

# Price formation in the Nordic system

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- Trading electrical energy in the European Union.
- Unbundling.
- How to maintain the security of supply by means of the market. Price formation at
  - ❑ Markets for balancing energy.
  - ❑ Markets for balancing capacity.
- Please also refer to the article *The Liberalized Electricity Market*
  - ❑ You'll find the article at the sub-page Facts and findings at [www.houmollerconsulting.dk](http://www.houmollerconsulting.dk)
  - ❑ Here, you can also download animated PowerPoint slides with information on EU's markets for electricity and gas
    - ✓ For example, you can download the presentation *Capacity markets and The Single European Electricity Market.*

# EU: time line for trading electrical energy

## Day of Operation:

The day where the electrical energy is produced and consumed.

## Hour of Operation:

The hour where the electrical energy is produced and consumed.

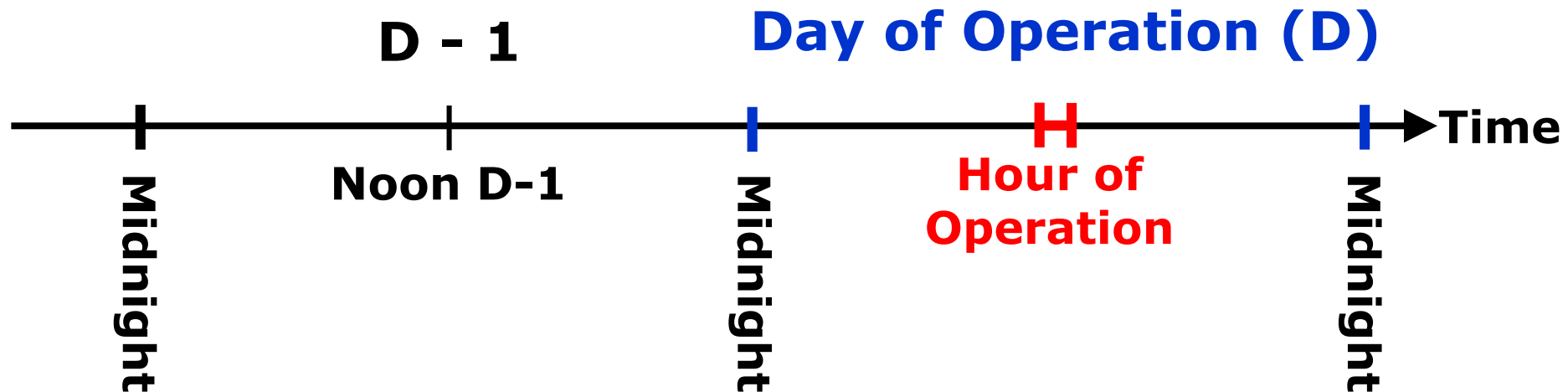
Long-term contracts (physical and financial):

Some days ahead, week-ahead, month-ahead, year/years ahead

Day-ahead trading

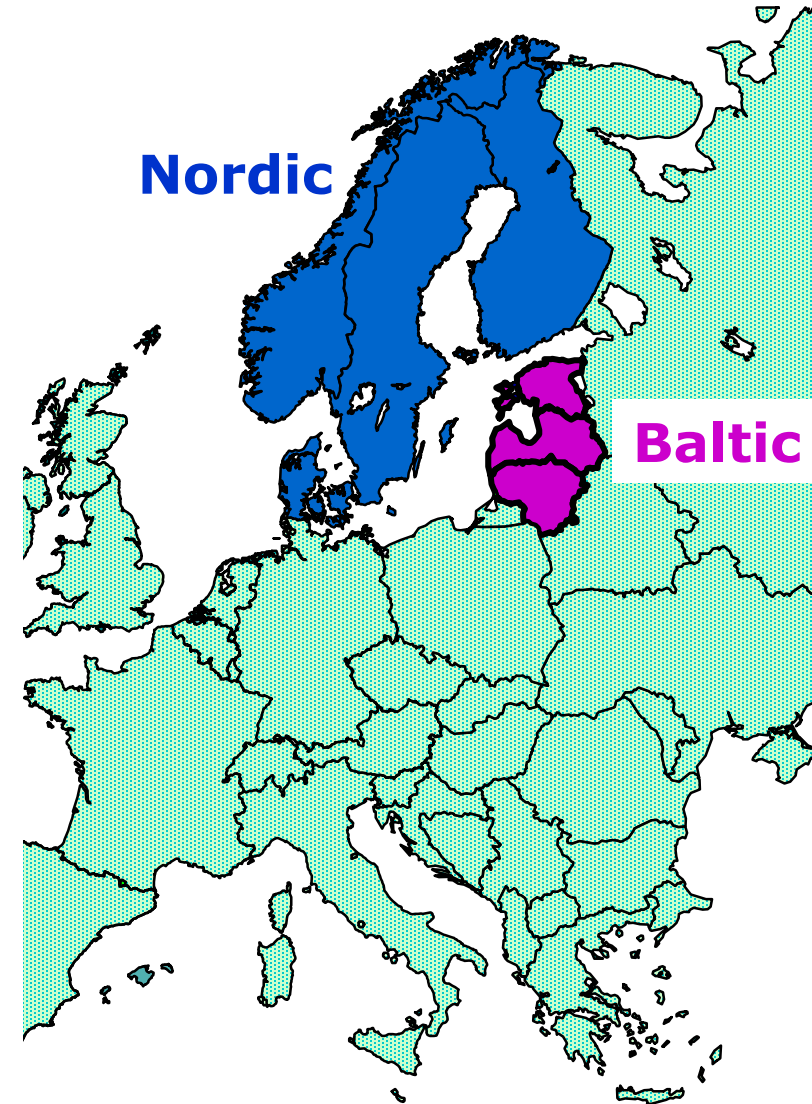
Intra-day trading

Trading balancing energy with TSO



# The Nordic electricity market – 1

- The four Nordic countries Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.
- The Nordic countries (and the 3 Baltic States) have liberalised their electricity markets and have a common electricity exchange (Nord Pool).
- The Nordic countries: about 27 mill. people.
- Electricity consumption 2018: about 393 TWh
  - ❑ Third biggest electricity market in the European Economic Area EEA
    - ✓ EEA = European Union + Norway + Island + Liechtenstein.



