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# The flexibility challenge and renewable energy sources

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## Around 600 members from almost 60 countries

- Manufacturers with a leading share of the global wind power market
- Component suppliers
- Research institutes
- National wind and renewable associations
- Developers
- Electricity providers
- Finance and insurance companies
- Consultants
- Contractors

# EWEA's leading members



## Market Leaders

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## Leading Members

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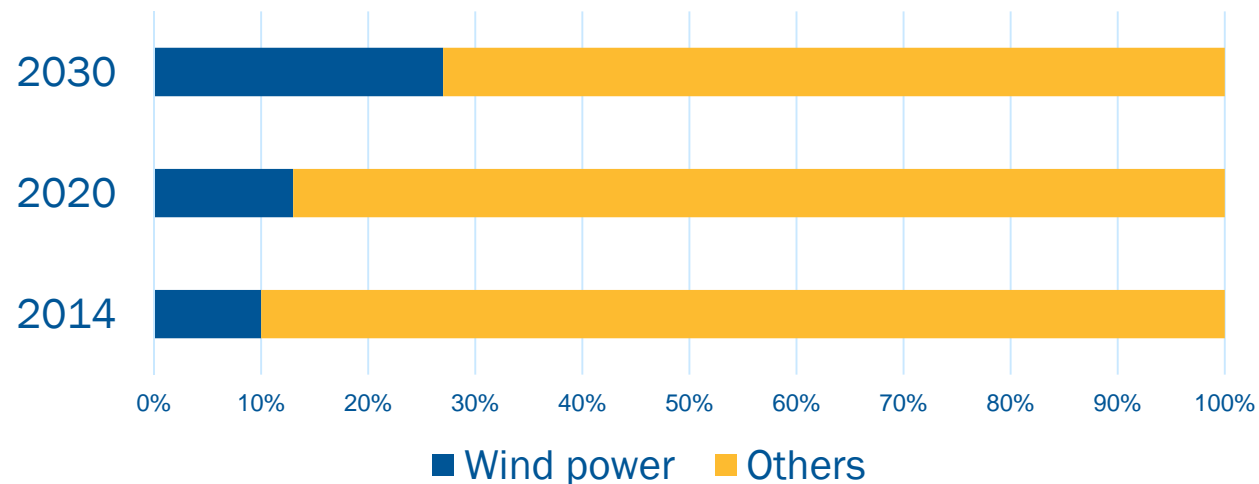
## Outline

- An outlook of wind power
- The need for flexibility
- Flexibility options
- Optimizing flexibility assets as no-regrets option
- Enabling the participation and optimization of existing flexibility assets
- A role for storage?

## Wind power today, and by 2030

- Wind meets 10.2% of the electricity demand in Europe
- 13% in 2020
- 27% in 2030

