

European Power

From Negative to Notable:
The rise of the summer price risk

Nathalie Gerl

March 26th, 2026

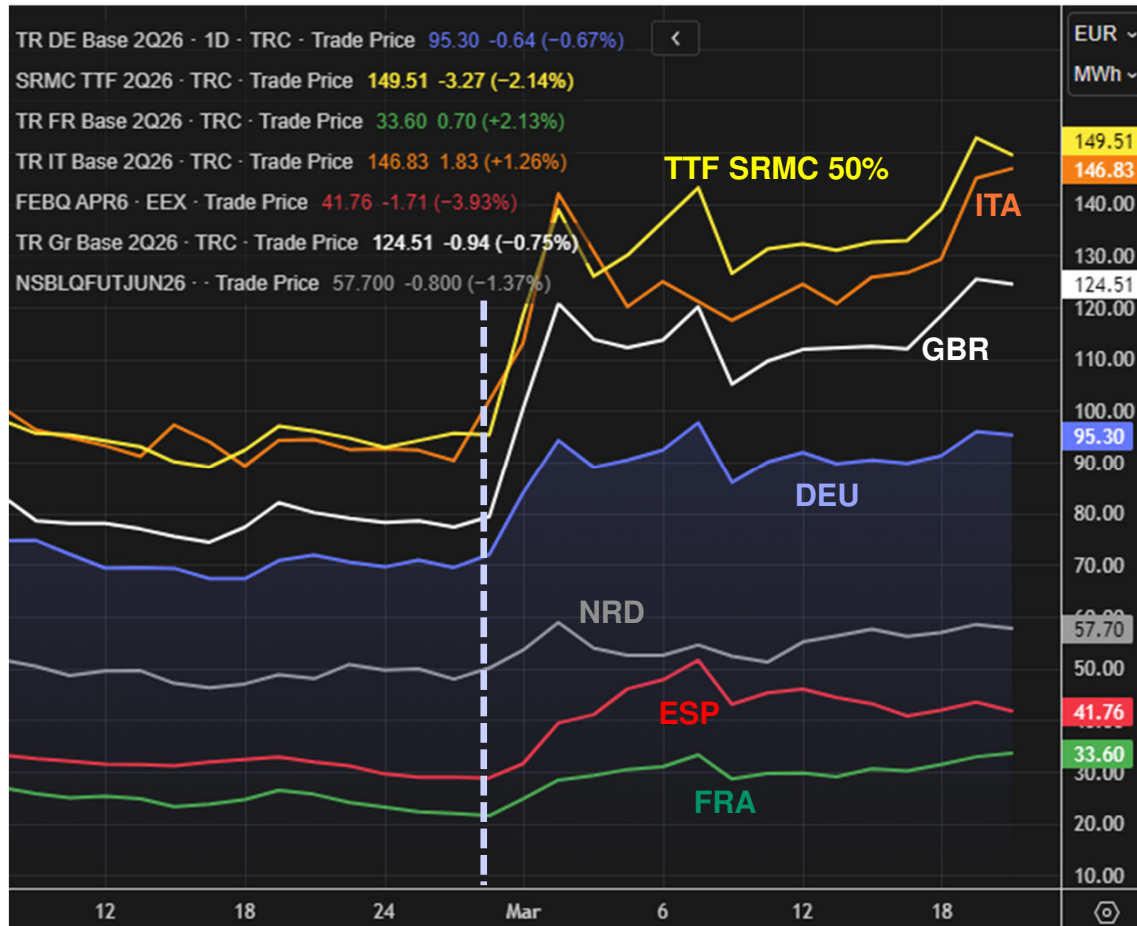
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Q2 evolution in different countries

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Opening prices of Mon 23rd March



Evolution of Q2 power futures contracts since the beginning of the war (28th Feb):

