Renewables permitting is still too slow. Good rules are in place – it's time to finally deliver.

To meet our 2030 climate and energy targets, the EU must more than double its installed renewable capacity, reaching 750 GW of solar and 425 GW of wind. But deployment is falling short. Permitting remains one of the biggest barriers. This undermines EU competitiveness and energy security.

The rules are in place. The Renewable Energy Directive (REDIII) provides the right tools to accelerate RES deployment. Yet Member States missed the June 2024 deadline for implementation, prompting infringement procedures from the Commission. One year later implementation is still not up to par. Instead of simplifying permitting, many Governments have created new layers of complexity, delay and legal uncertainty. Reforms often remain theoretical, poorly enforced or overinterpreted resulting in little real-world impact. Meanwhile, the Emergency Regulation expires on 30 June, risking legal uncertainty where REDIII remains unimplemented. This must change.

- Effective implementation must now be the focus. Member States must move beyond formal transposition to ensure robust enforcement, sufficient administrative capacity and the tools to make it happen. Clear implementation builds speed, transparency and trust to accelerate deployment without compromising quality or public acceptance.
- Permitting has to be fast, digital and streamlined. National Governments and permitting authorities must enforce time limits. Parallel permitting, tacit approval, and proper application of Overriding Public Interest need to be applied. Renewables Acceleration Areas, if introduced, must live up to their name. Grid and storage permitting needs the same urgency. One-stop shops should be digitalised and based on proven solutions such as EasyPermits, not reinvented from scratch.
- At the same time simplification must not mean deregulation. We must prioritise implementation of existing rules over reopening essential legislation. This is not the time for new laws. It's time to deliver on what has already been agreed. Without decisive implementation, Europe risks missing its targets and losing its clean energy momentum.

Tomorrow Energy Commissioner Dan Jørgensen is hosting an Implementation Dialogue on permitting. In that light we urge the European Commission and Member States to:

- 1. Ensure the full, timely and practical transposition of REDIII, including streamlined permitting for renewables, grids, storage, and flexibility assets.
- 2. Maintain stability by avoiding the reopening of existing EU laws like REDIII and the Birds & Habitats Directives, which risks undermining investor confidence and public acceptance at a time when the sector needs stability. Simplification must not become deregulation.
- 3. Go beyond legal transposition by enforcing effective implementation and supporting Member States, including with clear guidance on Overriding Public Interest, better knowledge-sharing, and dedicated funding for capacity building and tools.