**Share of wind in EU's electricity consumption**

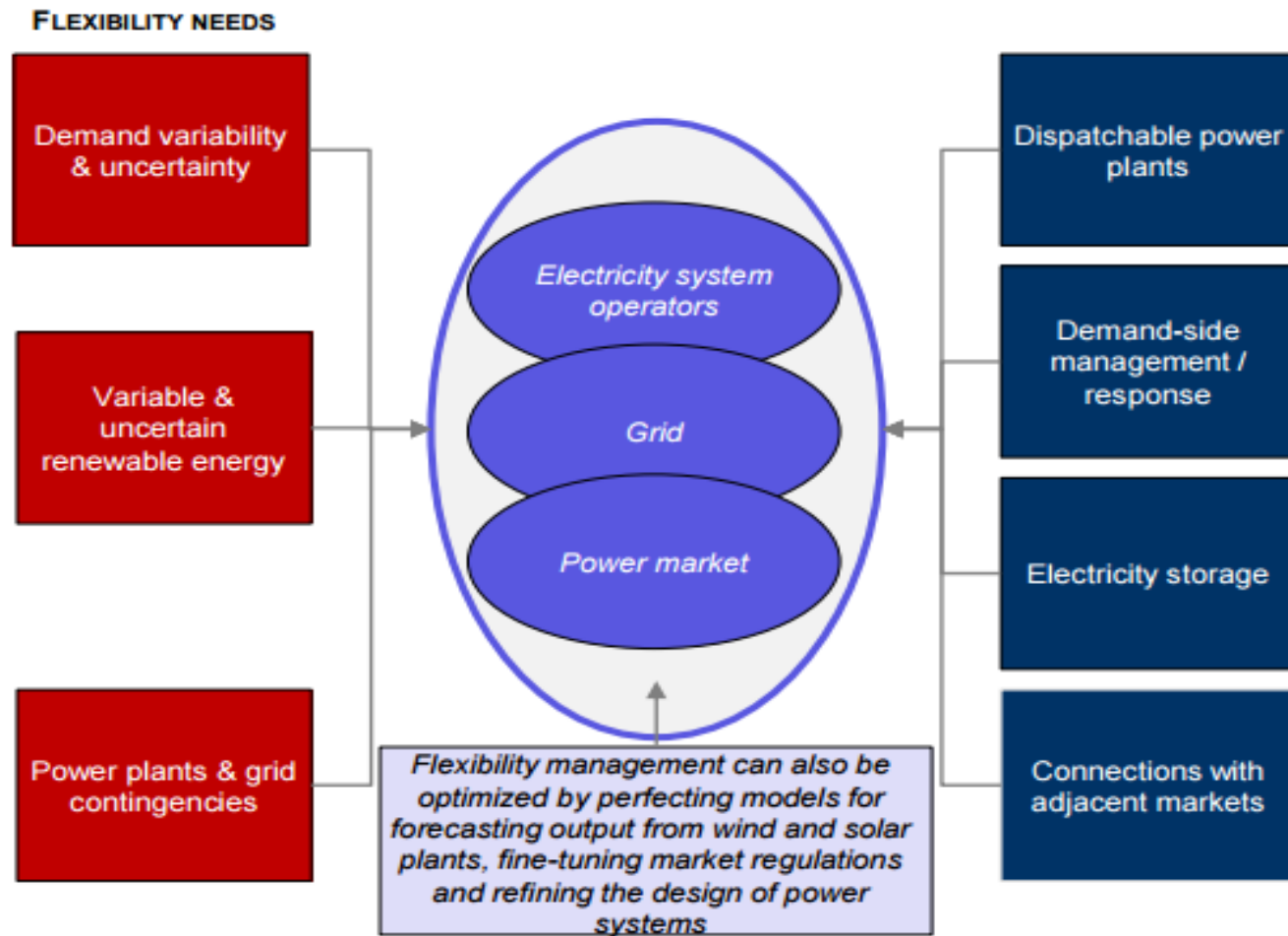


## The need for flexibility

Flexibility needs are often divided into three groups, depending on the timescale:

- **Stability** refers mainly to frequency and voltage control to comply with the grid's technical limits over a period of seconds;
- **Balancing** refers to load changes over minutes or days that must be balanced;
- **Adequacy** refers to capacity needed to meet peak demand even under the most extreme conditions in the long term (months to years).

# The need for flexibility. Flexibility options



Source: SBC Energy Institute analysis, based on IEA (2011a).



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## Optimizing flexibility assets as no-regrets option

