Aurora Keynote: The European energy crisis: what are the learnings & outlook? **Richard Howard** Research Director, Aurora

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Spring Forum

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In partnership with:



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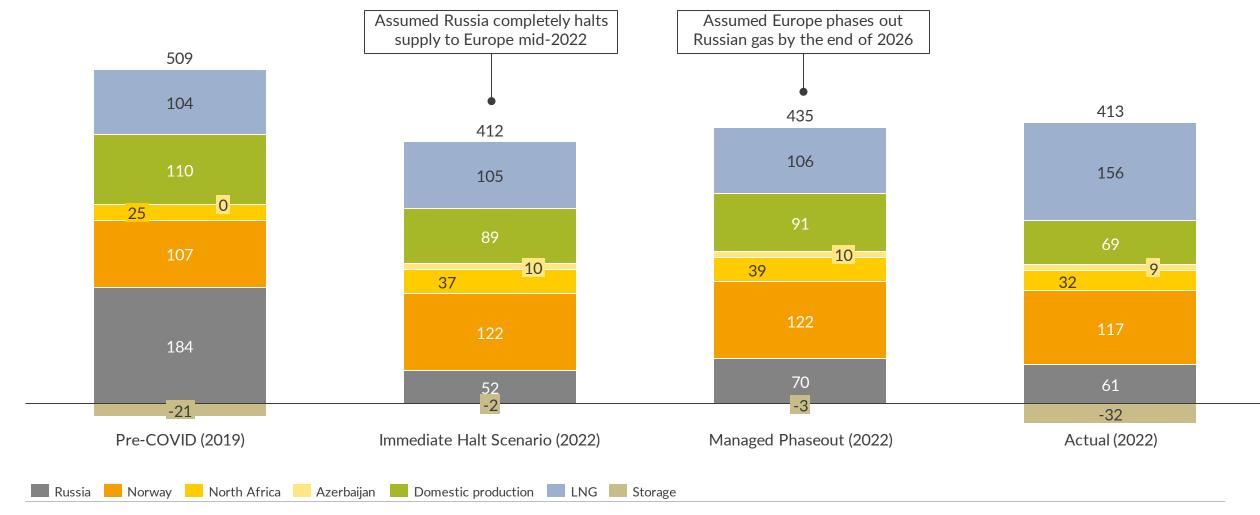
- I. The European energy crisis: reflections on the past year
- II. Policy responses and learnings
- III. Gas and power markets outlook

Ramp down in Russian gas supplies was offset by rapid increase in LNG (partly to fill storage) whilst domestic supplies dwindled

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Demand reduction has been hugely important to balance the market; but much of this has been temporary not permanent



	Driving factor	Actual change in gas de	emand 2021 - 2022 (bcm)	Permanence?	Comparison to initial Aurora expectation
	Increased RES deployment	-11		Permanent	Better than expected
Power sector	Gas to coal switching	-6		Temporary	As expected
	Lower electricity demand	-15		Mixed	? Unforeseeable
	Reduced nuclear generation		22	Temporary	Worse than expected
Residential	Reduced hydro generation		12	Temporary	? Unforeseeable
	Behaviour change and fuel switching	-7		Mixed	As expected
	Efficiency gains including heat pumps	-3		Permanent	Better than expected
	Milder winter weather	-18		Temporary	? Unforeseeable
Industry	Industry consumption reduction	-13		Mixed	As expected
	Gas to oil switching	-7		Temporary	Better than expected
	Efficiency gains and avoided demand	-5		Permanent	Better than expected

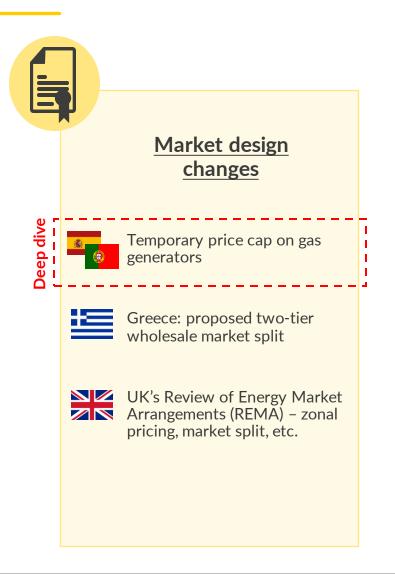
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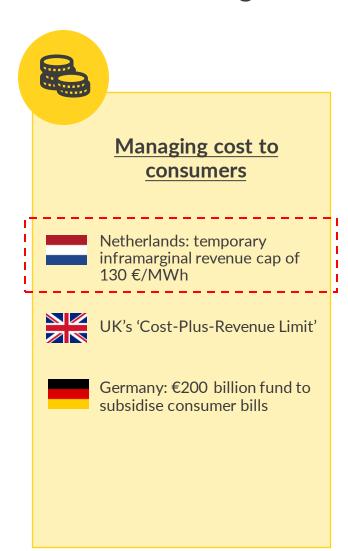


