A meshed offshore wind grid in the Baltic Sea: Opportunities and obstacles

Legal, regulatory and policy questions: Perspectives on offshore grid integration in the Baltic Sea

Aalto, 16 March 2018
3.1 – Policy and regulation

Overview: State of research in GoA 3.1

Content of research

- Inventory of EU and partner countries policy and regulatory frameworks
  - Stakeholders, energy mix, RES support schemes, EU and national legal frameworks...

- Main research topics addressed by the partners:
  - Public acceptance
  - Triggering investments in the grid and in OWF projects
  - Environmental assessments
  - Permitting for grid and OWF projects
  - Legal aspects and challenges of interconnectors
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Overview: State of research in GoA 3.1

Main deliverable: Intermediary report

- Main results of inventories and research papers
- Identification of legal and policy barriers

Content:

- Political targets, main stakeholders, EU/national main legal framework
- Abstract / concrete planning of OWF and grid
- Operation of an offshore wind meshed grid
- Also as a (separate) part: Comparative draft
  - Similar aspects to intermediary report
  - Shorter and illustrated
Identified barriers

Political/society: need for acceptance

- Lack of a political will to develop OW?
  - Only Germany has a specific OW target!

- The acceptance issue: without civil society’s acceptance, development of OW is difficult!
  - NIMBYism: “RES yes, but…”
  - Public authorities sensibility to public’s opinions
  - Local population acceptance
  - Environmental NGOs

⇒ But there are ways to empower and involve the citizens!
Identified barriers

**Legal/policy:** need for an adequate regulatory framework

- **Legal uncertainty** due to frequent legislative reforms
  - Capacity tendering
  - Support schemes

- **Complex administrative authorisation** procedures, especially for OWF projects
  - Recast RES-Directive: one stop-shop procedure for RES
  - But also for cable laying!

- **Lack of grid capacity / differences as regards RES priority dispatch**
  - Priority dispatch only in Germany, Poland, Denmark and Lithuania
  - Winter Package?
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Identified barriers

**Legal/policy**: need for an adequate regulatory framework

- Operation of versatile cables
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Identified barriers

**Economics**: setting the right incentives for OWF projects

- EOM is not a suitable mechanism for OW generation investment
- Therefore: suitable **investment framework** needed
  
  → CRM are preferred, especially **feed-in-tariffs** und **sliding feed-in-premiums**

- **Supranational guidance** might facilitate the realisation of (international) joint project initiatives