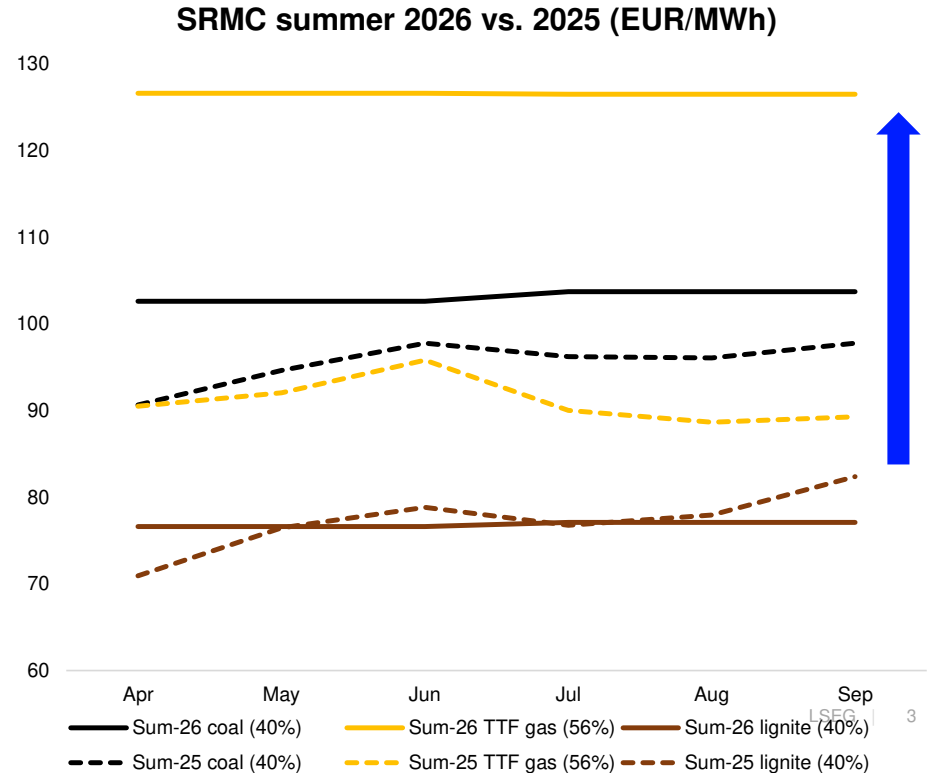
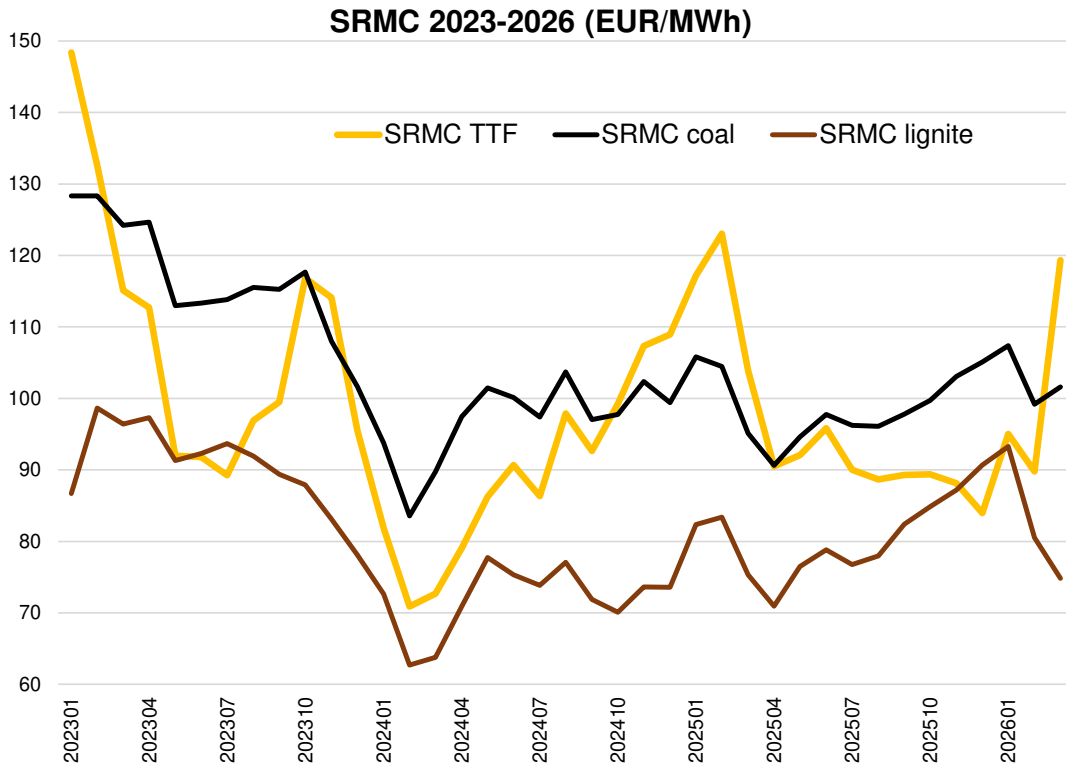
- TTF SRMC medium efficiency (50%) up ~ 55 EUR/MWh
- ITA Q2 up 50 EUR/MWh
- GBR Q2 up 45 EUR/MWh
- DEU Q2 up 25 EUR/MWh
- ESP Q2 up 15 EUR/MWh
- FRA Q2 up 12.5 EUR/MWh
- NRD Q2 up 7.5 EUR/MWh (partially compensated by slight hydro balance increase)

hours with gas at margin differs heavily!

