentive framework
- Reduction of GHG emissions



- Network congestions
- Voltage profile & reactive power management
- System protection
- Risk of day-ahead market price distortion
- Enhanced effort in the Ancillary Service Market to ensure security margins

**NEED FOR COMBINED ACTIONS TO MINIMIZE RENEWABLE GENERATION CURTAILMENT WHILE MAINTAINING SYSTEM SECURITY**

# Challenges in Operating Power Systems with a High Share of RES Generation: Situation Experienced in Italy

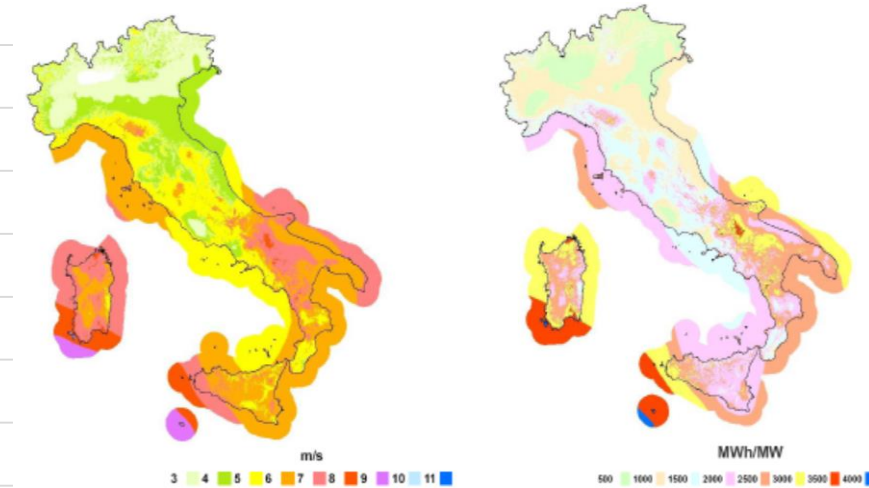


Wind generation (GWh)	6.542	9.125	9.856	13.407	14.897	15.178	14.844	17.689	17.565	17.557
Gen. curtailment (%)	10,7%	5,5%	2,3%	1,1%	1,2%	0,7%	1,1%	1,2%	2,0%	2,2%

Source: Terna and CESI elaborations

Main causes of wind gen. curtailment:

- ✓ Congestion at HV network
- ✓ Congestion at EHV network
- ✓ Balancing problems

