

European energy security: COVID19 risks and response

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ENERGY SECURITY: GOOD PRACTICES TO ADDRESS PANDEMIC RISKS

No disruption, markets have coped with drop in demand and price, but Risks and challenges for EU energy

Short-term

- Protection of energy workers
- Business continuity of critical energy infrastructure
- Movement /availability of specialised energy workers
- Ensuring energy supply to vulnerable customers
- Access to critical components and raw materials
- Cyber and hybrid threats
- Preparedness to rebound of energy demand

Long-term

- Impact of postponing maintenance
- Economic impacts on energy companies
- Reliability of critical supply chains
- Large project delays and investment reductions
- Insufficient emergency stockholding
- Weakened resilience to additional contingencies
- Loss of control of critical energy assets



20 Good practices in EU Member States

Examples (on top of sanitary and hygiene measures)

- Protect vulnerable customers as per Electricity and Gas Directives
- Commission's guidelines on the free movement of essential workers
- Strong pandemic, business continuity and contingency plans in companies
- Well-functioning of the internal energy market, strong risk preparedness plans
- Electricity, Gas and Oil Coordination Group, European Nuclear Safety Regulators Group
- Critical infrastructure: : rdundancy of control rooms, isolated based camps, remote control
- Energy sector specific rules on cybersecurity (see Commission's recommendation of 2019)



Conclusions: resilience and recovery

- EU framework for energy security and preparedness in place,
- We must fully use it and remain vigilant:
 - Consider extreme scenarios (e,g, with extreme weather events) in electricity risk preparedness
 - Integrate redundancy of critical elements and secured digitalisation in risk preparedness plans
 - Importance of updated continuity/contingency plans in companies
 - Importance of regional cooperation
 - Resilience part of the recovery: energy security and critical supply chains for energy technologies



Thank you

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