Generation costs (Mar 25th)

Current gas price rally pushes gas short run marginal cost (SRMC) above lignite & hard coal

Front month gas SRMC of 56% efficient plant jumped from 89 €/MWh in Feb-26 to **127 €/MWh**

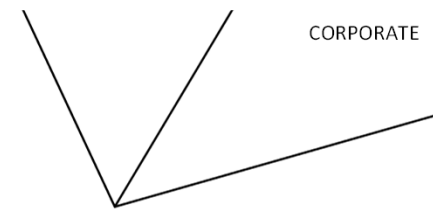


Gas generation costs by far lower than in Summer 2022

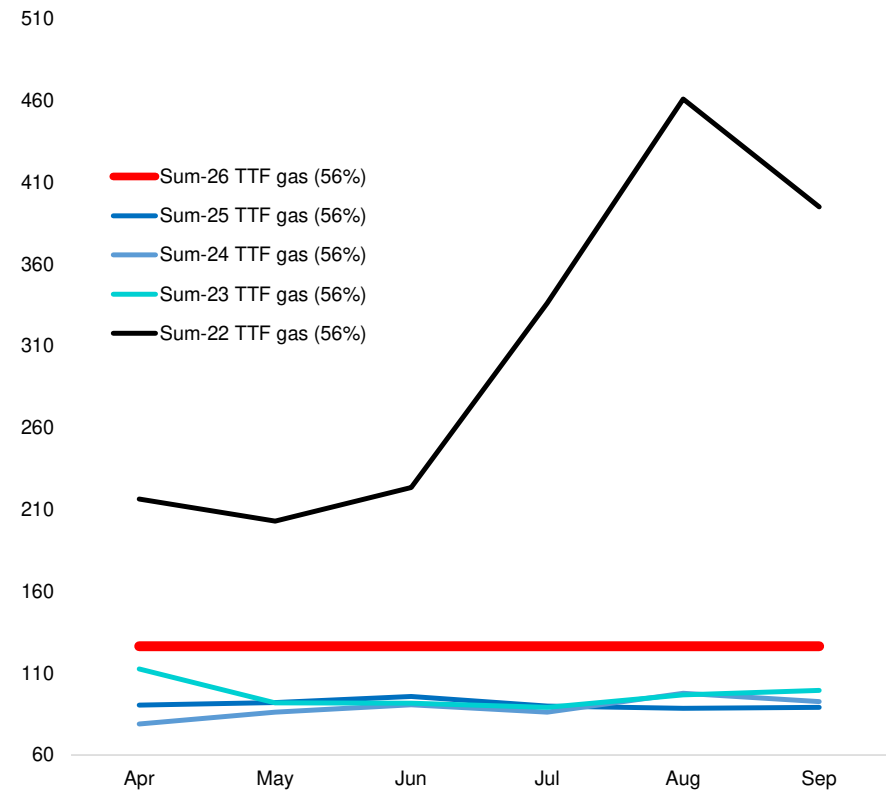
Further direction of the gas market: ?

- European Storage re-filling under highly uncertain Middle Eastern LNG supply
- LSEG Gas & LNG Summer Outlook on Thursday:

Webinar
SUM26 European Gas and LNG Market Outlook
March 26 | 3:00 PM GMT
Register now
LSEG DATA & ANALYTICS



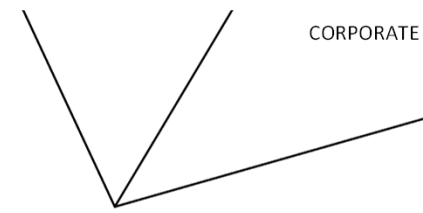
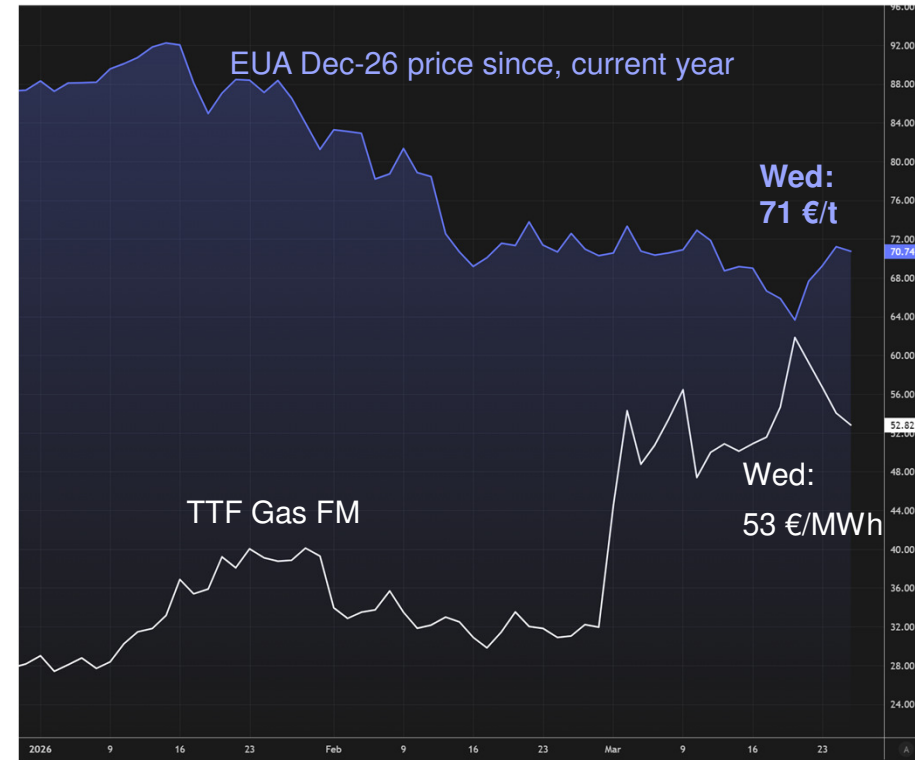
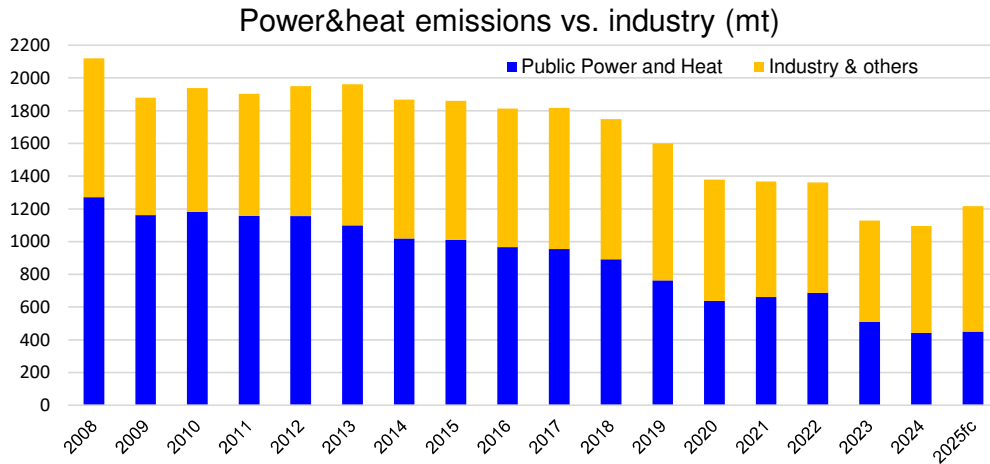
SRMC summer 2022-2026 (EUR/MWh)