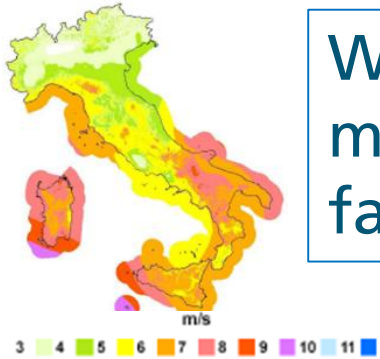


Wind generation concentrated in the far South and the Islands



Congestion on the 150 kV grid

# Actions for reducing the risk of overgeneration: growing effort in investing in transmission assets

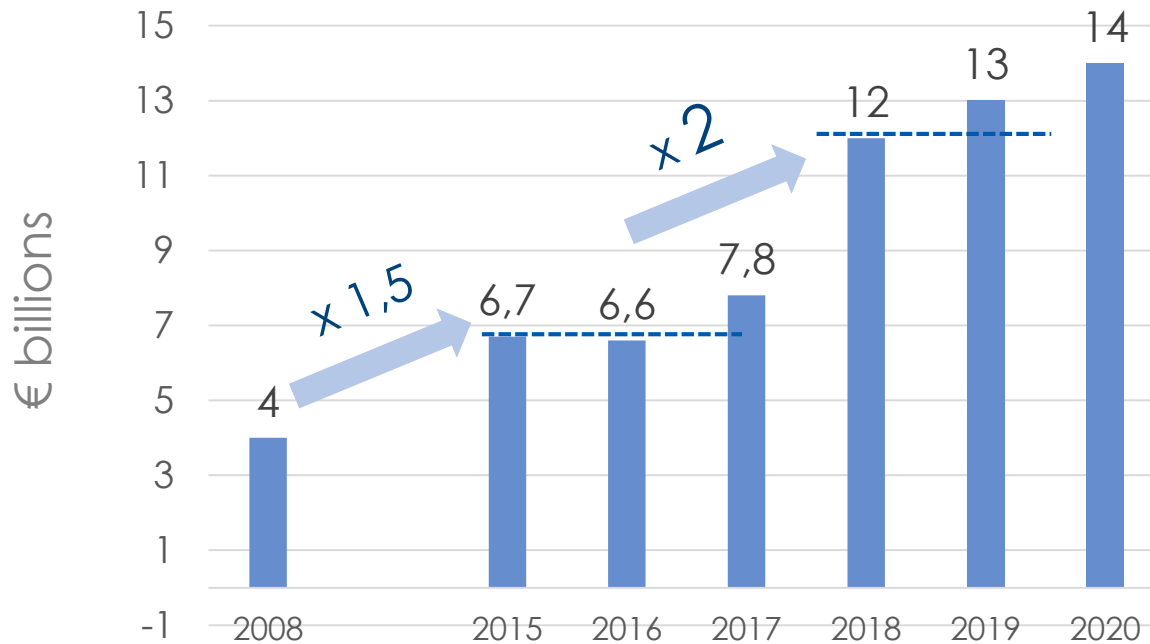


Wind and solar resources mostly concentrated in the far South and the Islands



Need for substantial investments within the country and cross-border

10 Year National Development Plan



Multiple links in HVDC technology



# RES curtailment: types and causes

SYSTEM-  
WIDE  
IMPACTS

The RES curtailment due to **system constraints**:

- ✓ the minimum reserve margin
- ✓ (in)flexibility of traditional generation fleet

Power system curtailment: system balance

NETWORK  
IMPACTS

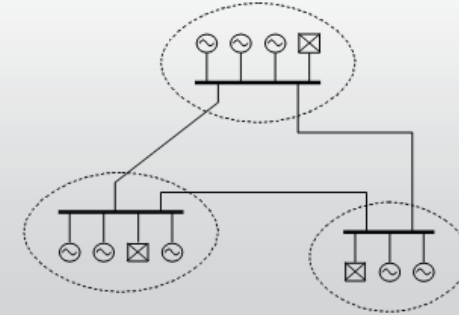
RES curtailment due **network constraints**:

- ✓ RES cut to alleviate network bottlenecks

Network curtailment: lack of adequate grid infrastructures

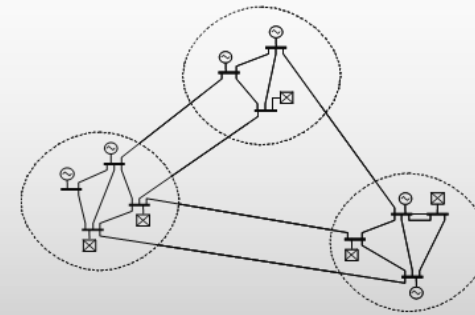
Quasi single-busbar model

(constraints on grid transfer capacity between areas)



Busbar model

(detailed grid modelling and constraints)

