



European Union Agency for the Cooperation  
of Energy Regulators

# Engaging European consumers for a cost- effective clean energy transition

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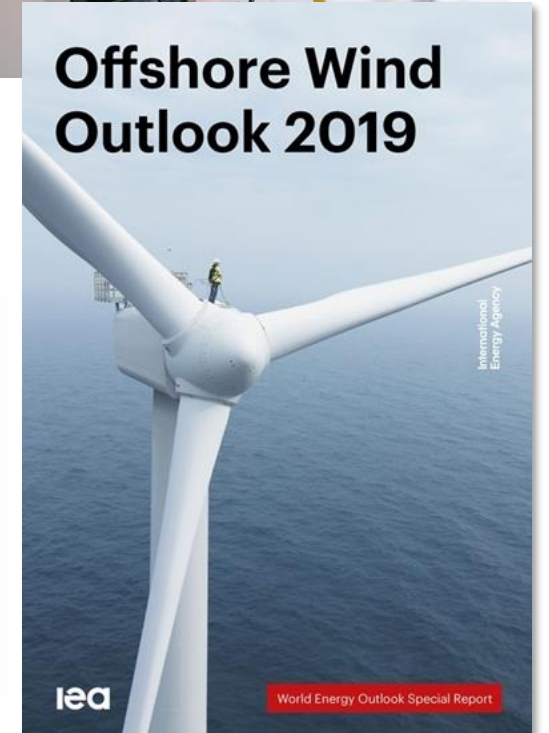
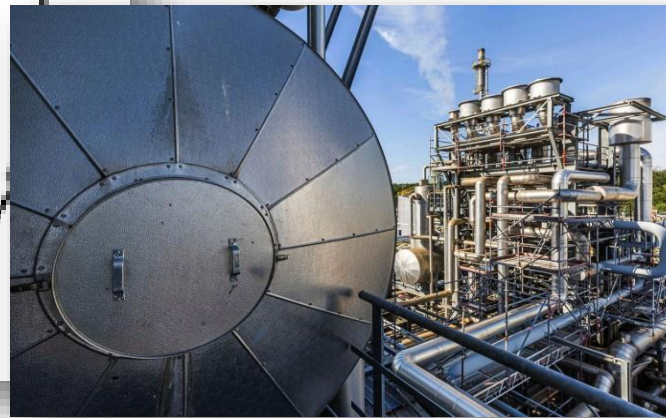
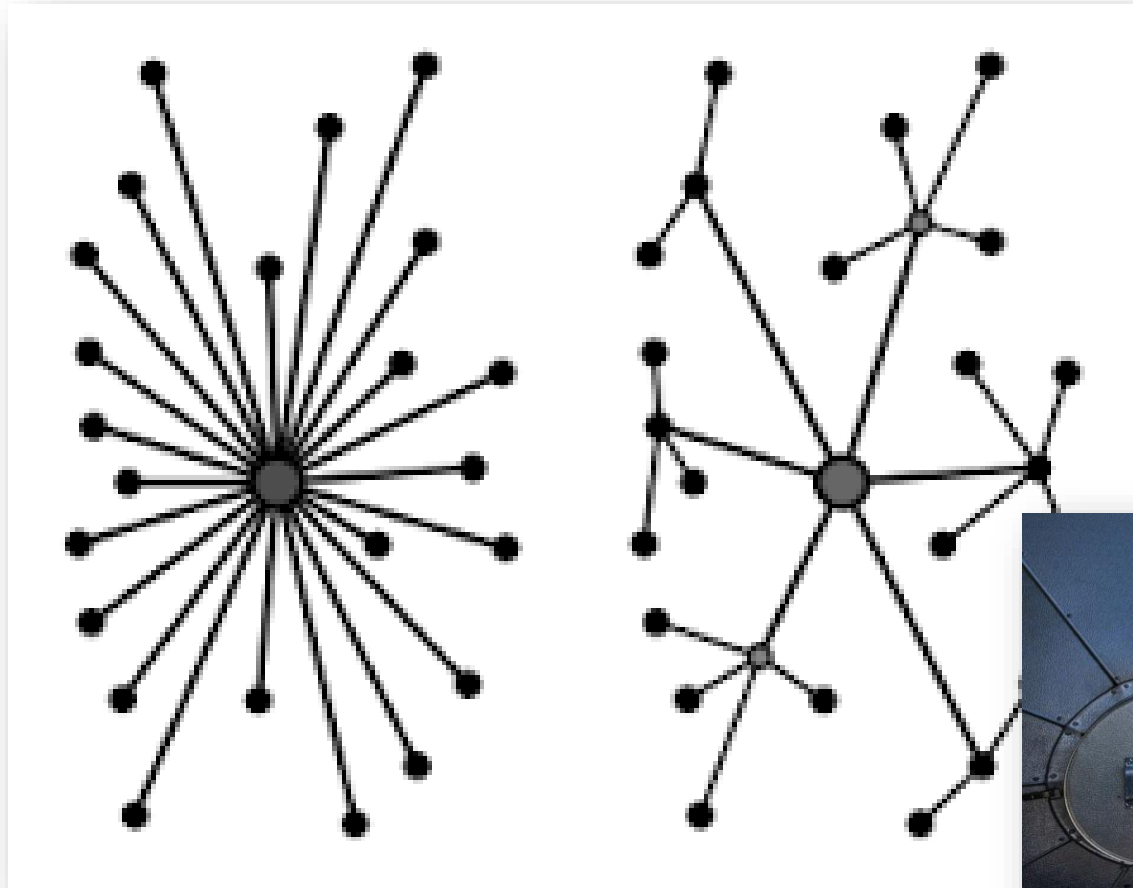
Smart Energy Summit 2021 – 10 March 2021 – smartEn