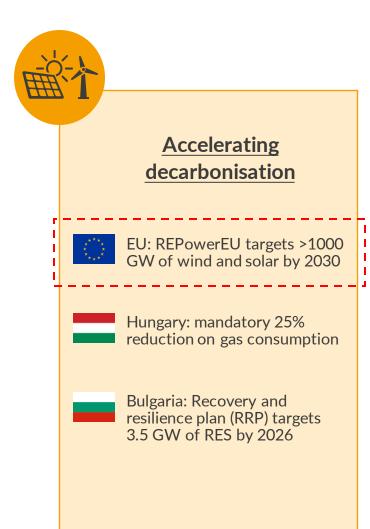
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Over the past year, many market interventions and policy reforms were introduced at EU and national levels to manage the crisis





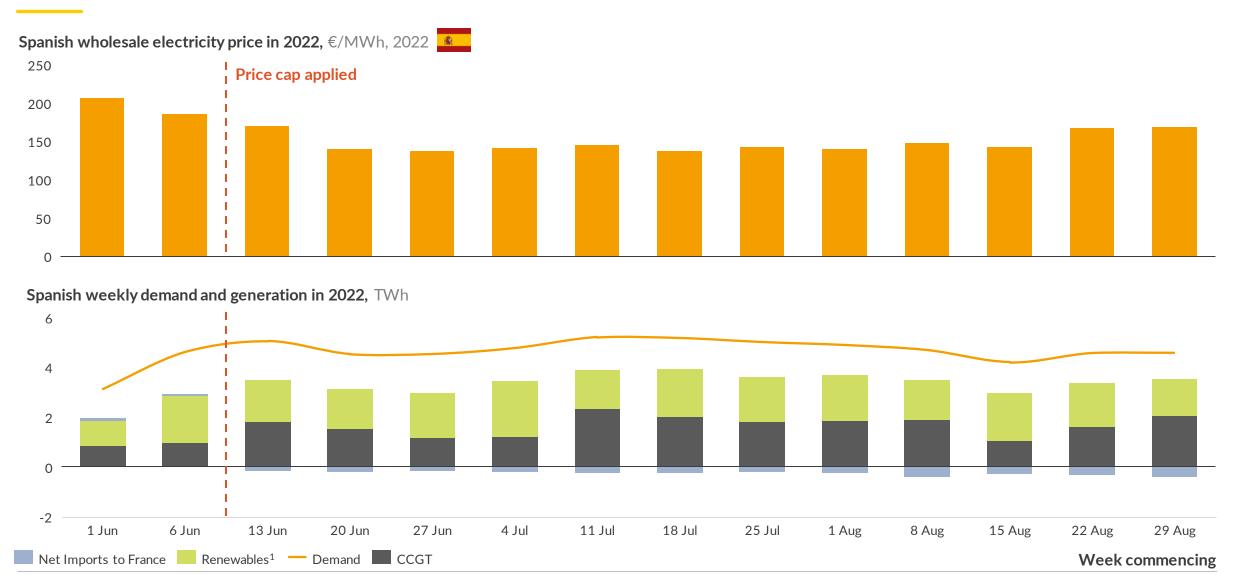




Iberian gas price caps lowered wholesale prices in the short term, but resulted in higher gas generation and power exports