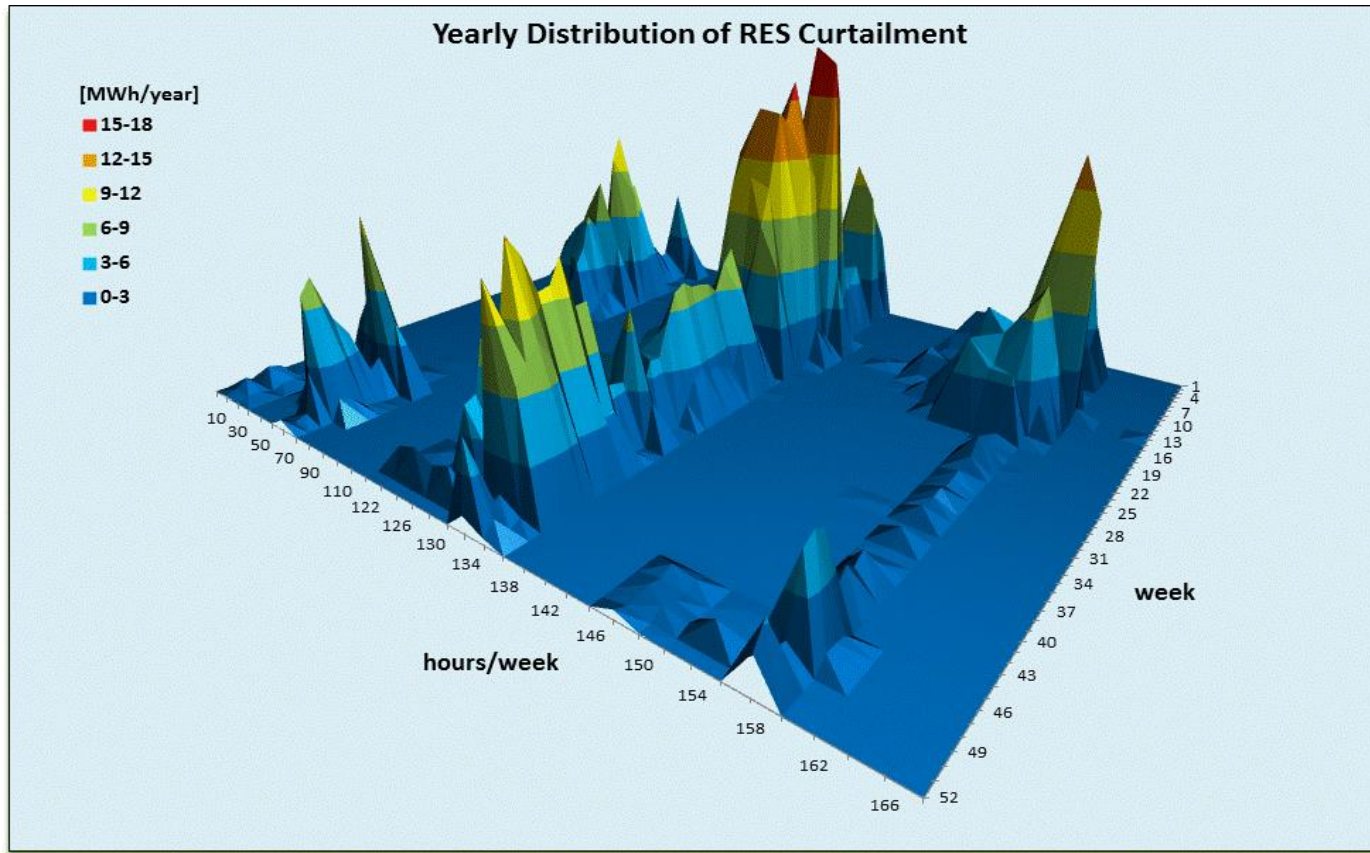


The development of the transmission grid can help to reduce the risk of RES curtailment, “exporting” the over-generation to areas with more possibilities to receive the extra renewable generation

# Assessment of V-RES curtailment risk: distribution over the year

## Need for a probabilistic approach:

- ✓ MonteCarlo simulation
- ✓ Intermittency of wind and solar generation together with forecast error of power demand
- ✓ Detailed modelling of the grid
- ✓ Different climatic years