EUA Carbon: Opposing drivers

EU-ETS review in summer expected to cause news-driven volatility

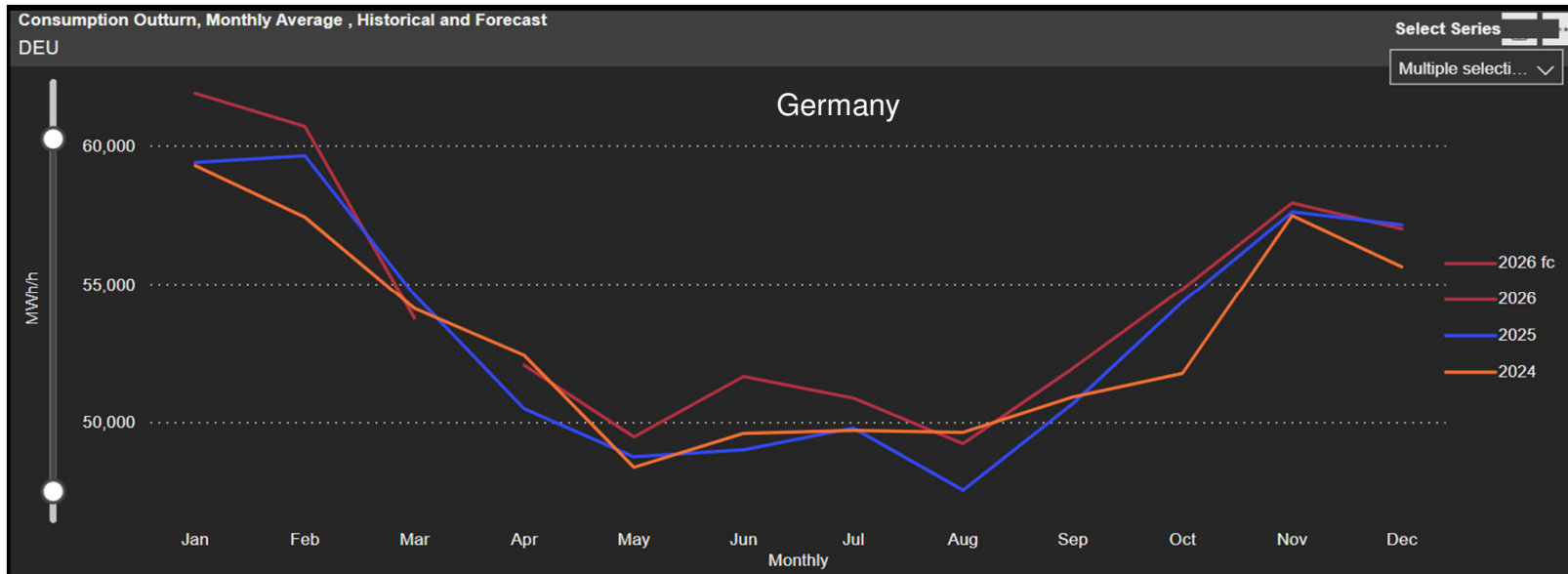
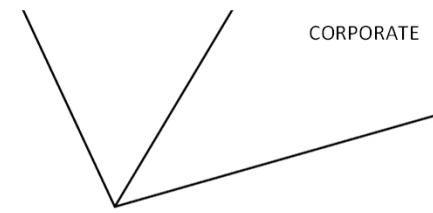
- Gas-to-coal switching should be driving more hedging demand for carbon certificates
- Dominant factors for the EUA in the present: Gloomy industrial emission forecast and political pressure to weaken the ETS
- Power & heat emissions' share of EU-ETS1: <40%
- Lower EUA giving additional **cost advantage for coal & lignite generation**