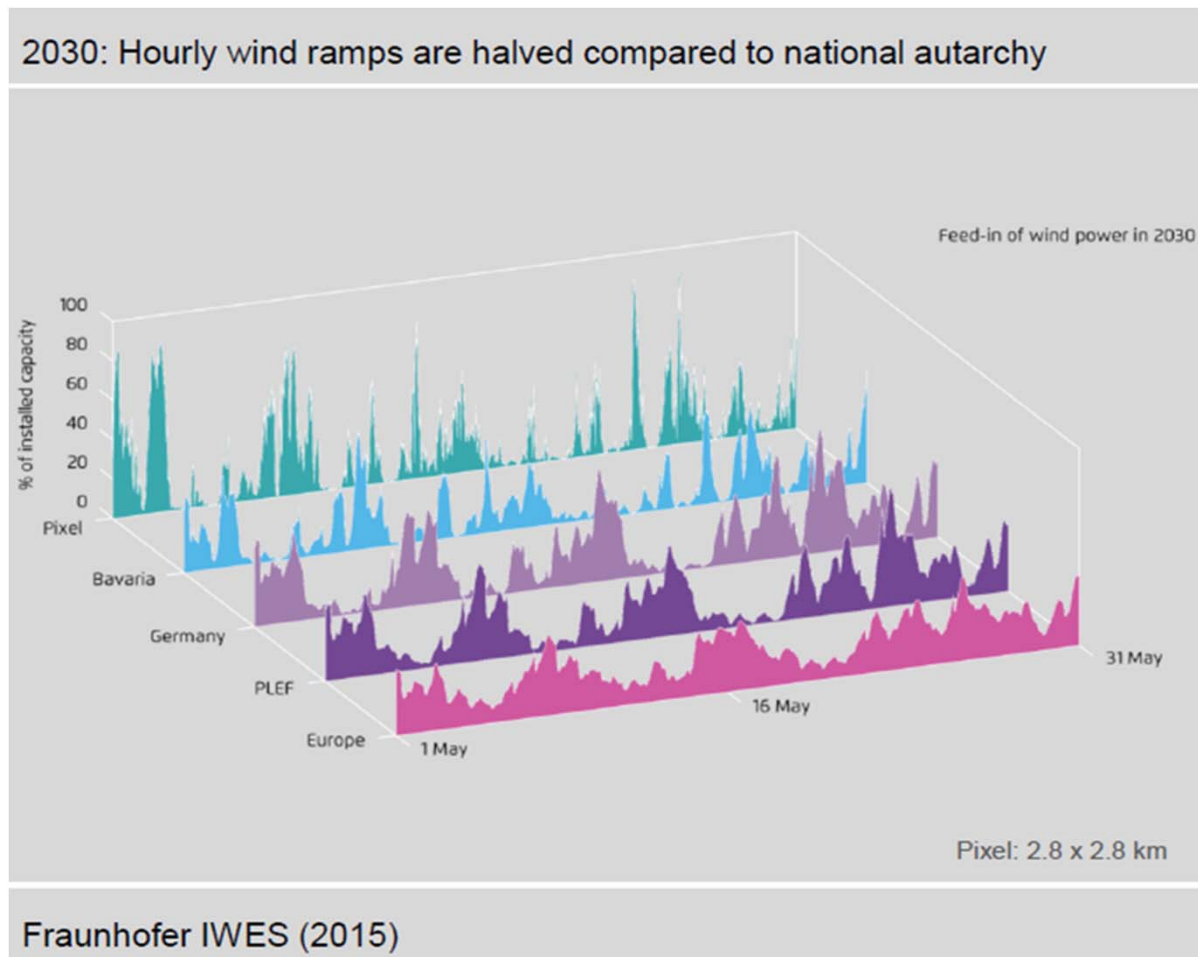
- Increasing geographical extension of trading and balancing areas
- Establishing a trading and balancing market as close as possible to real time.
- Cross border trading and Balancing, making use of all available flexible assets
- Investing on a portfolio of different variable energy sources





# Optimizing flexibility assets as no-regrets option

Increasing geographical extension of trading and balancing areas  
(Example 1)



## Enabling the participation and optimization of existing flexibility assets

- Increase transmission and distribution capacity (=flexibility capacity) within and amongst balancing areas:
  - New/reinforced lines
  - Better available capacity measurement. Dynamic line rating has shown to enable up to 50% more transmission capacity\*.
- Commercialization of ancillary services provision
- Improve market access to new players (aggregators, Demand-side response)

\* *Harnessing variable renewable, International Energy Agency 2011*

# Enabling the participation and optimization of existing flexibility assets

## Example

Storage can access time-shift market in all countries surveyed, but its ability to provide frequency reserve and T&D deferral is limited to certain countries

	 DE	 FR	 GB	 IT	 ES	 GR <sup>1</sup>
Can storage participate in the wholesale market?						
Time-shift	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Can storage participate in the frequency reserve market?						
Frequency reserve	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Can TSO/DSO own and operate storage?						
T&D	✗	✗	✓ <sup>2</sup>	✓ <sup>3</sup>	✗	✗

<sup>1</sup> Existing regulation is pertaining to hybrid stations only (renewables coupled with storage) in non-interconnected islands