# A broad & evolving Internal Energy Market

- Energy transition at scale & speed: ‘*All hands on deck*’ (when & where efficient).
- Sound principles still hold true:
  - Cost-efficient & effective.
  - Open to innovation (technology & business wise).
  - Avoiding incumbent bias.
- Markets a key driver. Regulation a key enabler.
- Building on an evolving Internal Energy Market.

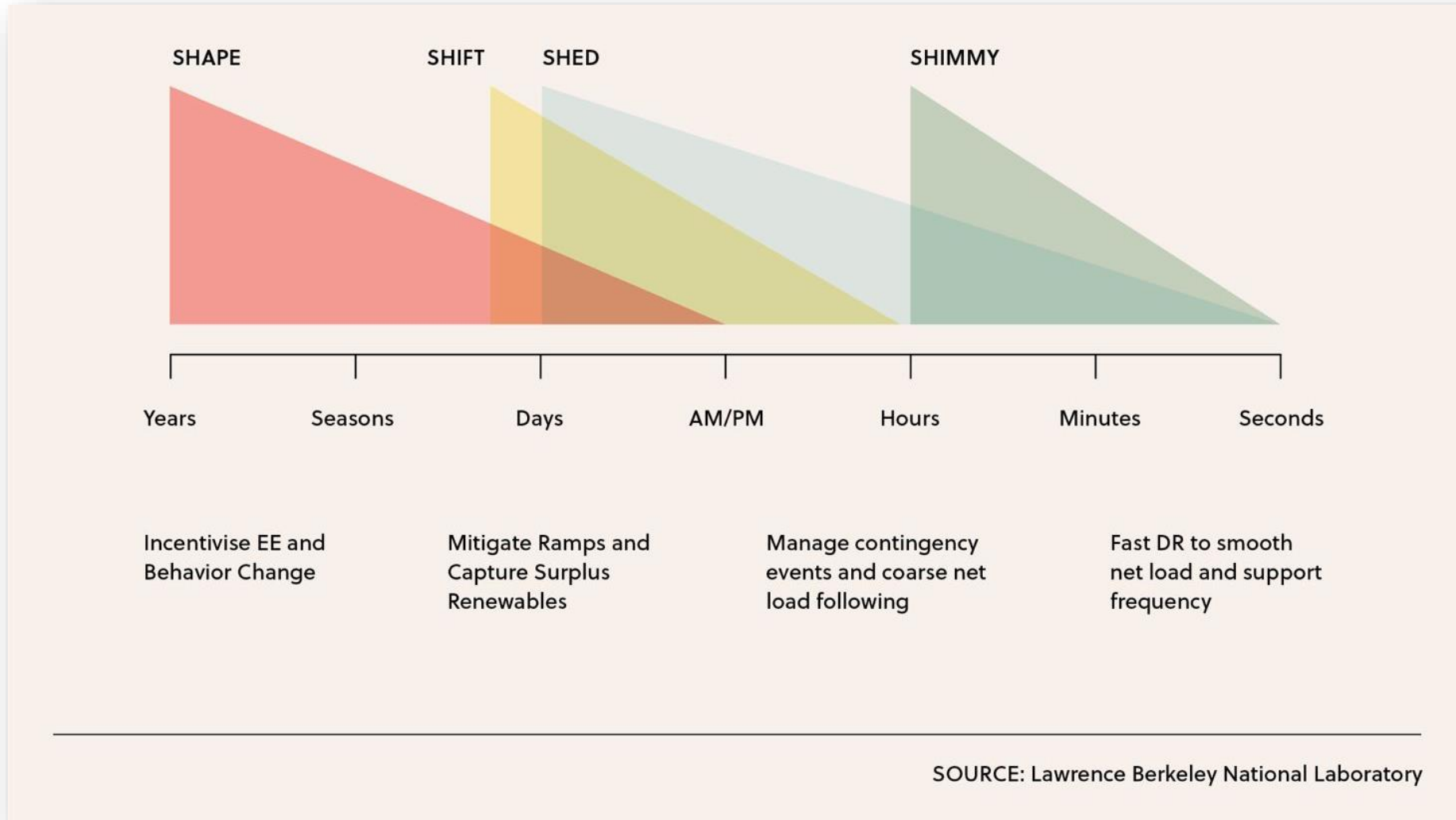


# Starting with three perspectives (1)





# Starting with three perspectives (2)



# Starting with three perspectives (3)



- The relative role of centralised versus decentralised assets. Bulk power vs. local balancing?
- Energy system stability (security) in an era of rapid change. Who may (should) be '*coming to the rescue*'?
- Different perspectives and entry points play a role. Who's problem is being solved?

# Opportunity outweighing challenge

**Table 3** Electricity system trends and their potential impacts on various aspects of electricity security

Trend	Flexibility	Fuel security	Adequacy	Climate resilience	Cyber resilience	Simultaneous contingencies	Impact on security
