



## 4# Update Flexibility 20th October 2023

### Grid fee exemption for storage facilities extended

According to the current EEG draft, the exemption from grid fees for storage facilities is to be extended until 2029. This exemption was originally limited to 2026, but industry experts and interest groups have lobbied for the extension. The reason for this extension is the relatively long planning and implementation period for large-scale storage projects.

The expiry of the grid fee exemption in 2026 could lead to problems with the expansion of storage facilities. Therefore, the extension of the exemption until 2029 should contribute to supporting the development of storage in Germany and to advancing the energy transition.

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### Protection against fluctuating electricity prices planned: Re-form of the EU electricity market. Merit order untouched

The planned reforms of the European electricity market are intended to accelerate the introduction of renewable energies, reduce electricity prices and improve the stability of the system. The aim is to create uniform regulations across Europe and thus guarantee competitive prices for consumers, strengthen security of supply and promote the expansion of renewable energies and technologies that increase the flexibility of the electricity system.

The European Commission's goal is to obtain 70% of Europe's electricity from renewable sources by 2030. The cost of electricity is also to become less dependent on the price of gas in the future. The aim is to protect consumers more strongly from fluctuations. At the centre of these efforts are new long-term contracts between governments and electricity producers (contracts for difference), according to which the state steps in and makes up the difference if the market price falls below an agreed price. If the price is higher, the surplus goes to the state. The merit order, however, remains in place.

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