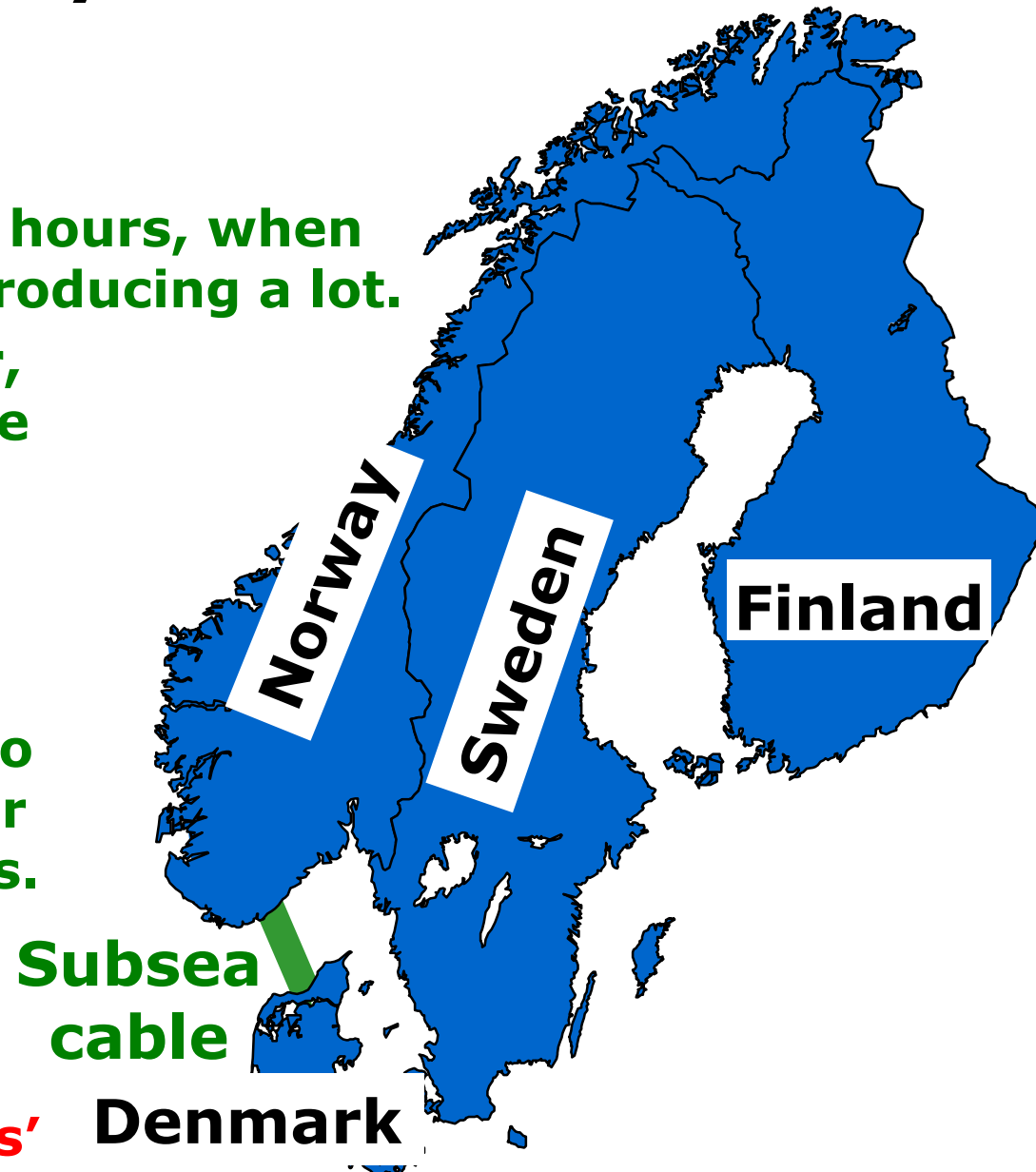
# The Nordic electricity market – 2

- **Norway more than 95% hydro.**
- **Sweden hydro, nuclear and wind.**
- **Finland thermal, nuclear and some hydro.**
- **Denmark wind, thermal and some solar**
  - ❑ **More than 50% of the electricity production in Denmark comes from wind turbines.**

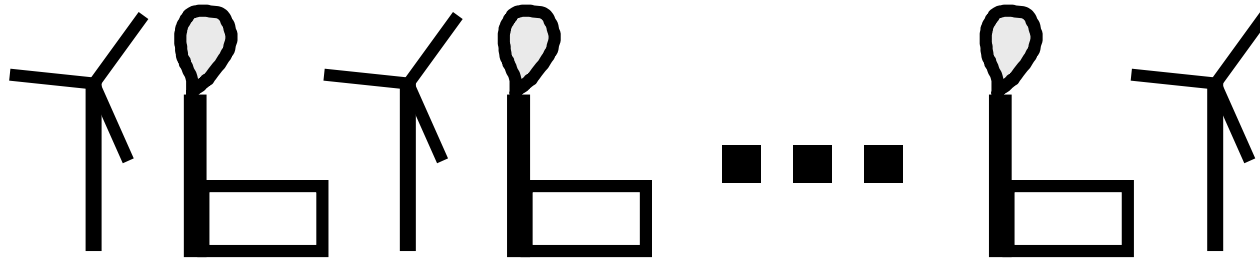


# The Nordic electricity market – 3

- The Danish-Norwegian combination of renewables and hydro is very fruitful.
- Denmark is exporting during hours, when the Danish renewables are producing a lot.
- Norway exports hydro power, when the production from the Danish renewables is low.
- Great benefit for both countries. Hydro = battery.
- The hourly prices at the day-ahead market are used to make the day-ahead plans for the hourly cross-border flows.
- The prices at the intra-day market is used modify the plans.
- **Eventually, the prices at TSOs' market for balancing energy set the flows.**