<sup>2</sup> Allowed for small storage assets

<sup>3</sup> If proven as most cost effective solution

Source: Commercialization of energy storage in Europe, Mckinsey & Company, Commissioned by the Fuel Cell and Hydrogen joint undertaking, March 2015

## The need for flexibility. A role for Storage?

- **Stability:** Support of congested local grids. Can help to increase levels of variable renewables in grid. An ancillary services market should be further developed.
- **Balancing:** a level playing field should lead to the most cost-effective solution. The priority should be put on market operation and cross-border integration
- **Adequacy:** Current overcapacity and depressed prices. Not much room for storage. Very large shares of variable renewables \* will require long-term, large-scale electricity storage (daily/seasonal)

*\* The share ranges from 35% to 100% in literature (SBC Energy Institute Analysis, 2014)*



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## Conclusions

Priority investment focus on increasing transmission and distribution capacity and utilization: to exploit existing flexibility

Reducing balancing cost by optimizing market operation and integration

In the long term, Very large shares of variable renewables will require long-term, large-scale electricity storage. There is need to continue research and demonstration



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aim high

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- Uniting over 60 nationalities
- Just before COP 21



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# BACKUP

# The need for flexibility. Flexibility options

RES integration solution		Deficit solved?	Surplus solved?	Residual load		
0	Base case situation			Surplus +		
				Deficit -		
1	Dispatchable generation (hydro, biomass, fossil)	✓	✗	Surplus +		
				Deficit -		
2	Transmission and distribution expansion	✓	✓	Surplus +		
				Deficit -		
3	Demand side management	✓	✓	Surplus +		
				Deficit -		
4	Power to power (PLP)	✓	✓	Surplus +		
				Deficit -		
	Energy storage	Conversion to heat and heat storage	✓	✓	Surplus +	
					Deficit -	
	Conversion to hydrogen for use outside power sector		✗	✓	Surplus +	
					Deficit -	

All of these options come at a cost to society

Source: Commercialization of energy storage in Europe, Mckinsey & Company, Commissioned by the Fuel Cell and Hydrogen joint undertaking, March 2015





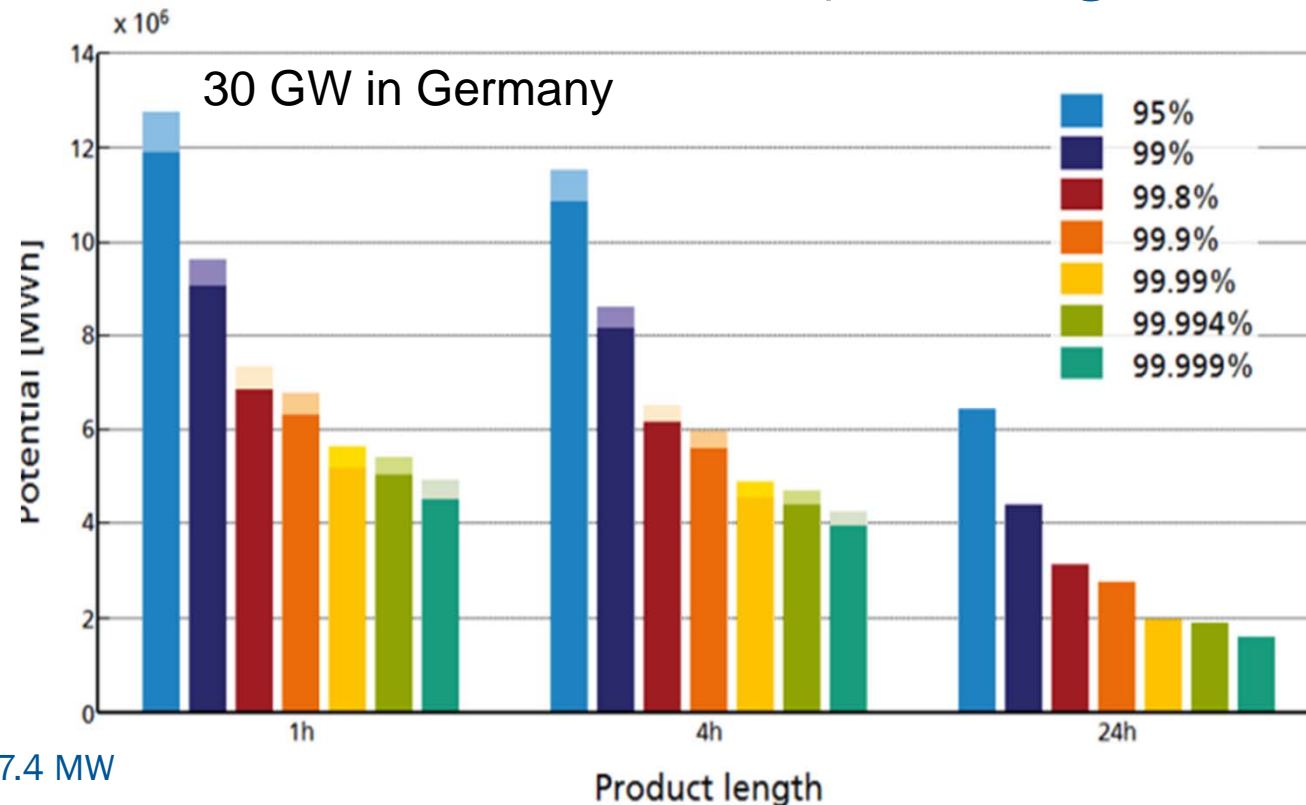
# Optimizing flexibility assets as no-regrets option