Higher shares of variable renewables	●	●	●	●	●	●	● - increased ● - decreased ● - neutral ● - uncertain or depends on implementation
Smaller fossil-fired fleets	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Declining shares of dispatchable low-carbon (nuclear/hydro)	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Decentralisation (e.g. distributed generation, battery storage)	●	●	●	●	●	●	Relative importance + - low ● - medium ● - high
Digitalisation (e.g. connectivity, automation)	●	●	●	●	●	●	

Note: IEA, *Power Systems in Transition. Challenges and opportunities ahead for electricity security*, October 2020. [LINK](#).

# Clean Energy Package: A significant step forward

**Clean energy for all Europeans**

**Facilitates start-up & operation**  
(smart meter, real-time data)

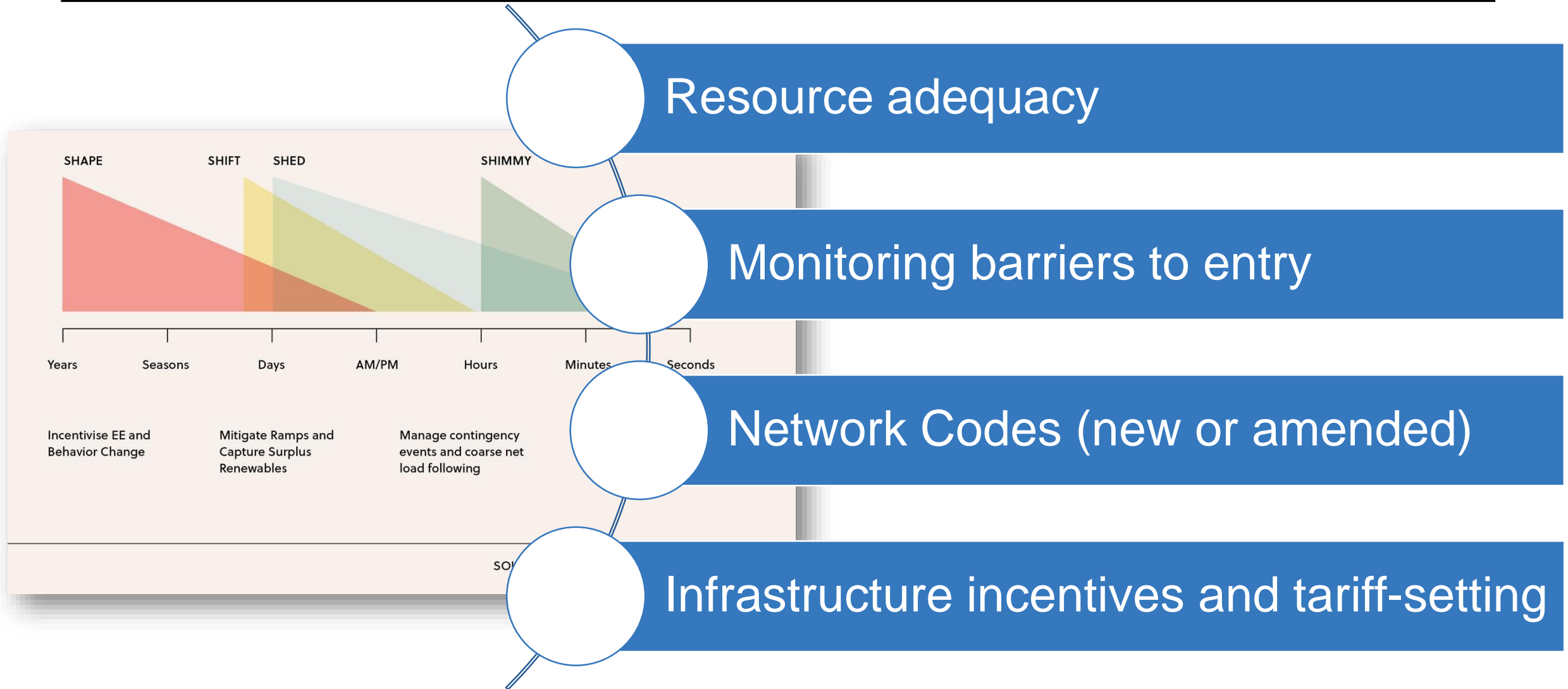
**Optimises economic potential**  
(network charges not to discourage  
DSR, marginal price based balancing  
settlement)