# Electricity market: transportation system European Union



**Producers**

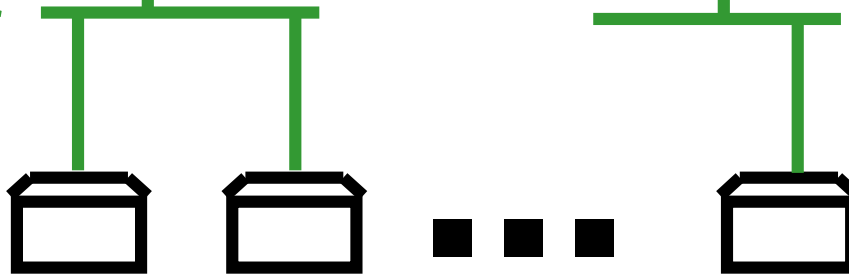
**Transmission System Operator (TSO)**



**Transmission Grid (DK: above 110 kV)**



**Distribution System Operators (DSOs)**  
(the grid part of the former distribution companies)

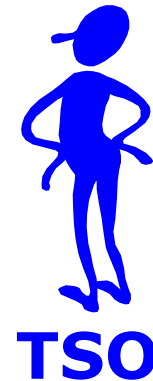


**Distribution Grid (DK: below 110 kV)**

**Consumers**

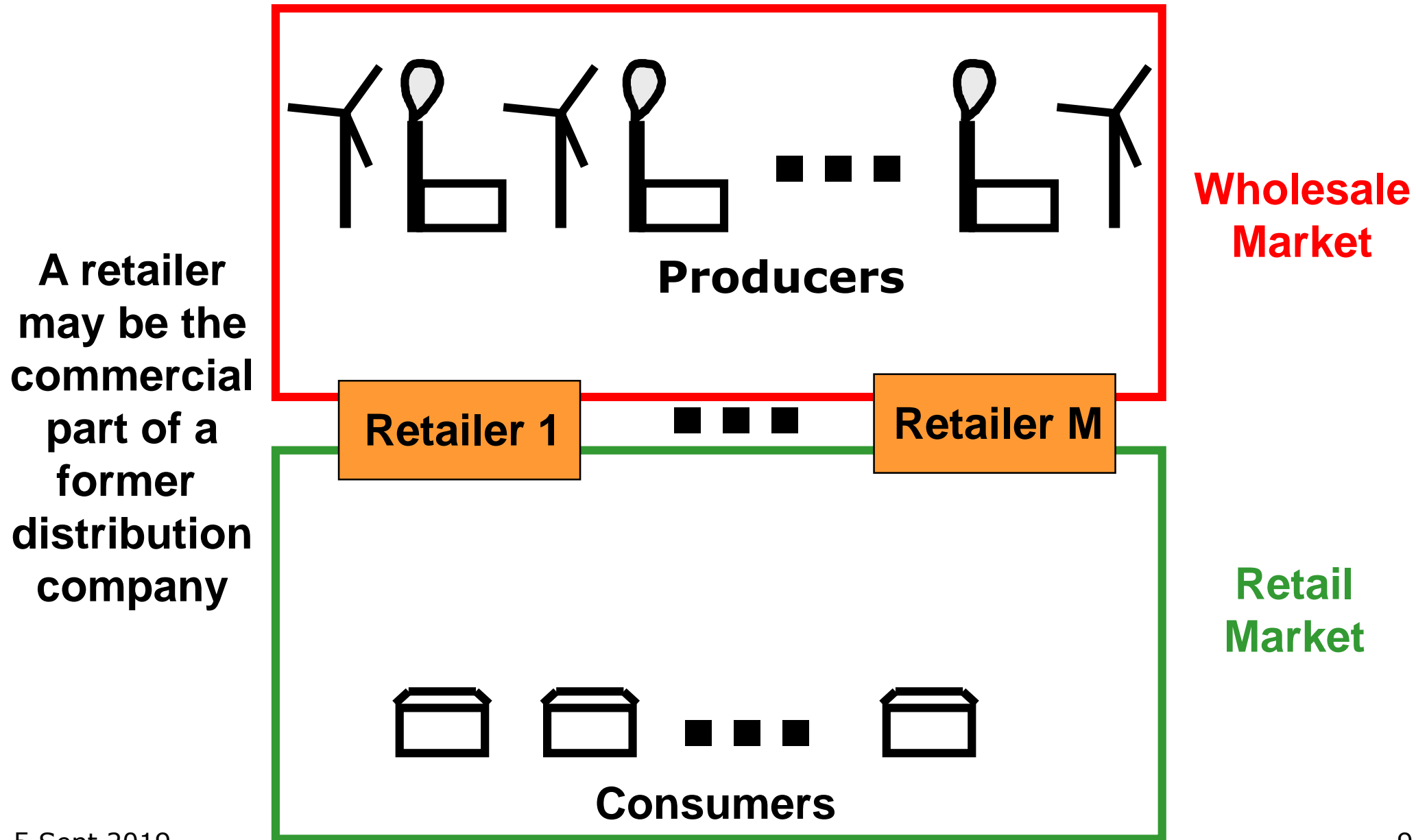
# Transmission System Operator (TSO) European Union

- **The TSO is a non-commercial monopolist.**
- **In the European Union, each TSO has two tasks:**
  - ❑ **Maintains the security of supply in the TSO's home country.**
  - ❑ **Owns and operates the transmission grid (the high-voltage grid).**
  - ❑ **Most EU countries have only one TSO.**
  - ❑ **However, a few EU Member States have more than one TSO (eg, Germany)**
    - ✓ **For these countries, each TSO operates the high-voltage grid and maintains the security of supply in the TSO's control area.**