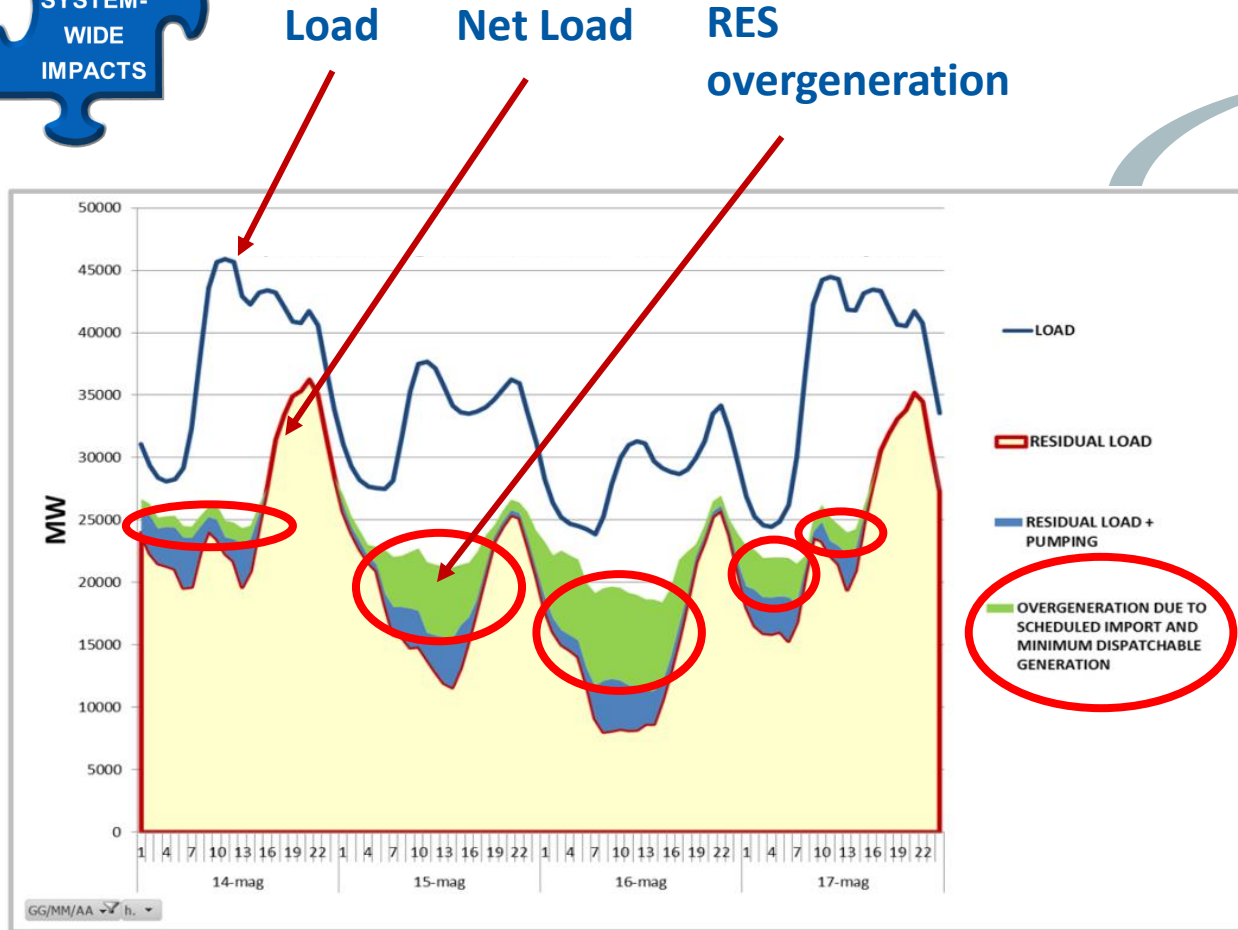


Possibility to **quantify the annual benefits** in terms of **avoided RES generation curtailment** arising from **network reinforcement** or **storage facilities**

