

## Response to call for members and remarks on the Terms of Reference for the TF Scenarios

In this reaction, Belgian Offshore Platform responds to the public consultation on the “Task force scenarios: Call for members” as launched by Elia on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

BOP remains at Elia’s disposal for further questions and clarifications when deemed necessary.

### Call for members

As a settled member of the users’ group, BOP is interested in participating in the new Taskforce Scenarios. Our contribution would be providing valuable market insights and a vision on future offshore development in Belgium and abroad, and how it might interact with the evolution of the entire energy system during the energy transition towards a net zero carbon system.

Hugo Canière will be representing BOP. In his capacity as technical advisor, he is currently the SPOC for BOP in the Elia Users group. He is actively participating in most of the Elia working groups and taskforces which discuss relevant topics for the offshore wind parks. As a former coworking of Elia, he also has some experience with the concepts of scenario building. In this respect we are convinced he will be a valuable member for this specific taskforce.

### Remarks on the terms of reference

#### *Goals*

We welcome the active involvement of stakeholders and the evidence based approach in the creation of scenarios and storylines, as well as the creation of unique set of scenarios that will be used throughout all future Elia studies.

In our view, **one main goal of this task force is missing: i.e. to enhance the common understanding, support and acceptance of the scenarios** which form the basis of the future Elia studies. In this respect, the stakeholder participation is important, but even more crucial is the **consensus building between all stakeholders**. We request to add this to the goals of the task force.

Furthermore **it should be described in the ToR that throughout the process, the taskforce, under supervision of the chairman, will strive for consensus as much as possible**. Under section ‘5. Annual process’ it is only mentioned that Elia will clarify whether the data was achieved through consensus or dissension. It should be a priority for the chairman to actively try to achieve consensus over major discussion points. And only if opposing opinions remain after extensive debate, Elia can make a final proposal for approval by CREG. The different views and arguments of the stakeholders are to be properly documented.

#### *Scope*

For transparency reasons, could Elia provide an overview of the studies where scenarios are used and clarify what the main reasons are for up till now using different scenarios across different studies.

As the electricity system will be become more and more integrated with the (renewable) gas sector, we propose to specify that the scope of the scenarios is not limited to electricity (production, storage and demand), but will take sector coupling into account.

#### *Composition of the Task Force*

The ToR does not mention how changes in composition will be treated and how the 'balanced composition of members' will be monitored over the years.

We suggest that the composition of the task force will be up for review and approval by the Elia Users' Group at the start of each annual cycle.

#### *Annual process*

We would like to get a more detailed idea of the annual process to be able to estimate the work load and align the planning to all other working groups and task forces. We suggest to provide an initial milestone planning and an estimated number of workshops for further discussion and tuning at the start of the Taskforce.