



# REPOWEREU: GO-TO-AREAS FOR RENEWABLES AND EMERGENCY MEASURES TO ACCELERATE ITS DEPLOYMENT

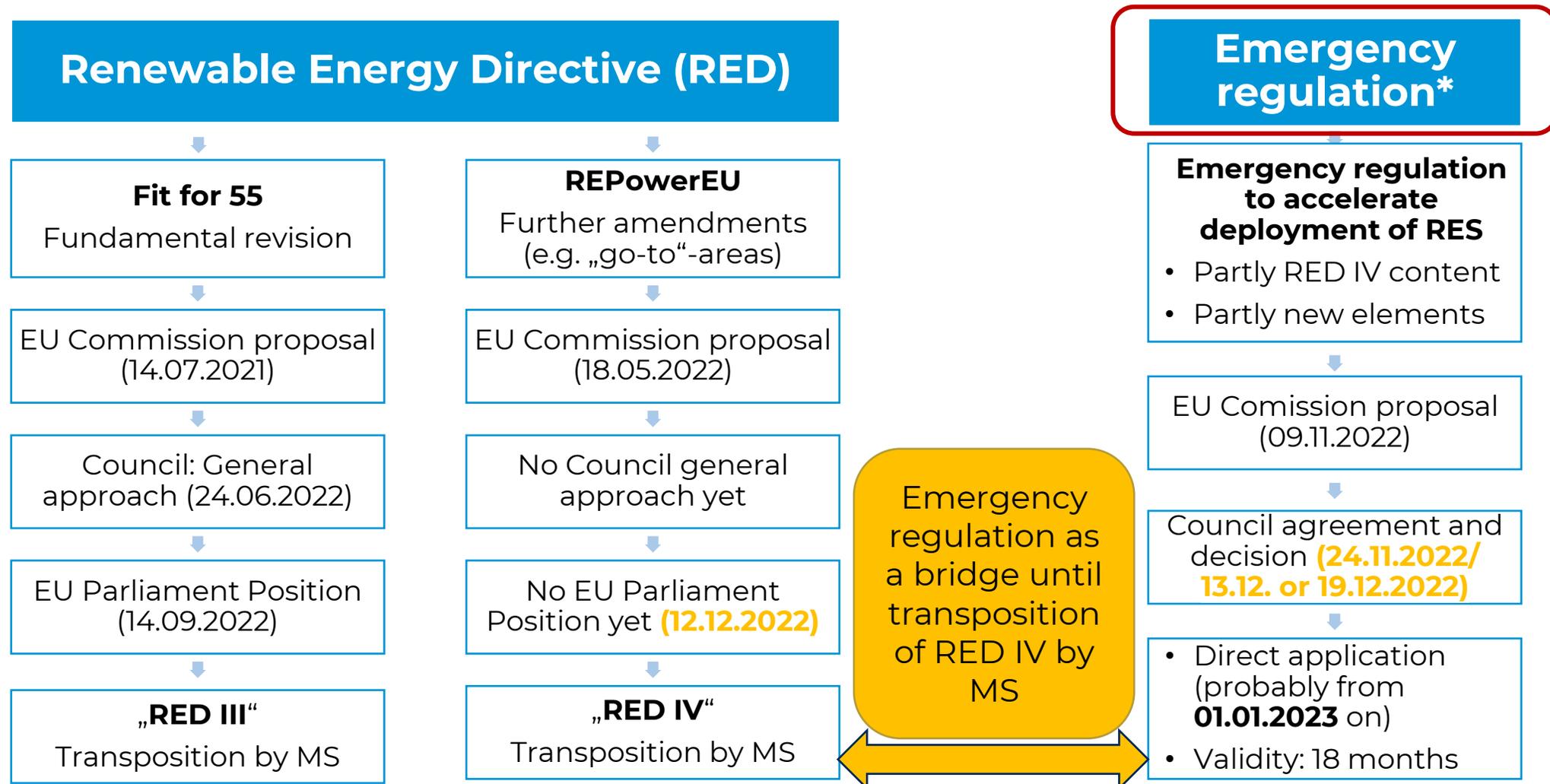
Shaping EU climate and energy policy: Insights from and questions for the Ariadne project

Brussels, 1 December 2022

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GEFÖRDERT VOM

# Overview



\*Council regulation laying down a framework to accelerate the deployment of renewable energy