**Facilitates market access**  
(access to aggregators, dynamic  
pricing contracts, equal access for all  
to trade flexibility)

**Optimises options for market  
participation**  
(products definition in all electricity  
markets)



# ACER focus is (at least) four-fold



# Demand Side Response & resource adequacy

**Resource adequacy** assesses the level of (electricity) security of supply in the long term: Does Europe / its Member States have enough generation, storage, network to supply demand from now until 2030?

## A European approach

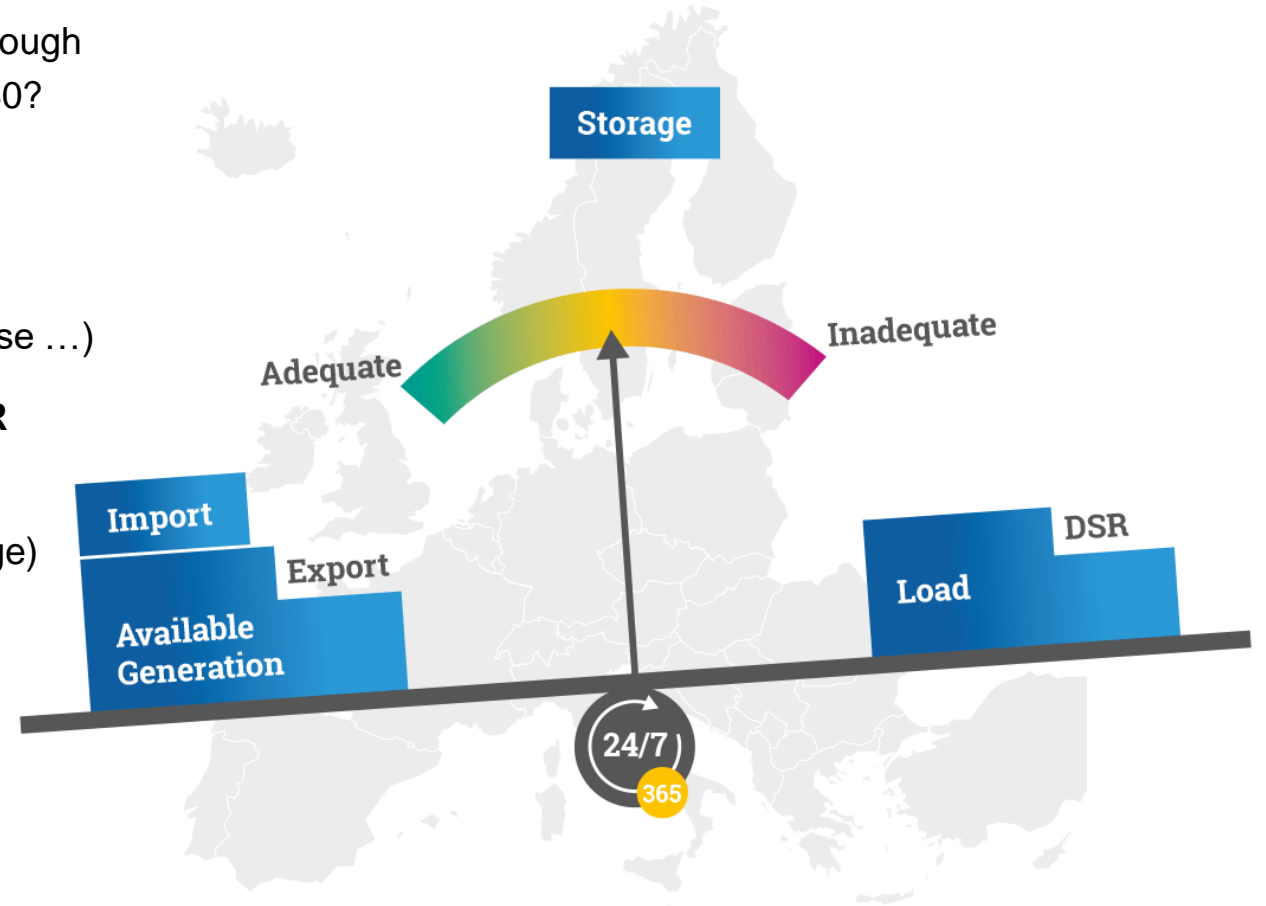
- Highlights the benefits of mutual interdependence
- Paves the way for new technologies (storage, demand-response ...)