Consumption

Moderate growth driven by electrification

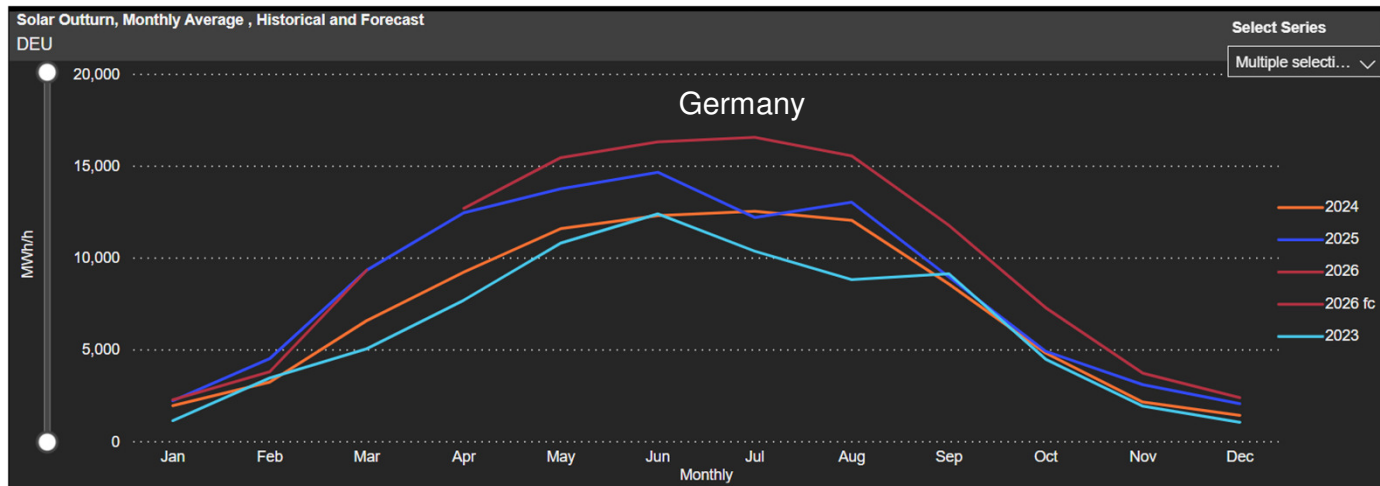
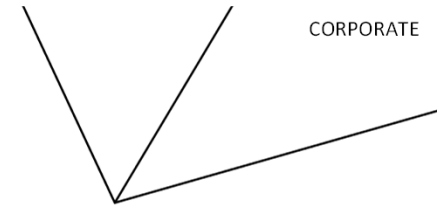
- 2026 growth expectations: moderate increase by 1.3% for 2026



Solar

Forecast refers to generation potential

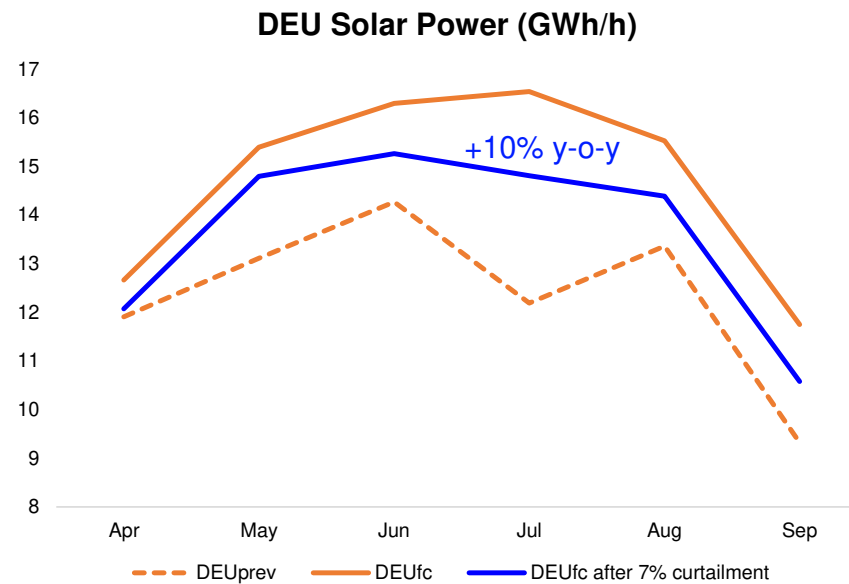
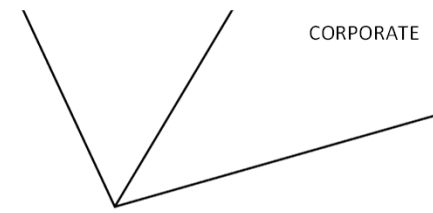
- Our summer 2026 forecast is based on EC46+average weather 1991-2020
- Solar capacity growth Summer-on-summer: +12%
- Solar generation potential would lead to +19%
- However, solar & wind **curtailment expected and considered in our price model**
- Sum-25 curtailment of solar ~7% in Germany