# **REPowerEU COM proposal (RED IV): Accelerating the rollout of renewables (18.05.2022)**

## REPowerEU COM proposal: Accelerating the rollout of renewables

**Lengthy and complex administrative procedures  
as one of the key obstacles for investments in  
renewables and related infrastructure**

**Mapping and  
designating areas for  
renewables  
(go-to areas)**

**Permit-granting  
process**

**Overriding public  
interest**

## Mapping and designating areas for RES – two step approach

- ▶ **Identify** the land and sea areas necessary for the installation of RES plants that are required to meet national 2030 targets
- ▶ **Designate** within these areas **renewables go-to areas**

Renewables go-to areas (Art. 15c)	Impacts for later projects (Art. 15c, 16a)
<p>Only areas “<i>where the deployment of a specific type or types of renewable energy is <b>not expected to have significant environmental impacts</b></i>” (Priority to artificial and built surfaces, <b>not</b>: Natura 2000 sites, nature parks)</p>	<p><b>In general:</b> No environmental impact assessment (EIA) in case mitigation measures are adopted → <b>Presumption</b> that projects are not in breach of Habitats, Birds and Water Framework Directives</p>
<p><b>Measures to mitigate</b> environmental impacts, also to prevent the situations described in Habitats, Birds or Water Framework Directives</p>	<p>Only „<b>Screening</b>“ of the project: If “<i>significant unforeseen adverse effects</i>”, then EIA and, if applicable, assessment under Habitats Directive</p>

## Permit-granting process: deadlines and duration

	In go-to areas	Outside go-to areas	Solar energy on artificial structures
Start of the permit-granting process	Date of the acknowledgement of the validity of the application by the competent authority (completeness)		
Duration (max.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 year</li> <li>6 months (&lt; 150 kW, storage, Repowering)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 years</li> <li>1 year (Repowering)</li> </ul>	3 months
Period may be extended by	up to three months	up to three months	-
Lack of reply of competent authority	Specific administrative steps to be considered as approved	-	-

# **Council Regulation laying down a framework to accelerate the deployment of renewable energy (Version of 24.11.2022)**

## Overview: Content of the Emergency Regulation

Article 1a	Subject matter and scope
Article 1	Definitions
Article 2	Overriding public interest
Article 3	Accelerating the permit-granting process for the installation of solar energy equipment
Article 4	Repowering of renewable energy power plants
Article 5	Acceleration of the deployment of heat pumps
Article 5a	Timelines for the permit-granting process for the installation of solar energy equipment, the repowering of renewable energy power plants and for the deployment of heat pumps
Article 6	Entry into force and application
Article 7	Review

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RED IV content



Renewables go-to areas **not** included

# Permit-granting process

## Definition, Art. 1 (1)

### All relevant administrative permits issued to

- ▶ build, repower and operate plants for the production of energy from RES,
- ▶ including heat pumps, co-located energy storage facilities, and assets necessary for connection to the grid

### All administrative stages

- ▶ starting from the acknowledgment of the reception of the complete application
- ▶ ending with notification of final decision

## Applicability, Art. 1a(2), (3), Art. 6

- ▶ **New projects:** Permitting procedures that have a starting date within the duration of the application of the Regulation (**18 months**)
- ▶ **Ongoing permit-granting processes:** Possibility of application, provided that
  - permit-granting process is shortened and
  - pre-existing third party legal rights are preserved

## Technology specific permit-granting processes and repowering

### ▶ Solar energy equipment on artificial structures, Art. 3

- **No** environmental impact assessment
- Duration: **max. 3 months**
- Lack of reply: Permit **shall be considered as granted** within **one month** for < 50 kW (MS: lower threshold, but above 10,8 kW)

### ▶ Heat pumps, Art. 5

- Duration: < 50 MW: max. **1 month**; Ground source heat pumps: max. **3 months**
- **Permit** for grid connection **must** be granted in certain constellations

- ▶ MS may **exclude** certain areas or structures

### Repowering of RES plants, Art. 4

#### ▶ In general:

- Duration: **max. 6 months** including environmental assessments
- **Environmental impact assessment** limited to „potential significant impacts” compared to original project

- ▶ **Repowering of solar installations: no EIA** if no additional space is used and complies with mitigation measures established for original project

- ▶ **Grid connection:** Duration **max. 3 months** (if capacity increase does not exceed 15 %)

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