

Non-binding agreement on goals for offshore renewable generation in 2050 with intermediate steps in 2040 and 2030 for priority offshore grid corridor Atlantic offshore grids pursuant to Article 14(1) of the TEN-E Regulation (EU) 2022/869

DATE: 19 JANUARY 2023

The Offshore Renewable Energy Strategy¹ highlights the need to reach at least 300 GW of offshore wind and 40 GW of ocean energy by 2050 in the EU as a key means to reach climate neutrality, providing a major opportunity to ramp up renewables, develop a resilient industrial base in the whole EU and creating quality jobs, benefiting both coastal and landlocked Member States.

The need to accelerate the roll out of offshore renewable energy was further underlined by the RePowerEU Plan² to reduce the EU's dependence on fossil fuels and minimise future energy price risks.

To facilitate the development of offshore renewable energy, the revised TEN-E Regulation³ requires that by 24 January 2023, Member States, with the support of the Commission, within their specific priority offshore grid corridors, taking into account the specificities and development in each region, conclude a non-binding agreement to cooperate on goals for offshore renewable generation to be deployed by 2050 within each sea basin, with intermediate steps in 2030 and 2040, in line with the national energy and climate plans and the offshore renewable potential of each sea basin.

That non-binding agreement shall be made in writing as regards each sea basin linked to the territory of the Member States and shall be without prejudice to the right of Member States to develop projects on their territorial sea and exclusive economic zone.

In line with this non-binding agreement, by 24 January 2024, and as part of each ten-year network development plan thereafter, the ENTSO for Electricity, with the involvement of the relevant TSOs, the national regulatory authorities, the Member States and the Commission, shall develop and publish high-level strategic integrated offshore network development plans for each sea-basin, taking into account environmental protection and other uses of the sea. These plans will aim to provide a high-level outlook of offshore grid development needs and related onshore grid reinforcements necessary to achieve the deployment of the Member States' present offshore renewable energy goals for such sea basin.

Based on the technical work carried out within the frame of an extended configuration of the High-Level Group for Interconnections in South-West Europe, also considering the input received from stakeholders, the Member States of the priority corridor Atlantic offshore grids, Ireland, Spain, France and Portugal, cognisant of a degree of uncertainty associated with the level of future development of offshore renewable energy, especially within the 2040/2050 timeframes, conclude this non-binding agreement on the following goals for offshore renewable energy generation for the Atlantic offshore grid priority corridor:

¹ COM(2020) 741 final

² COM(2022) 230 final

³ Regulation (EU) 2022/869 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2022 on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure, OJ L 152, 3.6.2022, p. 45, see in particular Article 14

Member State	Goal 2030 (GW)	Goal 2040 (GW)	Goal 2050 (GW)
Ireland	0.5 - 1	7	15
Spain	0.54 - 1.56	0.54 - 1.56 ⁴	0.54 - 1.56 ⁵
France ⁶	1.7	4.2 - 7.5	4.2 - 16.5
Portugal	10	10	10
Total for Atlantic offshore grid priority corridor	12.74 - 14.26	21.74 - 26.06	29.74 – 43.06

⁴ Target to be determined.

⁵ Target to be determined.

⁶ The upper bandwidth for 2040 and 2050 is based on the average of the upper bandwidth of scenarios N1 and N2 of the “Futurs énergétiques 2050” study by RTE for the Nord Atlantique-Manche Ouest and Sud Atlantique maritime zones. In 2023 and 2024, France’s MSP documents and multiannual energy program will be revised after a public consultation, potentially modifying substantially the provided targets.