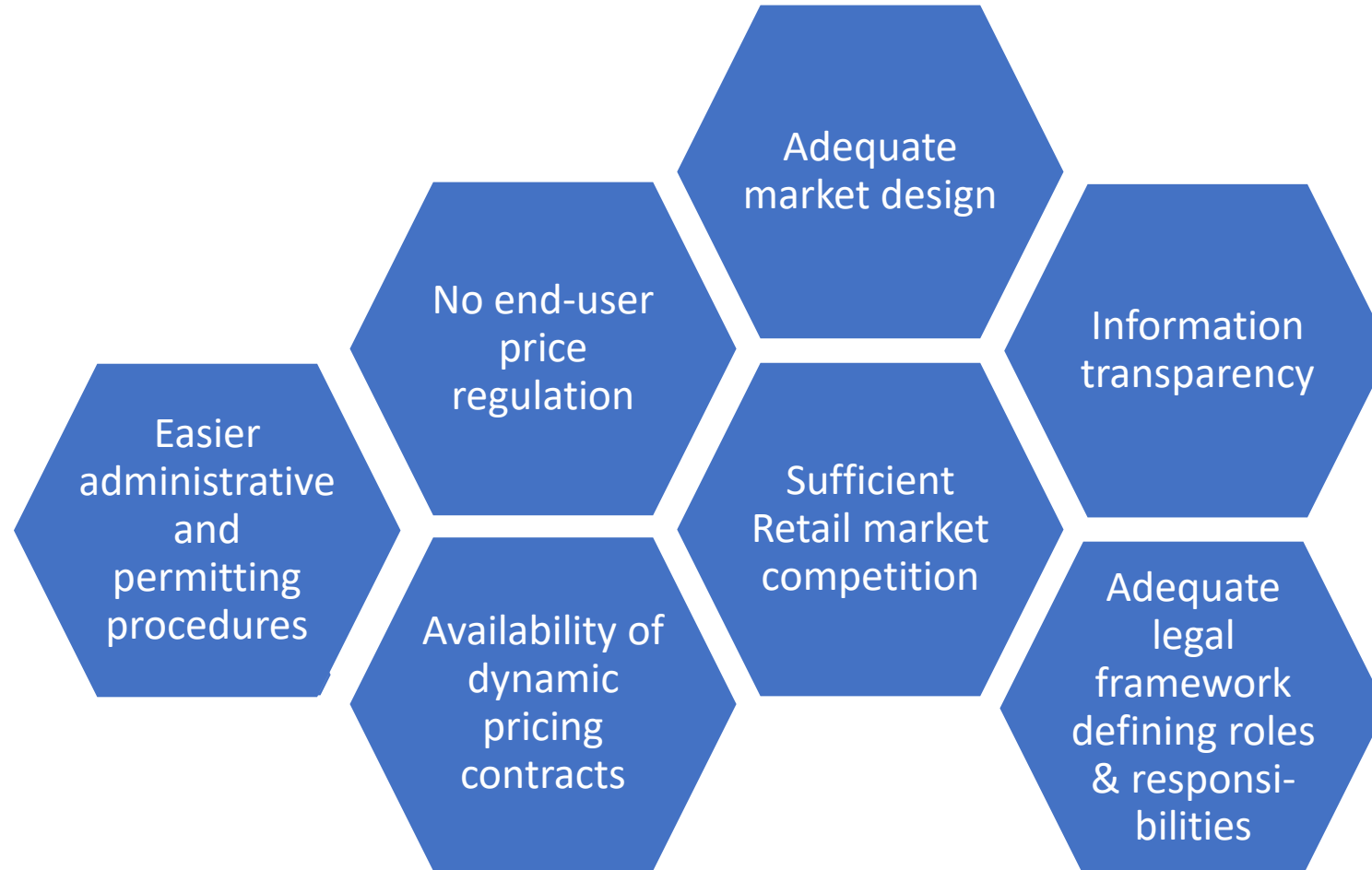
## Resource adequacy studies may highlight the benefits of DSR regarding