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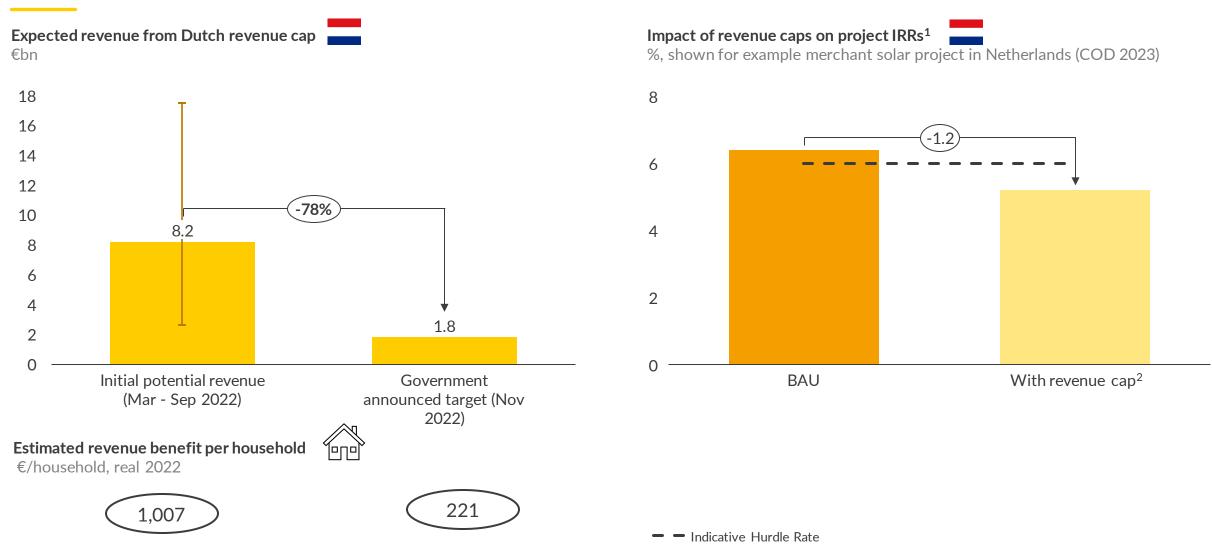
1) Renewables: Solar PV, solar thermal and onshore wind

Sources: Aurora Energy Research, OMIE 7

Implementation of low carbon revenue caps resulted in relatively little gain for a lot of pain



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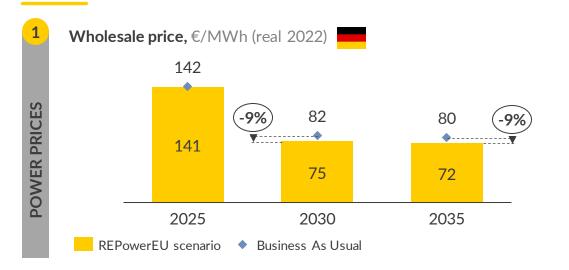


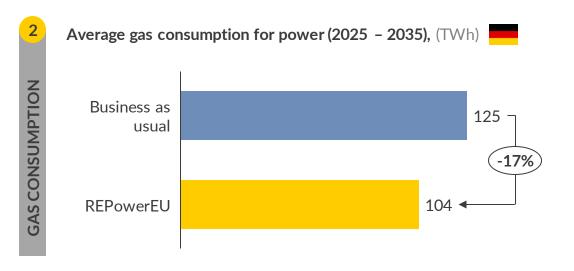
¹⁾ IRRs are for an unsubsidised project assuming COD at the start of 2023, asset lifetime of 30 years, and excludes Guarantees of Origins and imbalance costs 2) Revenues from assets larger than 1MW and earning revenues exceeding 130 € /MWh will be taxed at a 90% rate from 1 December 2022 to 1 July 2023
Sources: Aurora Energy Research, ENTSOE, Overheid, Statista

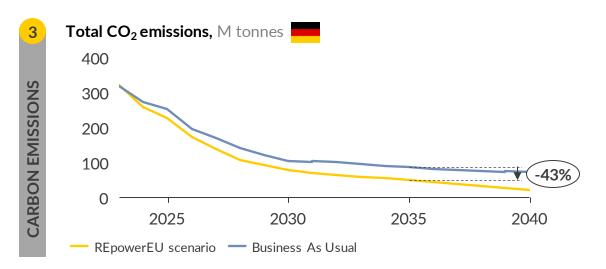
Delivering the REPowerEU target could decrease power prices by 9% in the 2030s, but requires ~€800bn CAPEX investment

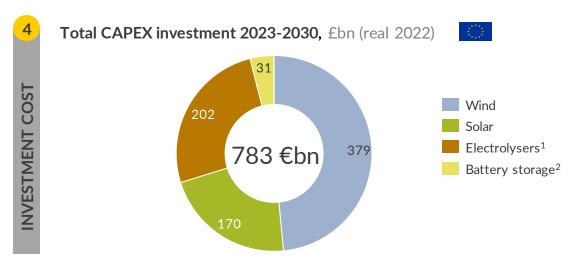


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¹⁾ Depending on the load factor, REPow erEU target translates to 75-80 GW of electrolysers by 2030. 2) Represents Aurora's estimate of 42 GW battery storage in Europe by 2030.