# The electricity market: trading system - 1

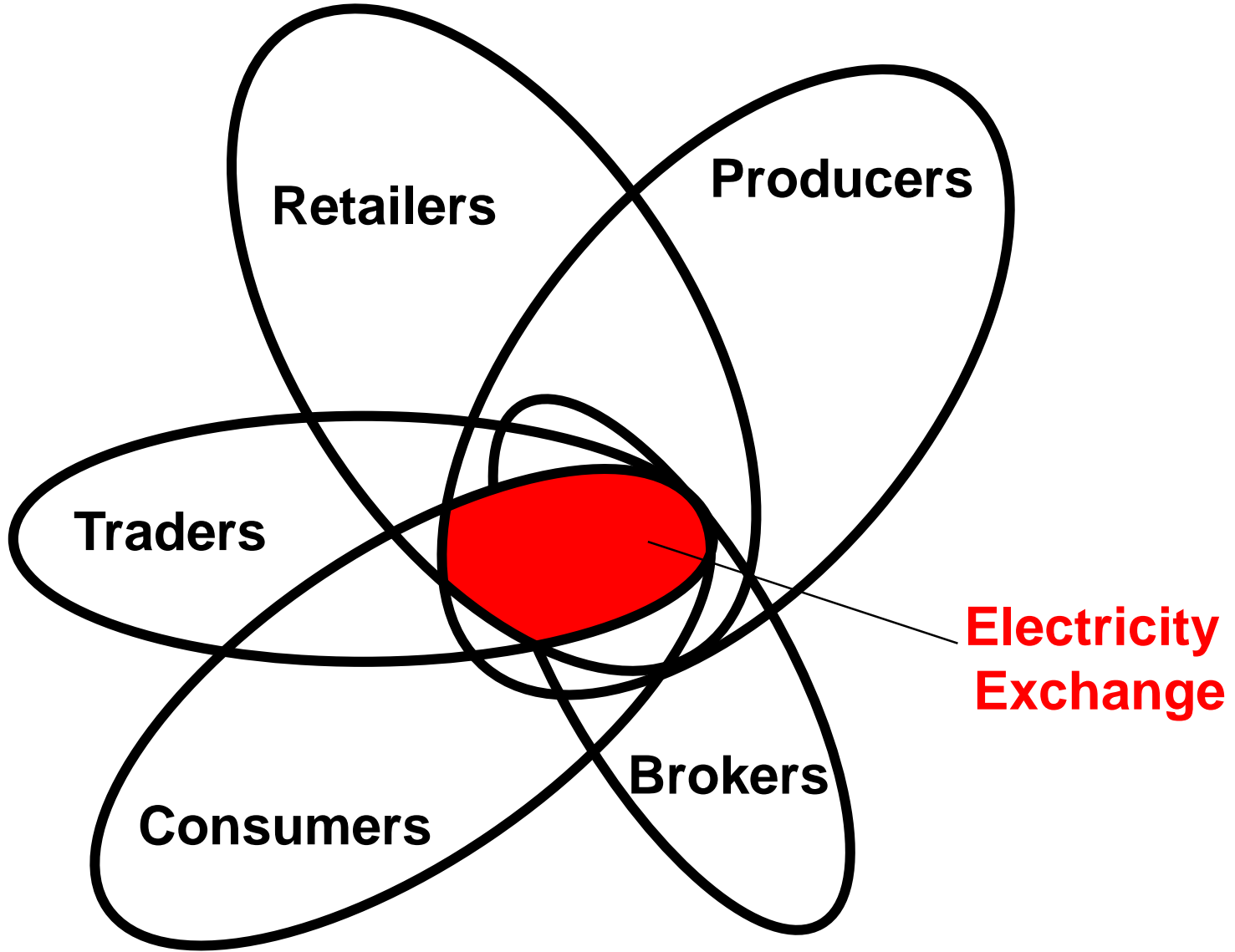
## European Union





# The electricity market: trading system – 2

## European Union



# Commercial and non-commercial players

***Before  
liberalisation***

**Power stations and  
transmission grid**

**Distribution companies:  
local grid and retail**



***Unbundling***

**Non-commercial monopolies**

**Commercial players**

***After  
liberalisation***

**TSO: transmission  
grid and security  
of supply**

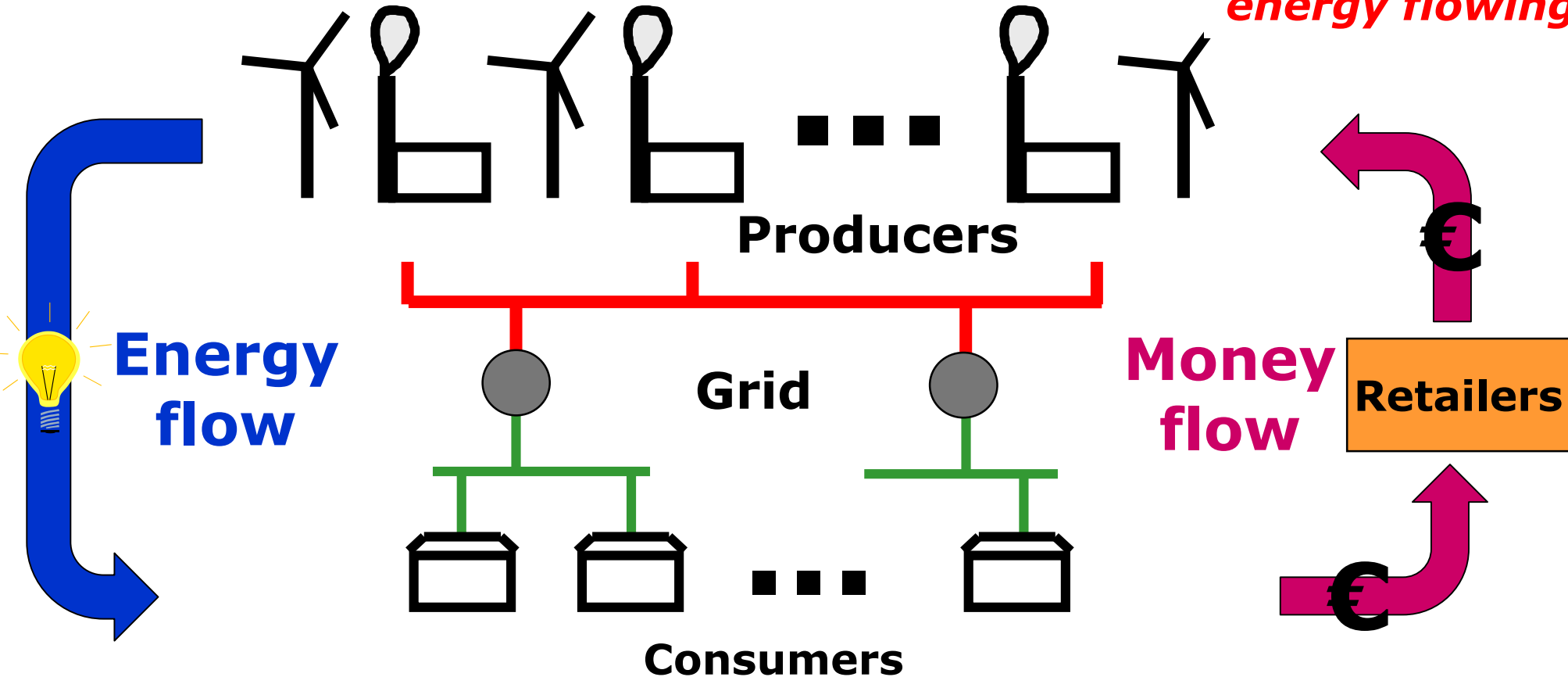
**DSO: Distribution  
System Operators**

**Producers, retailers,  
traders, brokers**

# EU: Two flows

A flow of energy and a flow of money

*It's the TSOs' job to keep the energy flowing*

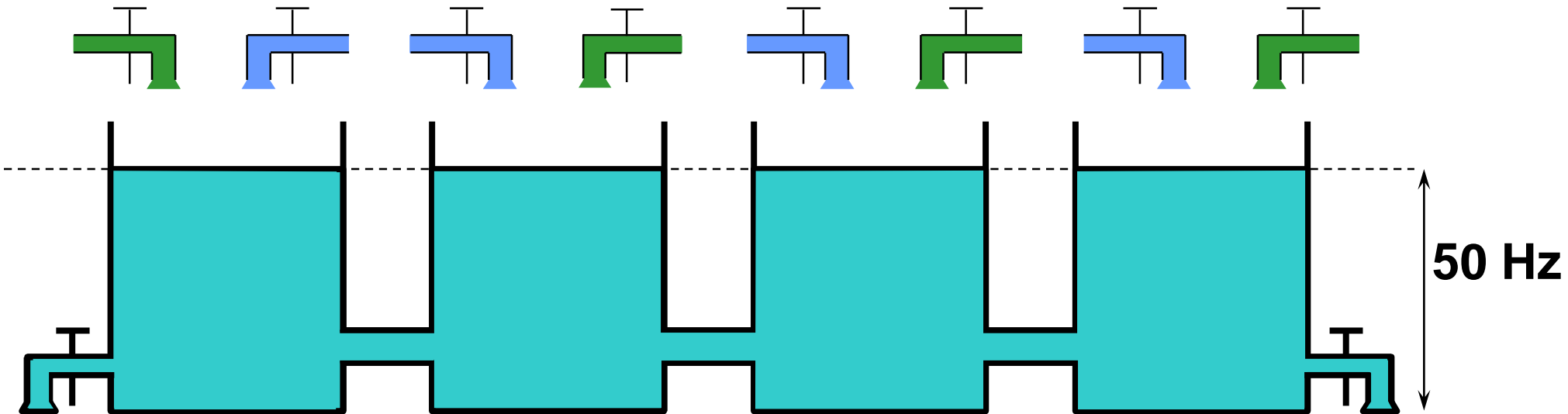


The retailers are not involved in the flow of energy.  
But they are heavily involved in the flow of money!

The same for gas.

# The Electricity Market

## Producers



## Consumers

***EU: the Transmission System Operator (TSO) operates the high voltage grid and is responsible for the country's security of supply.***

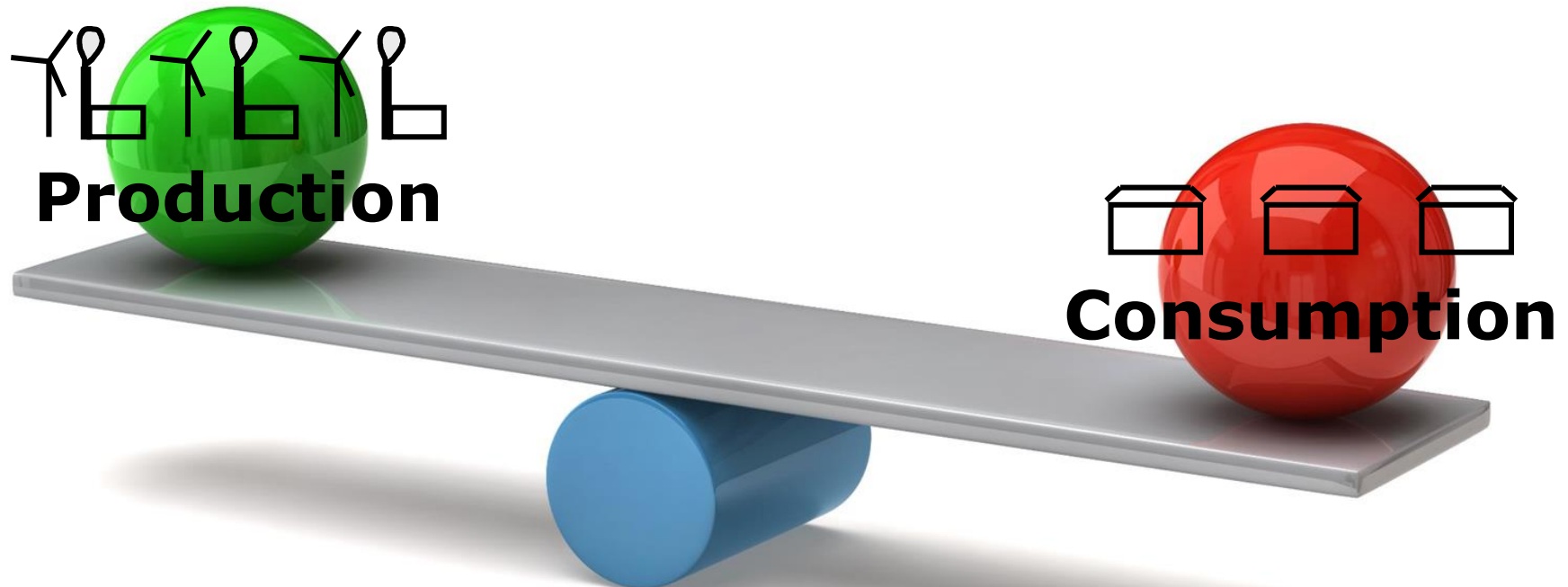
# Liberalising the electricity market

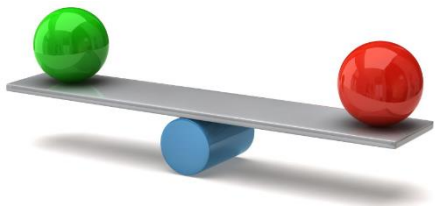
## Summary

- **The only thing you change when you liberalise the electricity market, is the financial system**
  - ❑ **The way the money is flowing, the way the bills are issued, etc.**
  