Establishing a trading and balancing market as close as possible to real time (Example 2)

## Confidence interval and product length effects



- 1 Wind Farm = 77.4 MW
- Cluster = 1 GW (WFs located in the same control area)



# How do we achieve a high penetration of RES? Lessons learned up to now...



## Impediments:

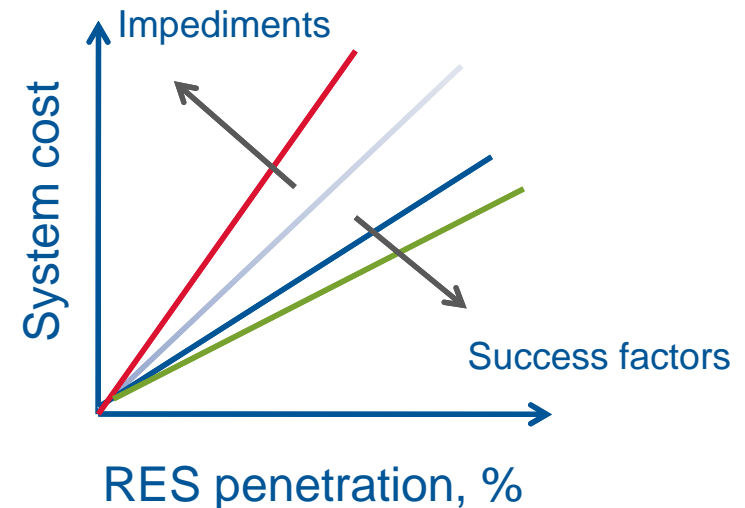
- Lack of transmission
- Lack of TSO cooperation
- Inflexibility due to market rules and contracts
- Unobservable RES – behind the fence

## Success factors:

- Forecasting
- Thermal fleet:
  - More quick starts
  - Deeper turn down
  - Faster ramps
- More spatial diversity
- DSM
- Grid-friendly RES

## System cost:

- Curtailments
- Higher fuel costs
- Higher emission costs
- Higher O&M costs



What's the « limit » is never quite the right question!