Europe faces significant barriers to delivering REPowerEU ambitions; particularly in competition with US Inflation Reduction Act



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	Position in Aurora's European rankings	Permitting	Grid	Supply Chain	Attracting Capital
Solar PV	Great Britain 9th	 Difficult for large projects – major delays and refusal rate increasing 	Long queues for gridsConstrained connections	 High polysilicon costs Import dependent; China dominates OEM market 	 CfD is low risk, but admin strike prices do not reflect recent cost increases
Offshore wind	Germany 2nd	 Long permitting timelines Ongoing legislation to improve this 	 Grid expansion facing permitting and construction delays 	 Uncertainty over auction evaluation criteria relating to supply chain Turbine OEMs pushing for higher margins 	 Higher financing costs (Europe wide) Added risk of negative bids
Grid scale Batteries	Spain 6th	 Inconsistent approaches across communities to permitting for hybrid projects 	 Lack of common understanding around grid charging for battery storage 	 Import dependent; China dominates OEM market US reshoring supply chain through Inflation Reduction Act 	 CAPEX subsidies are attracting significant interest, but lack of remunerated primary reserve is still a barrier
Hydrogen H ₂	France 7th	 Framework not yet defined Not a huge issue whilst projects remain small-scale 	Rising grid congestion	 Supply chain will have to ramp up very fast to reach EU targets 	 Slow to deliver incentives relative to US under Inflation Reduction Act Complexity of green H2 standards

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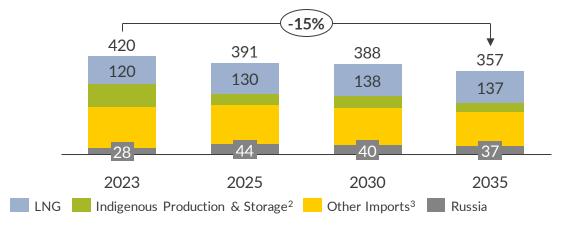
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Outlook for Russian gas is a major uncertainty for European gas markets; a complete halt further boosts need for LNG

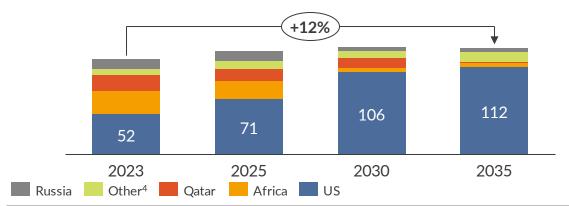
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Aurora Central scenario - Assuming continued Russian gas imports

Forecast European annual gas balance - Central¹, bcm

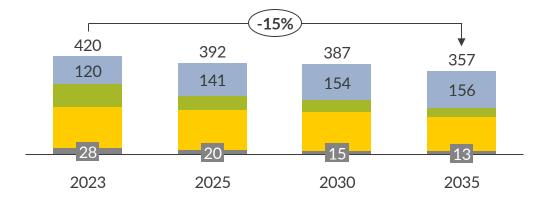


Forecast net European LNG imports by source¹, bcm

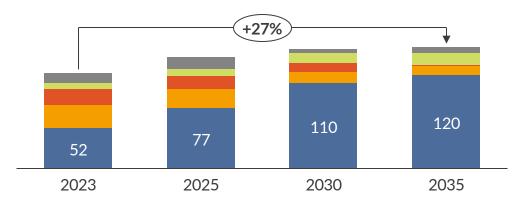


Alternative scenario – Ukraine flows halt from 2025; only Russian gas remaining comes via Turk Stream