- **The physical supervision and maintenance of the electricity system is the same, whether you have market economy or planning economy**
  - ❑ **The laws of nature do not change, just because we liberalise the electricity market...**

# Ancillary services – 1

- We'll now turn our attention to this question:
- **How do the TSOs maintain the security of supply?**
- We'll use the Nordic area as a case of how this can be done
  - By means of the market.





## Ancillary services – 2

# Energy



### The TSOs' market for balancing energy



*Case: the Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden)*

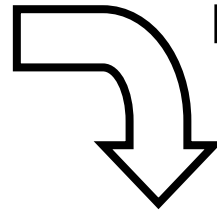
# The Nordic TSOs' market for balancing energy

Example for an hour where the production is too big

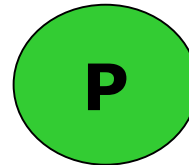
**Result for TSO: a  
production decrease  
of 200 MWh**



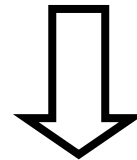
**Sell 200 MWh to producer.  
Producer's purchase bid  
price: 30 €/MWh**



**Producer: buy at  
30 €/MWh and sell  
at 34 €/MWh**

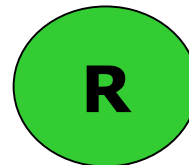


**Producer's initial plan:  
produce 200 MWh  
Producer's marginal  
costs are 31 €/MWh**



**The producer has sold 200  
MWh to the retailer. Price:  
34 €/MWh**

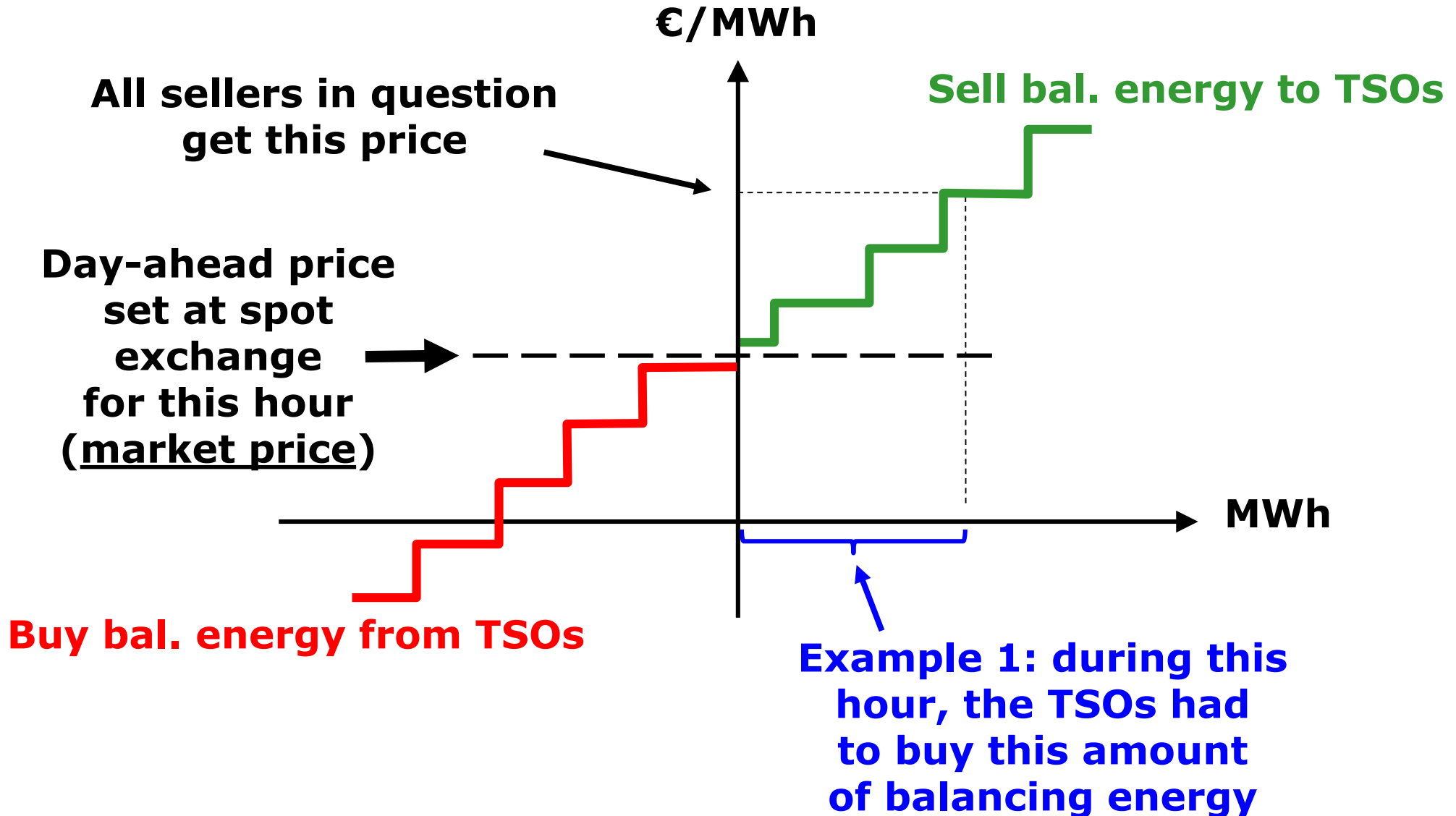
**Retailer**





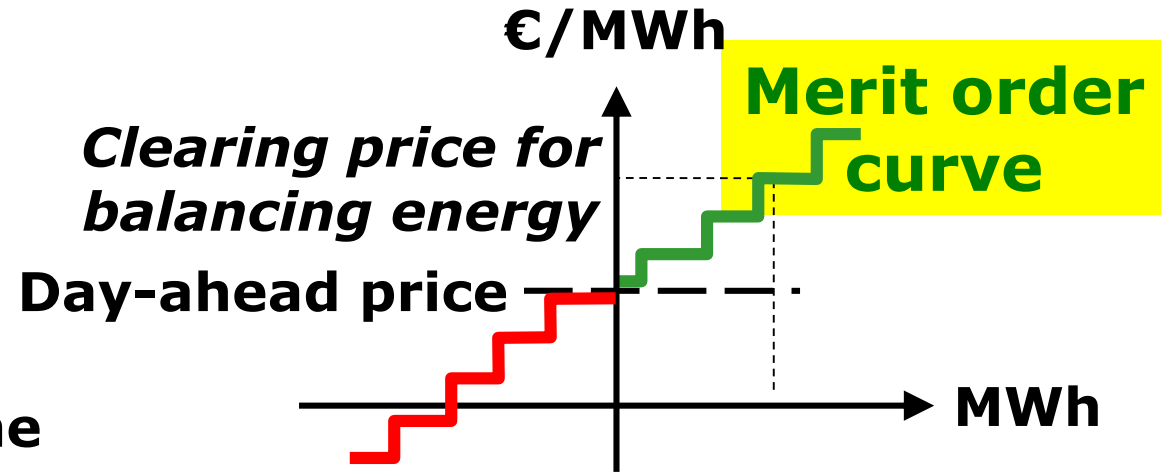
# Offers and bids at the Nordic TSOs' market for balancing energy – 1

Example for one Hour of Operation




# Bidding at the market for balancing energy

- Assume you have spare capacity, and it's shortly before the start of the Hour of Operation.
- So, for the next Hour of Operation, you can offer the TSO balancing energy.



