

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-005011/25
to the Commission
Daniel Buda (PPE)
(18 December 2025)**

Subject: Accelerating cross-border energy infrastructure projects in the European Union

The European energy transition depends on modern, interconnected infrastructure able to support the safe and efficient transfer of energy between Member States. However, many cross-border projects which are considered critical are being slowed down by lengthy administrative procedures, differing authorisation systems and a lack of consistent coordination between national authorities. These blockages are hampering the development of a resilient European grid, which is needed to integrate renewable energies and reduce dependence on external sources.

The delays in these projects is affecting not only the pace of transition to a low-emission economy, but also the competitiveness of European industry, energy security and consumers' access to energy at stable prices. Some Member States are facing significant delays in upgrading their grids and implementing interconnection projects, which may affect the functioning of the internal energy market. Building an accelerated, cohesive and predictable European framework could help reduce differences between countries and boost investment.

What concrete measures will the Commission take to accelerate the development of cross-border energy infrastructure projects, including the simplification of authorisation procedures and the strengthening of coordination between the national authorities involved?

Submitted: 18.12.2025

**Answer given by Mr Jørgensen on behalf of the European Commission
(23 March 2026)**

Grids are indeed the foundation of a secure, independent and prosperous Europe. Supporting grid modernisation and build-out and increasing cross-border interconnections will integrate European energy markets, ensuring stable supplies and lower prices for European industries and households while reducing price differences across Europe and contributing to a true Energy Union.

The European Grids Package and the Energy Highways initiative ⁽¹⁾, published in December 2025, will contribute to the integration of cheaper clean energy and accelerate electrification.

The Grids Package, adopted on 10 December 2025, aims at bringing a European perspective on infrastructure planning and accelerating permitting procedures, while ensuring the fair cost division and resilience of cross-border projects. It will allow the best use of existing infrastructure and accelerate the development of grids.

Announced by the President of the Commission in her State of the Union speech, the eight Energy Highways address strategic infrastructure needs, with the Commission dedicated to fast-tracking them through enhanced political coordination, drawing on the Regional High-Level Groups, mobilising European coordinators and working closely with the Energy Union Task Force.

On 1 December 2025, the Commission also adopted the second Union list of Projects of Common Interest and Projects of Mutual Interest ⁽²⁾ with 235 cross-border energy projects.

These cross-border projects will enhance energy connectivity and contribute to the completion of the Energy Union. By supporting interconnections across the EU and with neighbouring countries, these projects will increase the EU's competitiveness, decarbonisation, energy security, and ultimately autonomy.

⁽¹⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_2945.

⁽²⁾ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=PL_COM%3AC%282025%298144&qid=1766157187792.