Solar Curtailment

Forecast refers to generation potential

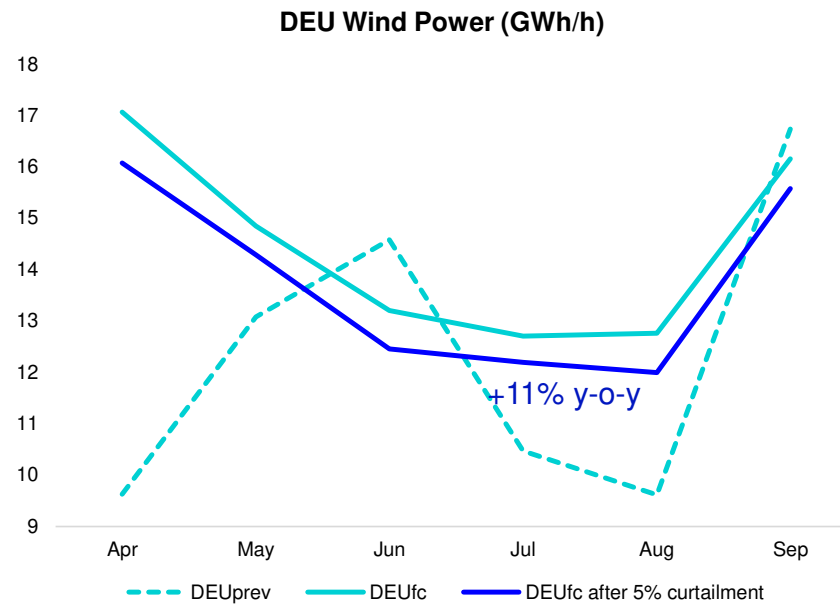
- Sum-25 curtailment of solar ~7% in Germany
- Applying the 2025 monthly curtailment rates in on our 2026 forecast shows a more realistic prediction
- We still expect y-o-y solar generation growth