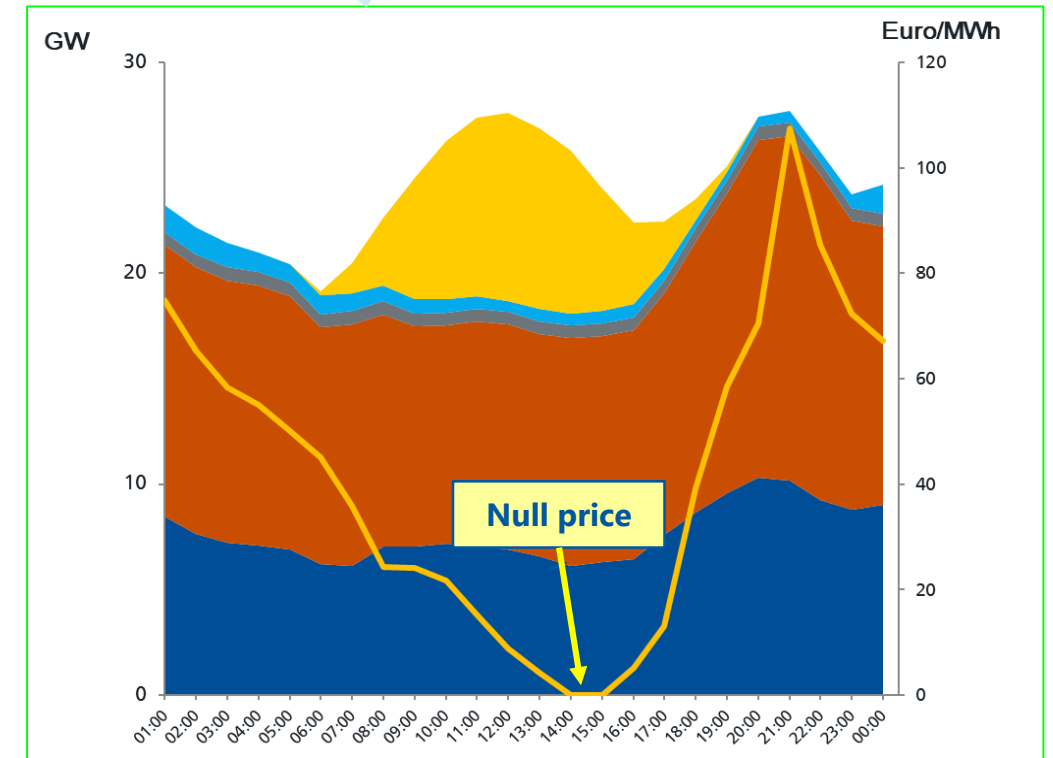


*Terna SpA computational tool developed by CESI spa: [www.cesi.it/grare](http://www.cesi.it/grare)*

# Power system balance and risk of over-generation



Difficulties in balancing the system during critical hours with high V-RES generation



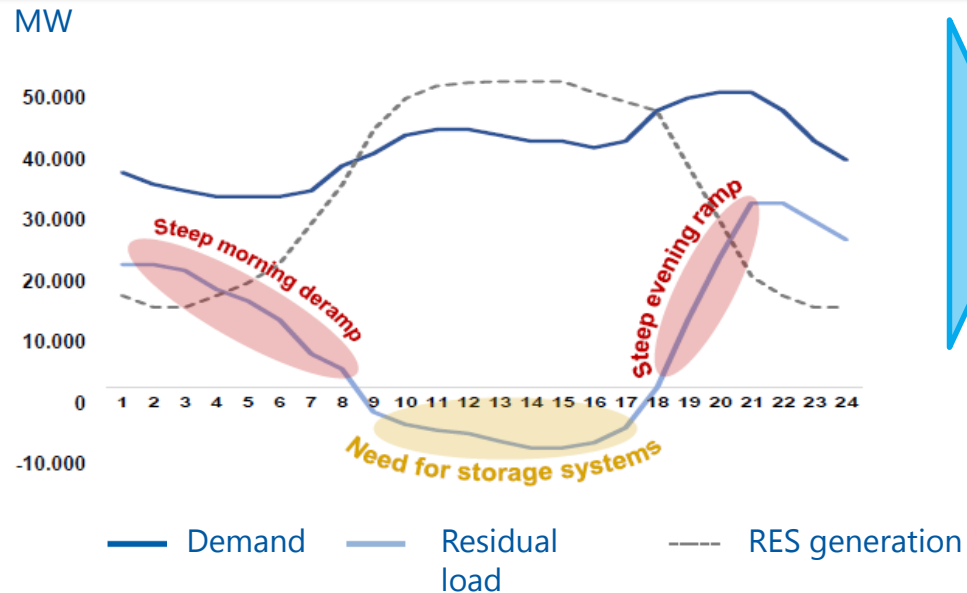
Market price distortion due to the priority given to RES generation