## 4 main electric peninsulas

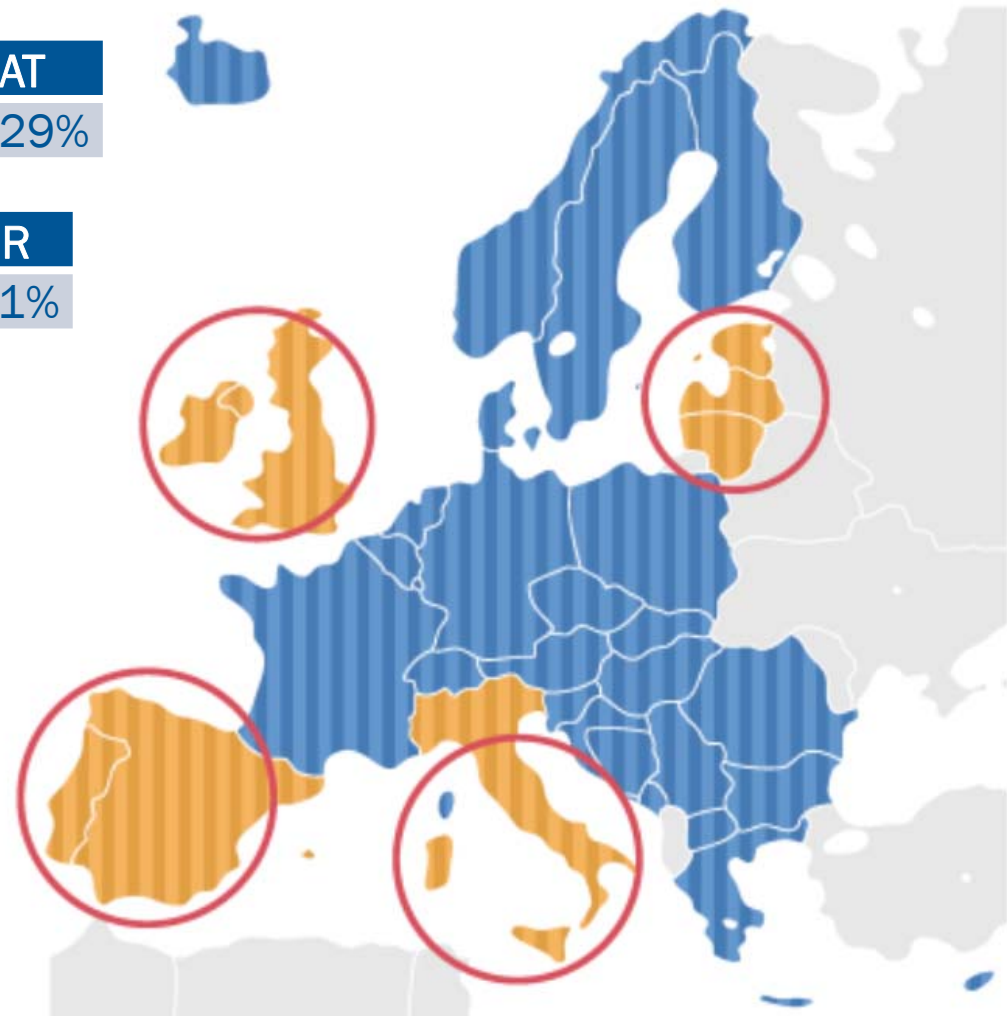
### Interconnection levels

LU	HR	SI	SK	DK	FI	AT
245%	69%	65%	61%	44%	30%	29%

HU	SE	CZ	NL	BE	BG	GR