Wind Curtailment

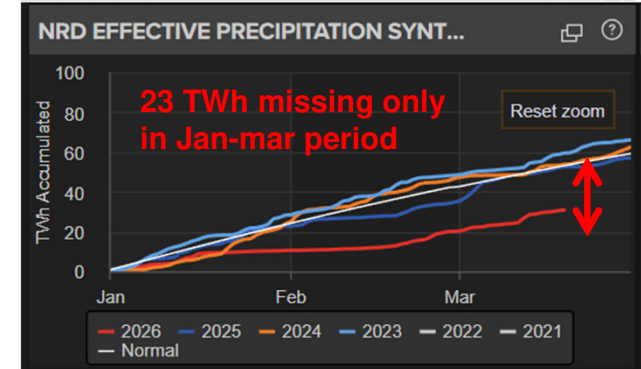
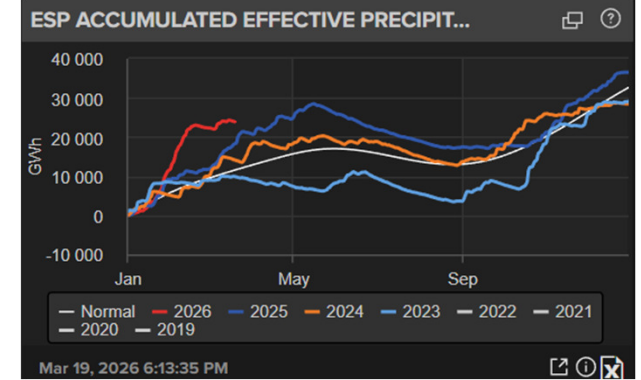
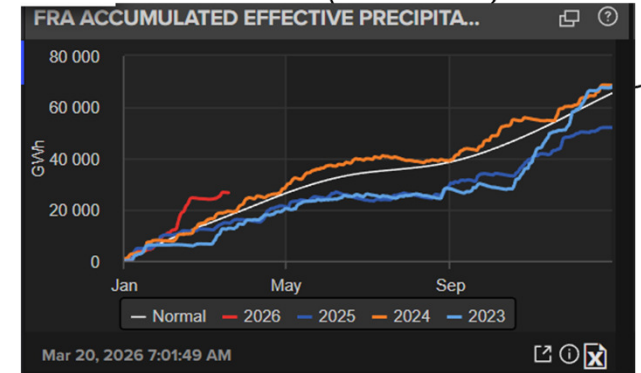
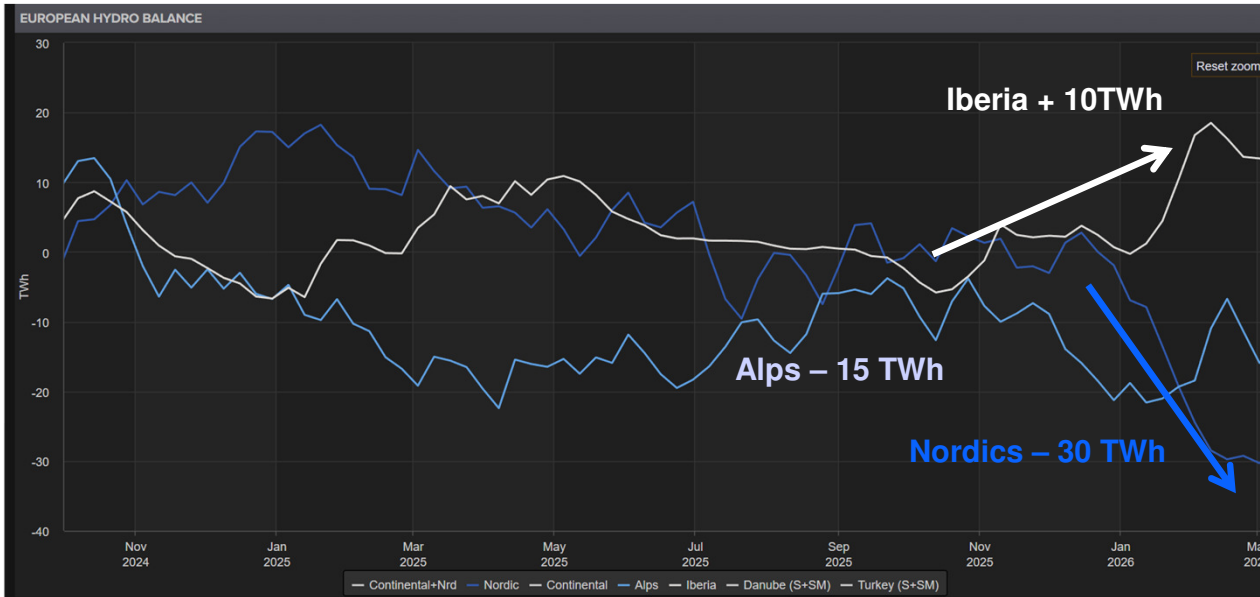
Forecast refers to generation potential

- Sum-25 curtailment of wind ~5% in Germany
- Applying the 2025 monthly curtailment rates in on our 2026 forecast shows a more realistic prediction
- We still expect y-o-y wind generation growth



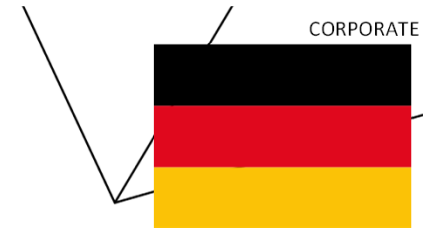
Hydrological Situation in Europe

- **Pyrenees:** strongest snowpack in 10y – extremely high hydro power in Spain
- **Alps:** below normal hydro balance – driest in the east (Austria), closer to normal in France
- **Nordics:** very rapid deterioration in Q1-26 – lowest in 15y! (especially in southern Norway)