# Need of higher system flexibility

- RES generation growth will be largely based on variable energy sources (wind and solar) calling for an **enhanced system flexibility**:
  - ✓ storage capacity ✓ **other solutions** (e.g.: changing operation paradigms, DR, TSO/DSO integr., VPP, etc.)
- **New paradigms for storage** facilities, not only hydro pumping, but:
  - ✓ **Utility scale batteries**; ✓ **clusters of EV**; ✓ **non conventional devices (cryogenics energy storage, etc.)**



## Example of residual load with high RES penetration Simulation at 2030\*



- ❑ Ramps up until 10000 MW/h in 2030
- ❑ Up to 15÷20 GW of RES generation would be curtailed in many occurrences without appropriate energy storage facilities

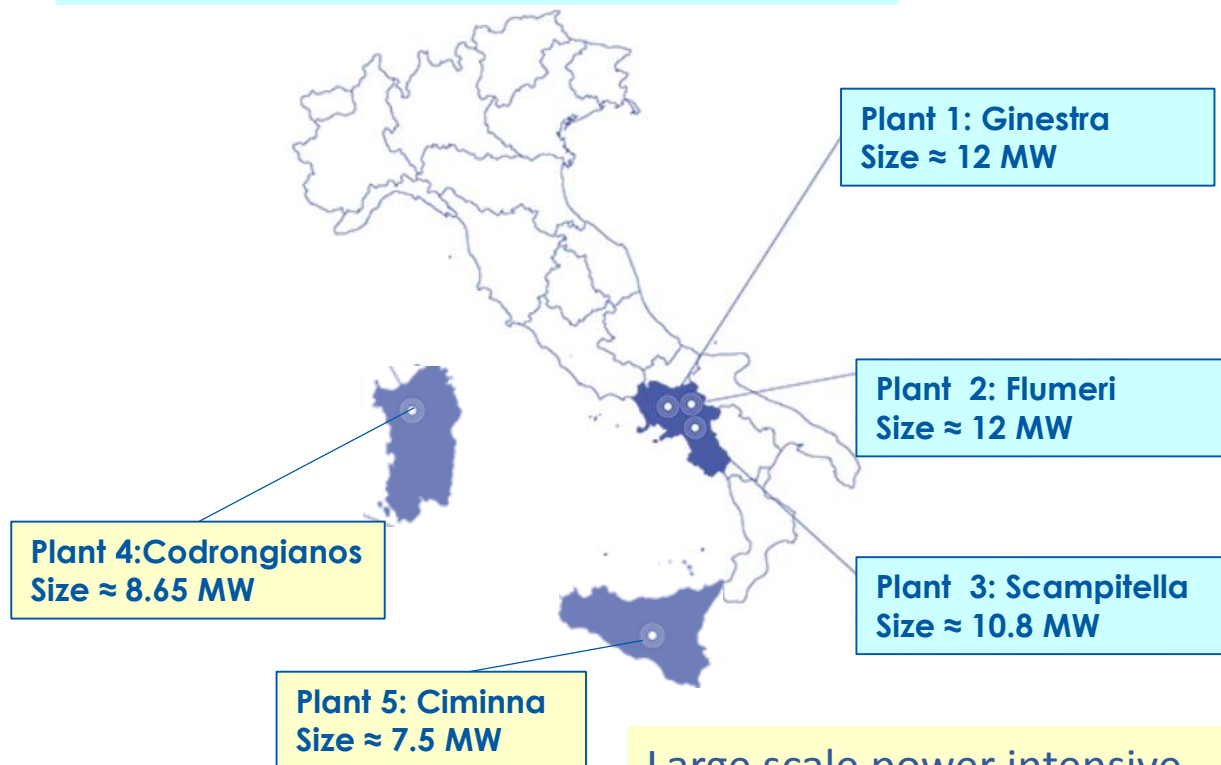
\* Simulation applied to Italy referring to the National Energy Strategy