- Reduced need for investment (in network, generation or storage)
- Increased resilience to extreme events

## Modelling needs to take different contributions into account

- All solutions placed on a 'level playing field'
- Forecasting needs to be robust. Transparency & scrutiny.





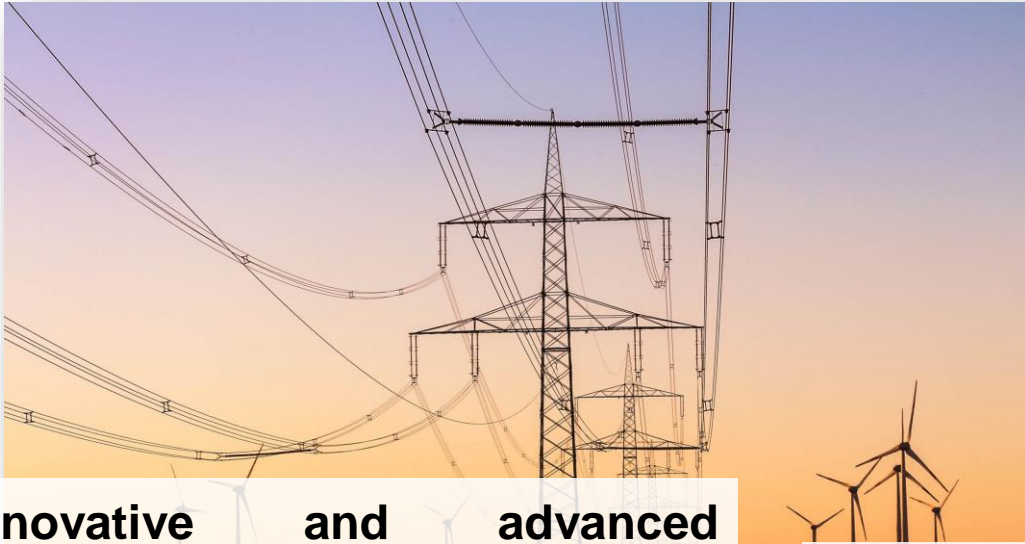
We aim to:

- Monitor and assess barriers to easy market entry and participation for new entrants and small players (including DSR and aggregators)
- Measure such barriers through indicators
- Assess Member State performance and suggest action

Demand Side Flexibility (DSF) understood to cover flexibility at **transmission** and at **distribution** level. Regulatory assessment to enable DSF:

- At **wholesale/transmission level** (well-known barriers):
  - Absence of EU frameworks for aggregation and prequalification processes
  - Some level of harmonization required to enable DSF (directly or through aggregation) to access benefits of cross-border trade
  - Harmonization mainly to be reflected in existing regulations
- At **distribution level** (more active management of the distribution grid which affects transmission management and wholesale markets)
  - Absence of EU framework for development of a (local) congestion management market
  - High level principles exist, but key design features need to be clarified in network codes

**ACER to perform scoping for rules in 2021 on Demand Side Flexibility, involving stakeholders along the way**



## Innovative and advanced transmission network solutions:

Identification of common regulatory practices across Europe. Going beyond the *CAPEX* vs. *TOTEX* distinction, **remunerating for benefits** instead of costs.

With distributed generation, increasing demand from e.g. electric heating and EVs, increasing capability of resources to respond to time signals, **time-of-use gains in importance.**

Time-of-use tariffs, especially for larger consumers, can be a **useful tool for reducing system peak-load**, which is a main driver for network investments, thereby **promoting network efficiency.**





# Thank you for your attention.



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