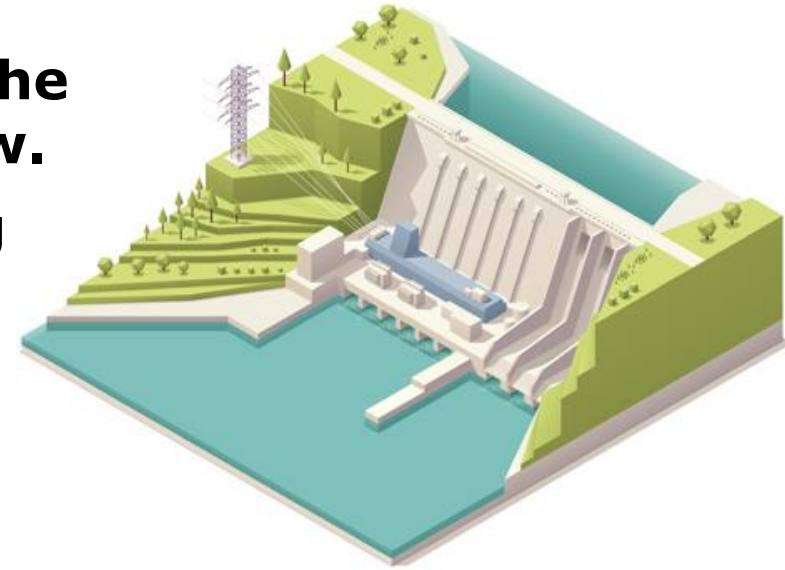
- Your marginal production costs are 41 €/MWh.
- If your offer price is higher than 41 €/MWh, you may price yourself out of the market!
- Your offer price is irrelevant, if you manage to sell to the TSO, and you are not the last seller!
- The right strategy: use your marginal costs as the offer price.
- You'll have a profit, unless you are the last seller.
- Even if you are the last seller, you'll not lose money.

# Balancing energy

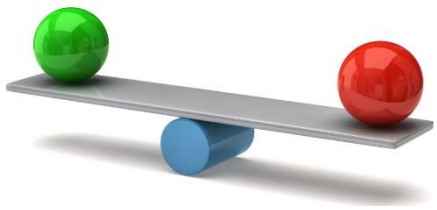
- 
- **The players at the Nordic market for balancing energy are paid the marginal price**
    - ❑ **The last player's price sets the price for everyone.**
  - **Marginal pricing gives a *merit order* ranking where**
    - ❑ **The cheapest among the available, idle facilities are up regulated first.**
    - ❑ **The most expensive among the running facilities are down regulated first.**

# Water value

- **Technically, for a hydro power plant, the marginal production costs are very low.**
- **However, a hydro plant bids according to an estimate of the water value.**
- **Question: what is the estimated value of the water in the reservoir?**
- **Answer: this depends on an estimate of the future prices for electricity!**
- **Morale: do not sell today at a price of 40 €/MWh, if you expect a price of 50 €/MWh next month.**
  - ❑ **You're absolutely willing to sell at 40 €/MWh today, if the expected price next month is 25 €/MWh...**
- **Same logic for a wind farm with battery storage.**
  - ❑ **The storage time here is typically some hours only.**
    - **This is fine for smoothing out the wind volatility, though.**

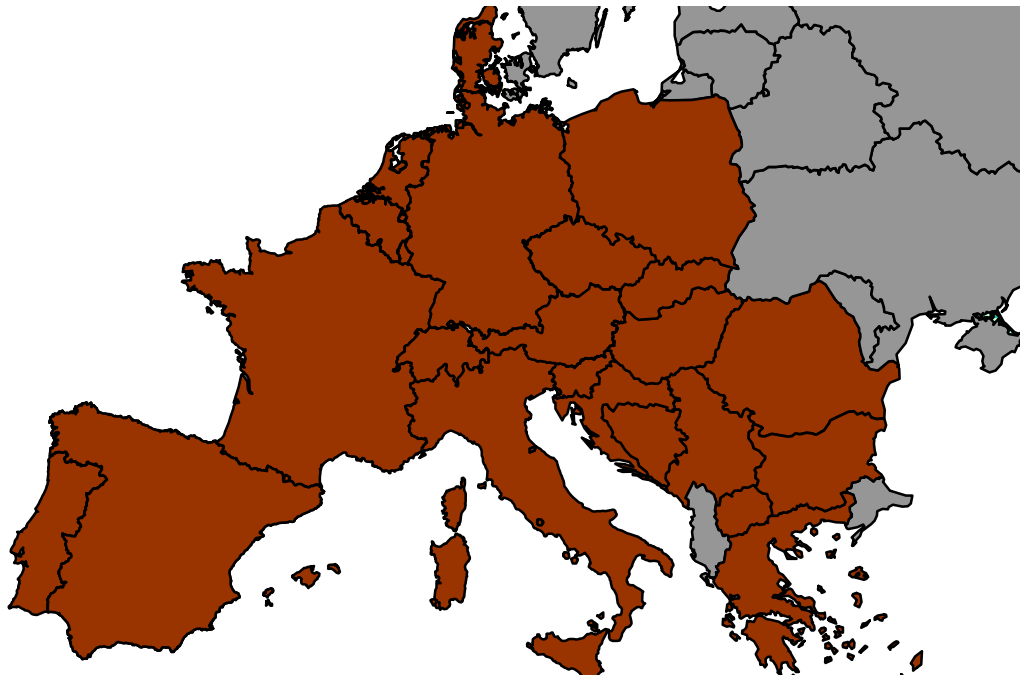
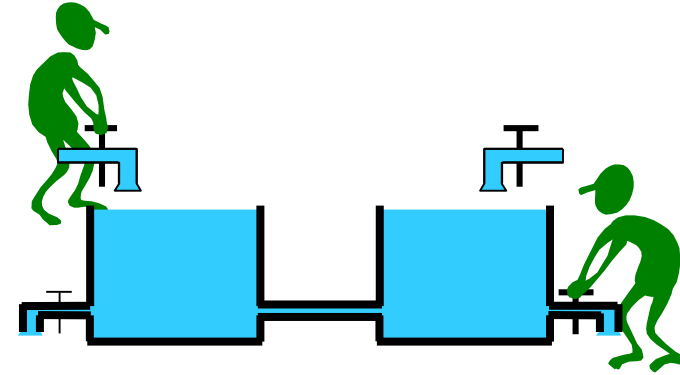