# Storage solutions in Italy: pilot projects and future needs

## Battery Storage Pilot Projects

Large scale energy intensive

Role: congestion relief / Technology: NaS



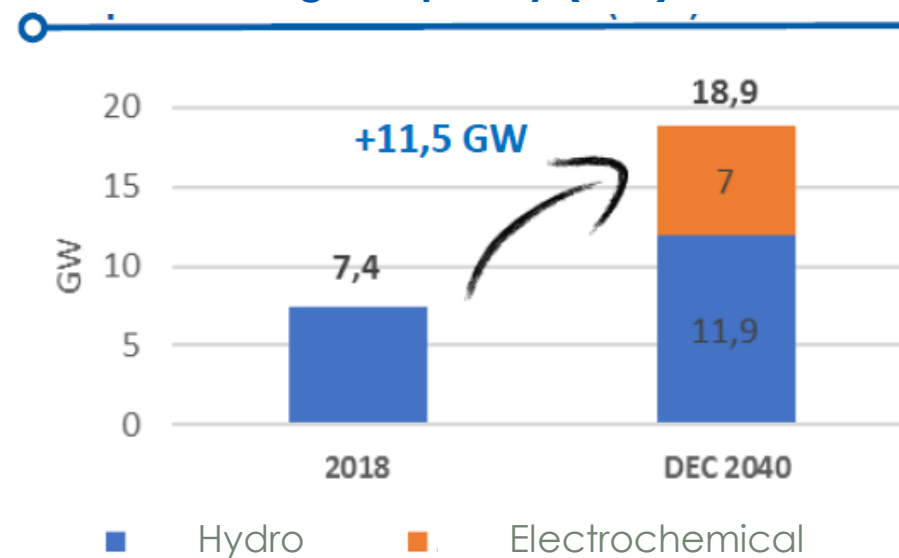
Large scale power intensive

Role: provision of ancillary services

Technologies: Li-ion, ZEBRA, Flow

## Future needs

### Storage capacity (GW)\*



\* Estimation based on "decentralized" scenario 2019

Source Terna CESI elaborations



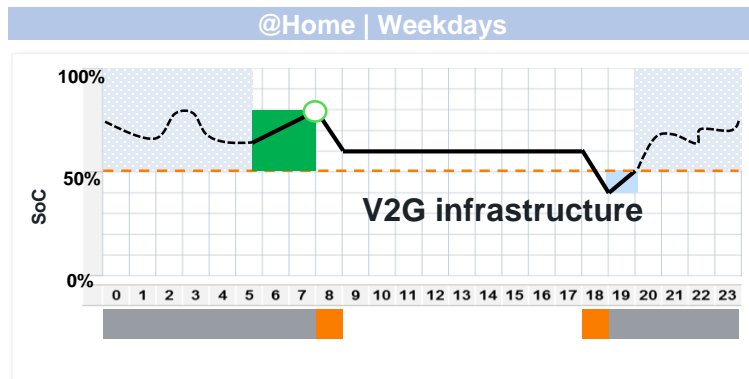
# Integration between TSO and DSO: active role of demand and distributed generation

## FLEXIBLE GENERATION AND DEMAND ASSETS



- ✓ Including Energy Storage, to balance the ever increasing non-programmable RES generation...
- ✓ ...coupled with a more “intelligent” grid considering a large share of RES generation connected to MV and LV grids and the active role of demand.

E.g.: active role of Electric Vehicle clusters for system security and reliability: from contribution to system adequacy to ancillary services



- Interaction of TSO and Regulators with new actors
- For TSO, need for appropriate tools to interact with system resources not directly connected to the transmission grid



There are multiple services needed by TSOs in order to maintain power system security. Among them, the most “mature” considering **technology** and **regulatory** requirements are:



## Balancing Services

- Primary regulation
- Secondary and Tertiary reg.
- Balancing



## Demand Response

- Interruptible load program



## Capacity



















- Capacity market

Each service is characterized by its own:

- ☐ **Technical requirements**  
(activation time, duration, ...)
- ☐ **Remuneration scheme**  
(market, regulated prices,...)
- ☐ **Resource request**  
(capacity and/or energy)

In the framework of Motus-e association, CESI examined the current framework of grid services in Italy to assess technical and/or regulatory barriers for provision of system services by EV.