29%	26%	17%	17%	17%	11%	11%

FR	DE	IE	IT	RO	PT	UK
10%	10%	9%	7%	7%	7%	6%

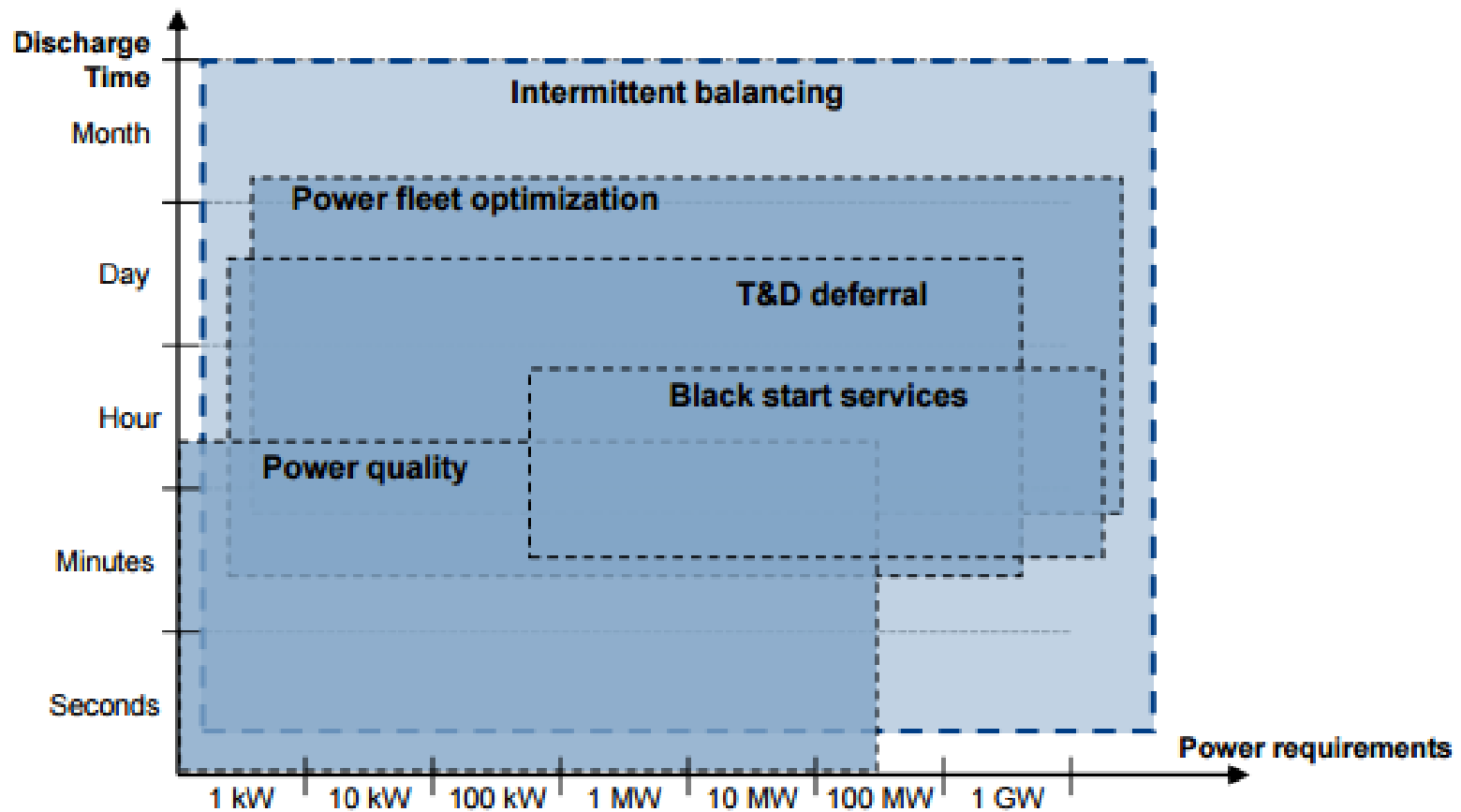
LT	LV	EE	ES	PL	CY	MT
4%	4%	4%	3%	2%	0%	0%