***Battery storage***



## Ancillary services – 3

# Capacity

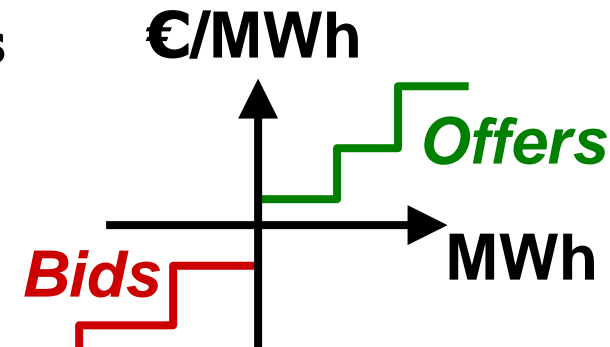


*Case: Continental Europe*

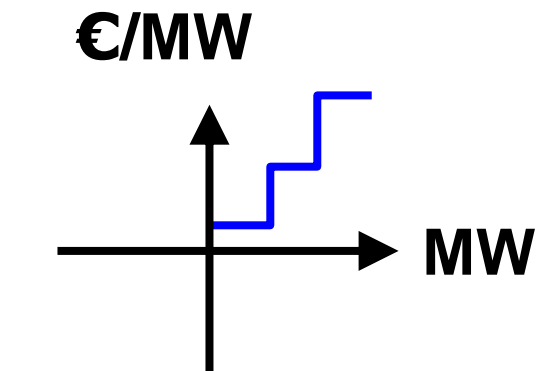
**The TSOs' market for balancing capacity**

# The TSO's purchase of capacity

- How can the TSO ensure that there are bids and offers at the market for balancing energy?
- Western Denmark as a case: the TSO buys capacity.
- Examples:
  - ❑ A producer who has sold the Danish TSO 20 MW of up balancing capacity for a given hour of the next day must for this hour place an energy offer of 20 MWh volume at the TSO's market.
  - ❑ A producer who has sold the Danish TSO 10 MW down balancing capacity for a given hour of the next day must for this hour place an energy bid of 10 MWh volume at the TSO's market.



Price setting for balancing energy



Price setting for balancing capacity

# The TSO's purchase of balancing capacity and trading of balancing energy

- All players may send bids and offers to the Danish TSO's market for balancing energy.
- However those who have sold capacity to the Danish TSO must send bids and/or offers.
- The Danish TSO buys this capacity day-ahead
  - ❑ During the morning the day before the Day of Operation.
- During the hour of operation (or shortly before) the Danish TSO trades energy, if it's necessary to buy or sell in order to maintain the balance between production and consumption.

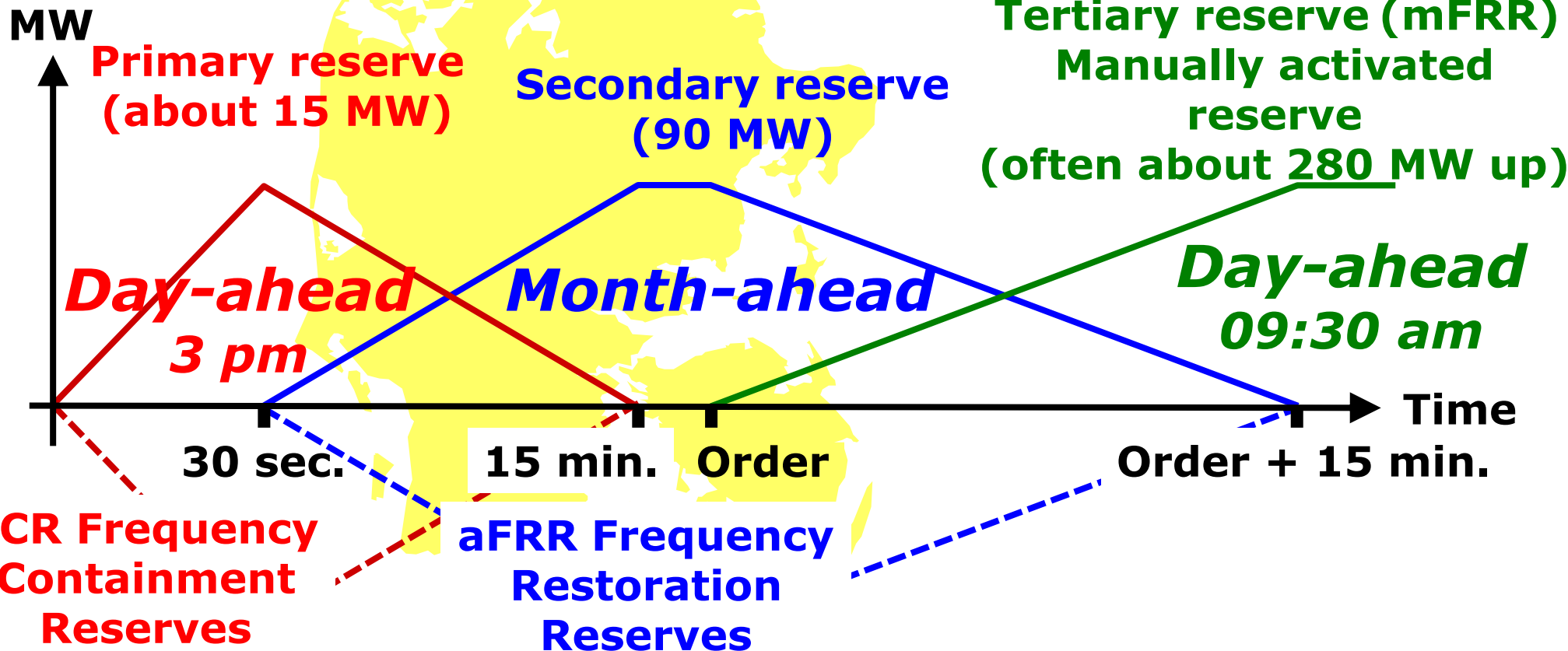
# Capacity bought by the TSO

## Western Denmark as a case

This is the  
**UCTE system**

### ➤ Western Denmark

- ❑ Energinet.dk is the Danish TSO.
- ❑ Consumption about 20 TWh/year.
- ❑ Min. load about 1 200 MW. Max. load about 3 700 MW.
- ❑ Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019: wind turbines about 4 900 MW (!).