Forecast European annual gas balance - Alternative¹, bcm



Forecast net European LNG imports by source¹, bcm



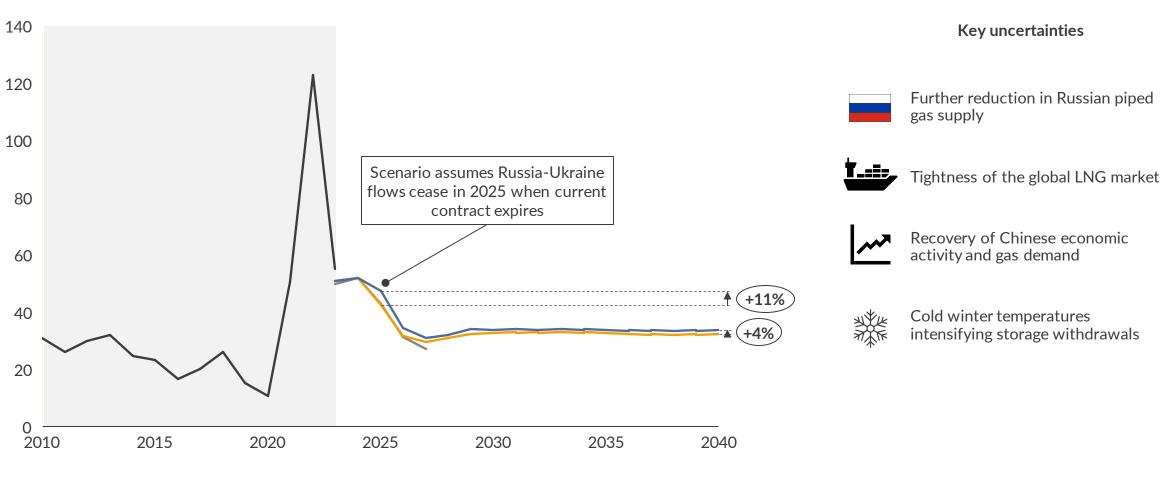
1) Includes EU27, GB, and Switzerland 2) Includes Norway, Azerbaijan, and Africa 3) Includes Ukraine and Belarus 4) Includes Norway, Canada, and Trinidad and Tobago

Loss of Russian supply through Ukraine would push up prices in the mid 2020s; market then rebalances with high LNG dependence



Natural gas prices in Europe¹

€/MWh (real 2022)



¹⁾ For years 2023-2027, the prices shown take into account current futures prices for the years in question, with declining weights. 2) A rolling 14-day average as of 01/03/2023.

— Historical — Futures ² — TTF April 2023 Central — TTF April 2023 Alternative (no flows through Ukraine)

Gas prices present high uncertainty and impact on power price outlook, whilst renewables deployment is also a big driver



Impact of key risks on European power price outlook

Fundamental drivers	Impact on power prices	Level of uncertainty	Key indicators (relative to Aurora Central/BAU)		
Fundamental drivers			Bullish factors	Bearish factors	
Gas price	Gas price HIGH		 Complete halt in Russian supply Cold winters Increased demand from Asia Delays in LNG terminals 	 De-escalation of Russian conflict Mild winter weather Fuel switching Depressed demand 	
CO ₂ prices		MEDIUM	Stricter decarbonisation policiesIncreased gas-to-coal switching	Supply increasesPoor economic outlook	
RES deployment	•	MEDIUM	Grid constraintsSupply chain costs increasePermitting delays	Permitting reformsIncreased subsidies	
Demand		LOW	 Rapid electrification of heat and transport Green hydrogen production 	Major energy efficiency upgradesConsumer behaviour changes	

Key takeaways



- Europe has coped with a substantial reduction in Russian gas supplies. Demand reduction has been crucially important, albeit that some of this has been driven by temporary factors. LNG has and will continue to play an important role, with prices settling above pre-crisis levels.
- Delivering the REPowerEU plan would cut energy prices, emissions and gas usage. But this is by no means certain requiring €800 bn CAPEX investment and much faster capacity deployment than previous years. Europe must overcome barriers to deployment and compete with other markets such as the US to attract capital and supply chains.
- It is risky to fundamentally reform market rules during a crisis. The last year has seen intense discussion of market reforms. Many ideas have fallen by the wayside or become redundant as prices have fallen and the market remained intact. But this process creates huge uncertainty for investors, which can have a lasting impact on confidence.
- Aurora expects the gas market to remain tight for next two years but then restabilise in the late 2020s. Europe could withstand a further cut in Russian supplies, albeit this would keep prices higher for longer. Gas prices continue to present the biggest impact and uncertainty for power prices in the medium term.