# VGI potential in Italy for different grid services

Grid service (Entso-E wording)	Technical Feasibility	Regulatory Adequacy	Market Attractiveness	Potential market for 1 million of EVs [M€]*
<b>Primary regulation</b> (FCR - Frequency Containment Reserve)				30
<b>Secondary regulation</b> (FRRa - Frequency Restoration Reserve with automatic activation)				130
<b>Tertiary regulation</b> (FRRm - Frequency Restoration Reserve with manual activation and RR – Replacement Reserve)				330
<b>Balancing</b> (FRRm - Frequency Restoration Reserve with manual activation)				330
<b>Interruptible load program</b>				20
<b>Capacity market</b>				120

\* Displayed values have to be considered as a qualitative estimation of current market potential in case of an opening of the service provision to VGI in V1G mode.

# Key actions to evolve towards Fully Decarbonized Power Systems

1

## Investments in transmission

- ✓ Interconnections
  - *enhanced cross-border power flows caused by periodical surplus or shortfall of RES generation*
- ✓ Var compensation equipment
  - *voltage profile and Q management*
- ✓ Synchronous compensators
  - *inertia*



...but beyond certain limits of V-RES penetration, a mix of solutions shall be put in place to ensure reliability and security

2

## Market integration

- ✓ Cross-border ancillary markets
- ✓ Capacity market
- ✓ Participation of new resources to the markets (*EV, VPP*)
- ✓ Evolution of the structure of the markets (*e.g.: continuous intraday negotiation*) and introduction of new products

# Key actions to evolve towards Fully Decarbonized Power Systems

...a mix of solutions to ensure reliability and security

3

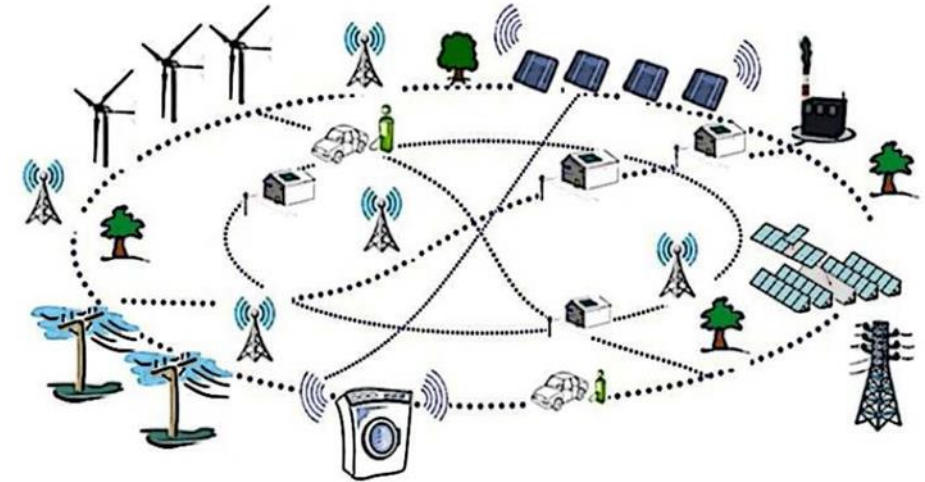
Storage facilities

- ✓ New hydro pumping
- ✓ Utility scale batteries
- ✓ Clusters of EV
- ✓ Non-conventional devices (CAES) and solutions (power-to-gas)

4

TSO/DSO integration and digitalisation

- ✓ Demand response
- ✓ Distributed Generation
- ✓ Distributed Storage
- ✓ Concept of prosumers / energy communities
- ✓ ....







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