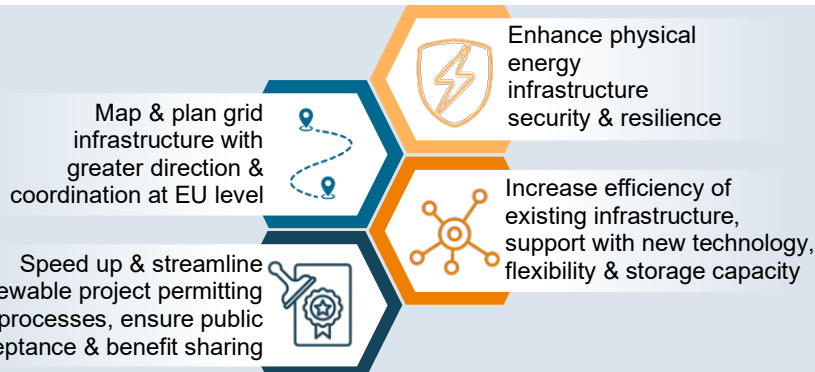




The EU Grids Package is an initiative to accelerate modernisation and expansion of Europe's energy infrastructure and support Europe's electrification. While its primary focus is on electricity grids, the package also addresses the development of hydrogen and CO₂ networks.

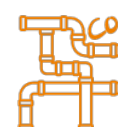


Its objectives include boosting investment in grid development, removing bottlenecks, enhancing cross-border interconnections between Member States, and promoting smarter use of existing infrastructure. Additionally, it encourages targeted anticipatory investments.



KEY ASPECTS

- The European Commission will develop a comprehensive central scenario aligned with EU energy and climate targets. This scenario will serve as the basis for planning electricity, hydrogen, and gas infrastructure every four years.
- The package proposes simplified and accelerated permitting procedures for grid infrastructure, renewable energy projects, and storage facilities. It also strengthens provisions for Projects of Common Interest (PCIs) and Projects of Mutual Interest (PMIs), potentially exempting them from certain environmental assessments.
- Measures aim to speed up and standardise permitting for hydrogen systems, including pipelines and related equipment, mirroring many of the acceleration steps introduced for electricity grids. It also highlights the need for CO₂ transport pipelines, though their planning will be addressed under a separate initiative.



LINKS



[Communication "European Grids Package"](#)



[Revision of the TEN-E Regulation](#)



[Proposal for Revised Directive](#)



[Guidance on efficient & timely grid connections](#)



[Guidance on design of contracts for difference](#)

QUOTE

"Yes, this entails more power to the EU [...] and secure the most rational planning for our entire Union."

- Energy Commissioner Dan Jørgensen

OUR ASSESSMENT

This package is the answer of the European Commission to the difficulties in enlarging and modernising the EU energy grid. By introducing a top-down approach, the European Commission seeks to strengthen its role in grid planning—traditionally a national competence—through stricter rules for permitting authorities to accelerate project approvals. However, this might raise concerns given past implementation gaps and limited administrative capacity in Member States.

The package supports system integration by including hydrogen and fostering links between electricity, gas, hydrogen, district heating, and CO₂ sectors. However, it does not grant hydrogen the same overriding public interest status as electricity grids. While the flexibility of gas networks is downplayed in favour of renewable and low-carbon gases, gas infrastructure remains part of the planning for the next Union-wide ten-year network development plan (TYNDP). There is no district heating planning included in this initiative.

These measures are expected to primarily affect Transmission and Distribution System Operators (TSOs and DSOs), with a strong focus on transparent planning of (cross-border) grid connections, improving hosting capacity, and streamlining administrative procedures to make grid connection processes faster and more predictable. However, they do not address grid operation.

TIMELINE

Initiatives
Publication
10 Dec 2025

Discussions in the
Parliament & Council
1st half of 2026

Trilogues
End of 2026

Adoption of
Final Texts
Early 2027