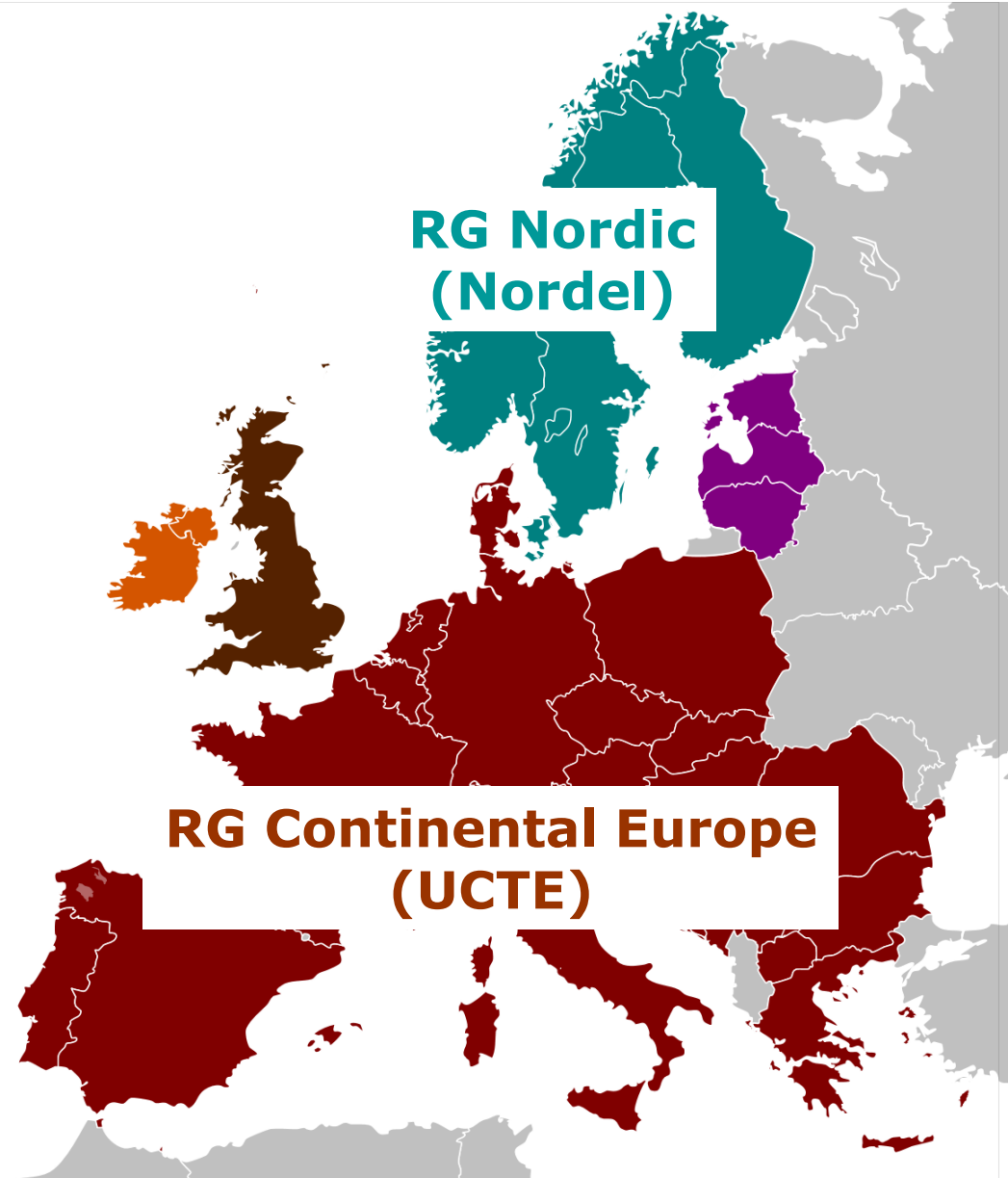
# Former name: Union for the Co-ordination of Transmission of Electricity (UCTE). Today RG Continental Europe

Five synchronous grids in EU.

For the trading of electricity, it's of no importance that we have different synchronous areas.

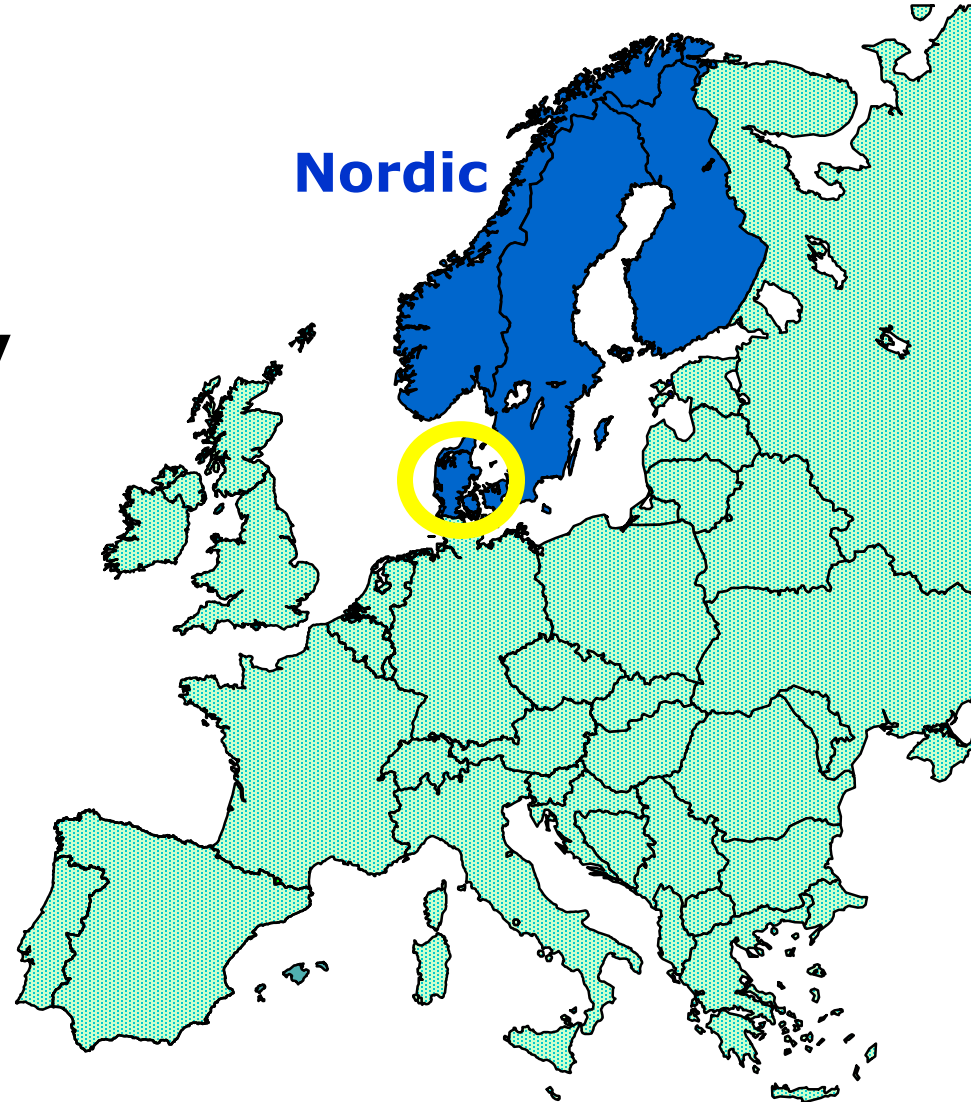
You can trade across DC interconnectors as well as across AC interconnectors

***FCR in UCTE:  
A total  
of 3000 MW***



# Denmark as a case

- In Denmark, wind turbines produce more than 50% of the electricity.
- Question: how does the Danish TSO maintain security of supply with so much intermittent energy?
- Answer: by providing price signals for
  - Balancing energy.
  - Balancing capacity.
- To make this work:
  - Low entry barriers to the market.
  - Investors must have **trust**.



# **Portfolio managers offering ancillary services to the TSO**

# Smart grid

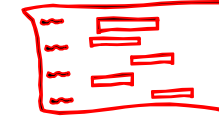


**Portfolio manager:**  
retailer or other  
commercial player.  
Aggregate small players'  
service offers

**Balancing  
capacity:  
offers**



**Balancing  
energy: bids  
and offers**



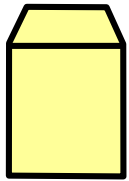
**TSO. Buying  
balancing capacity.  
Buying and selling  
balancing energy**



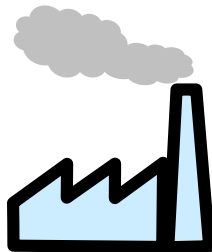
**Commercial  
agreements**



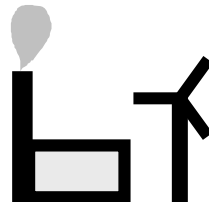
**House-  
holds**



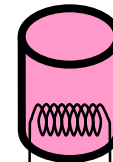
**Offices**



**Factories**



**Small power  
producers**



**District  
heating  
companies**

**Consumers  
and producers  
of electrical  
energy, who  
have the ability  
to change  
production/  
consumption**

# **Thank you for your attention!**

***And – in your work with the electricity market...***



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