## A role for Storage?

### Electricity storage application requirements



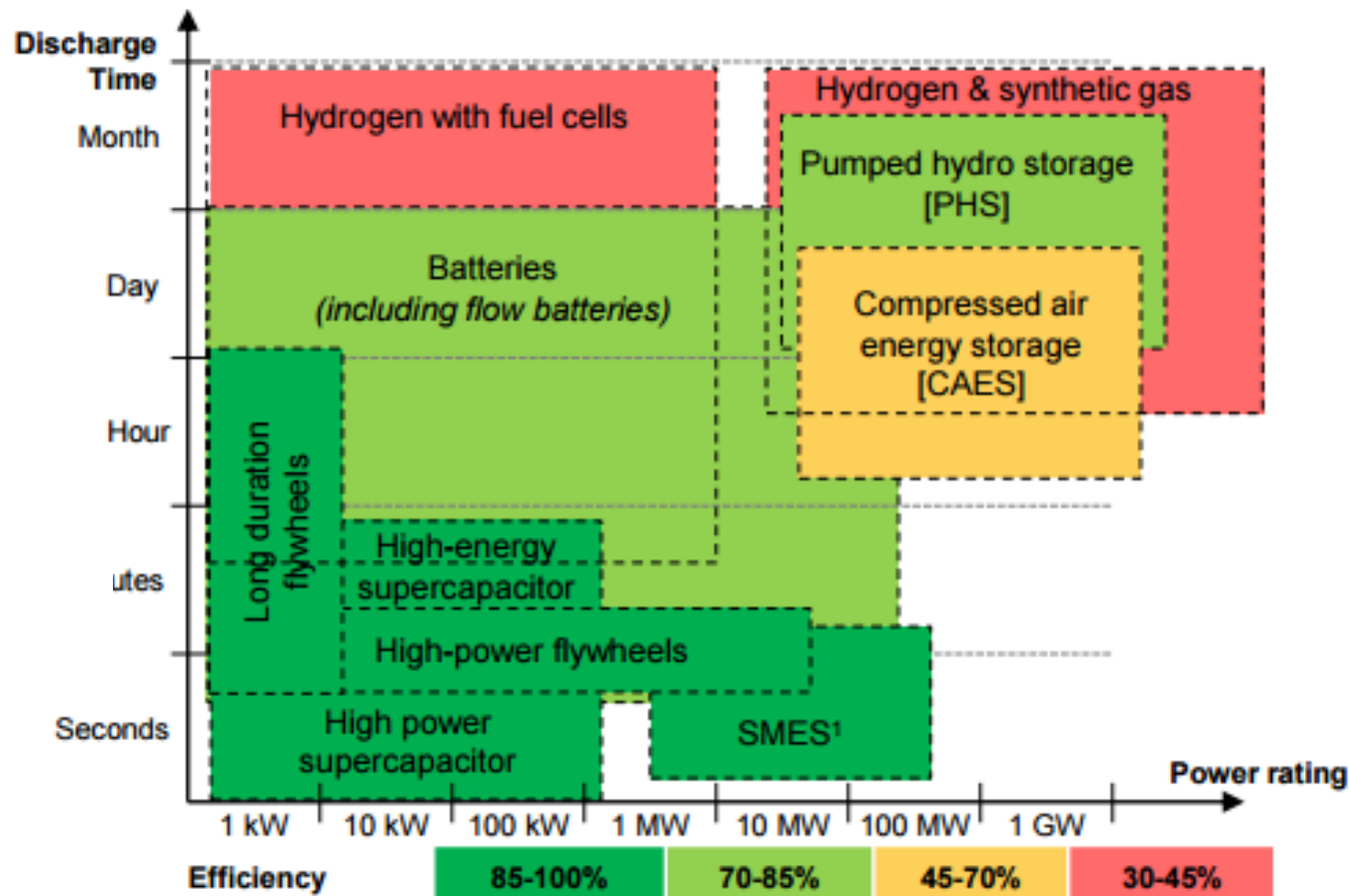
Note: SMES: superconducting magnetic energy storage.

Source: SBC Energy Institute analysis, based on US DoE (2011) and Hydrogenics (2012).



## A role for Storage?

### Electricity storage technology's features



Note: SMES: superconducting magnetic energy storage.

Source: SBC Energy Institute analysis, based on US DoE (2011) and Hydrogenics (2012).



## FLEXIBILITY RESOURCES

### Dispatchable power plants

Power plants are characterized by their installed capacity, but also by the speed at which they can change their output up & down (ramping rate), the time they need to start up or shut down, and finally by their minimum stable output. Hence, grid operators dispatch them to meet residual load variation.

### Demand-side management / response

Instead of having generation follow the load, demand can also adjust generation to restrain peaking (e.g. a large industrial player can be asked to interrupt its operation in case of a high peak with no wind: demand response), or to shave the demand profile (e.g. time-of-use tariff to limit demand at night if there is a high share of solar PV and there is no sunlight: demand management).

### Electricity storage

Electricity can be transformed and stored using technologies to extract electricity when residual load is decreasing (charging) and inject stored energy during a peak (discharging), thereby shaving the load profile on different time scales depending on considered power and energy capacities.

### Connections with adjacent markets

The balancing of supply and demand over a larger area may reduce the impact of weather conditions, known as "smoothing impact", while mutualizing the ability to meet load variation (e.g. hydro-power plants in Norway to balance wind intermittency in Germany). Practically, this requires transmission lines between power systems (in both directions).