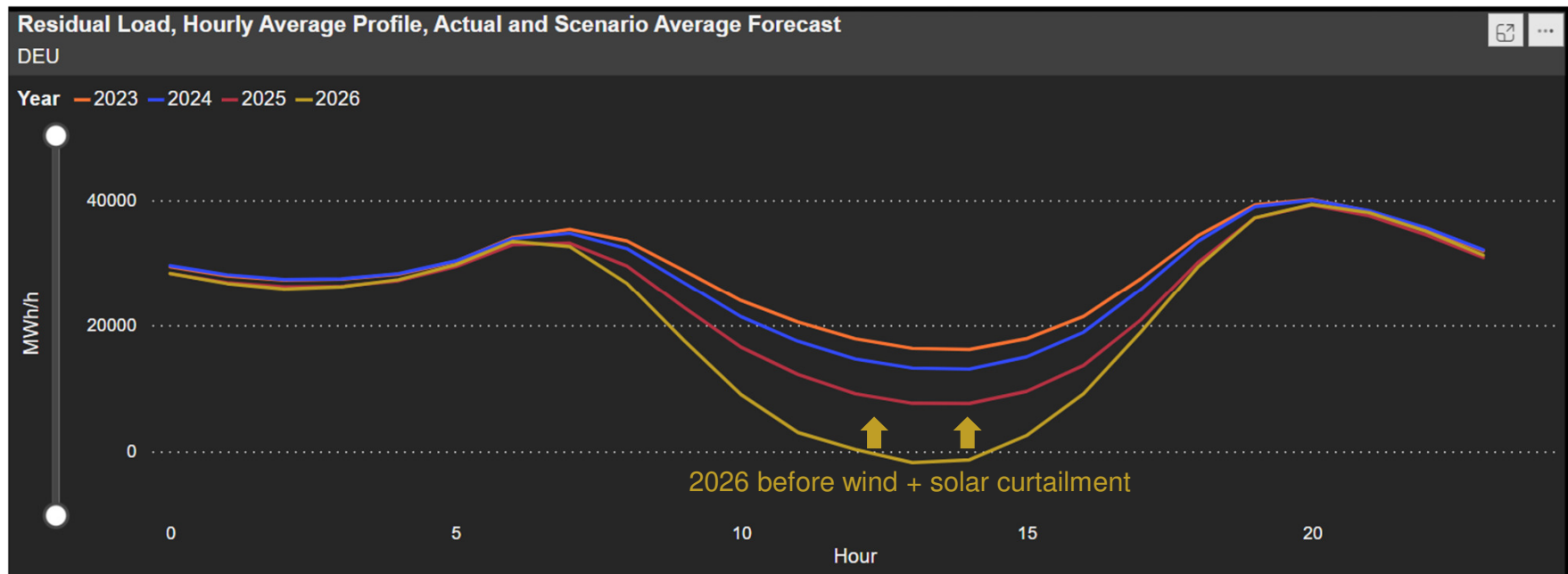


DEU Residual Demand

German consumption growth does not prevent the continued residual demand drop



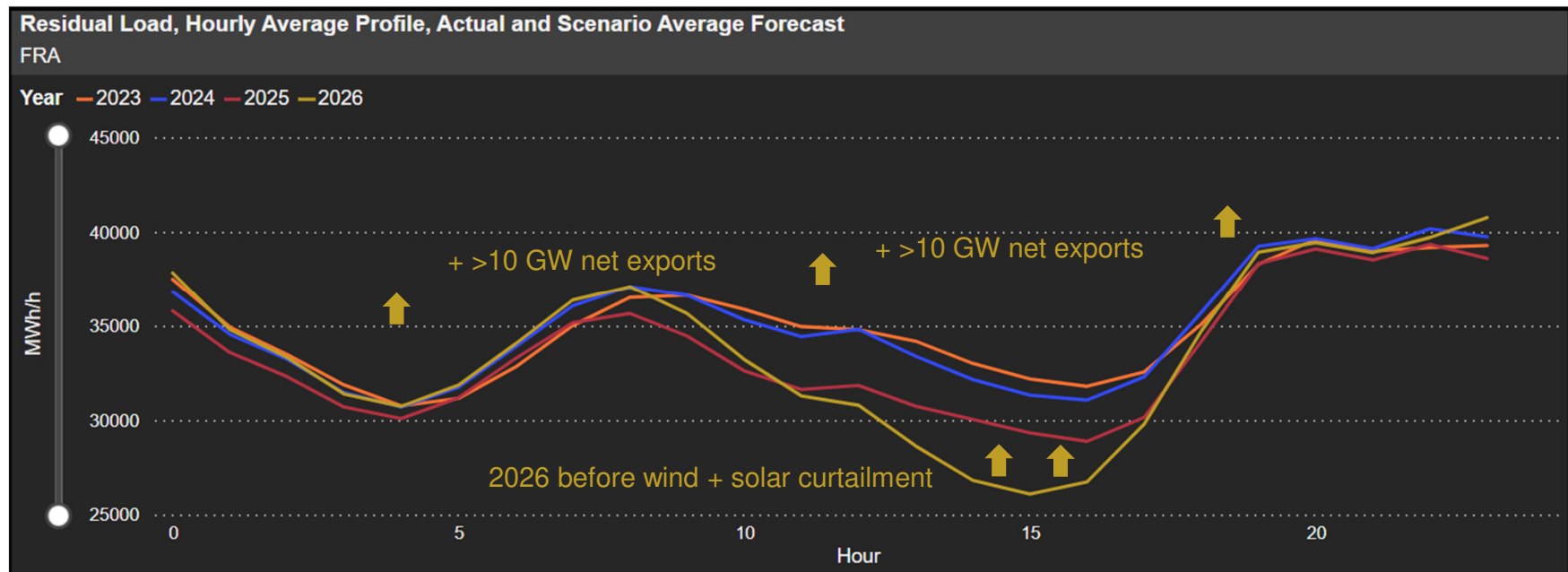
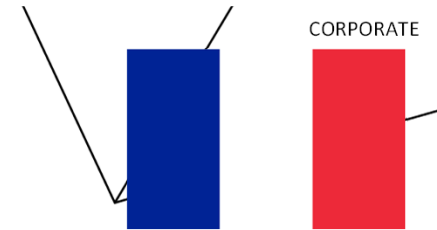
- 2026 before curtailment of wind and solar
- Even after curtailment midday hours average close to zero in Apr-Sep → raise potential for negative hours



FRA Residual Demand

French solar continues putting pressure on hour 12-16

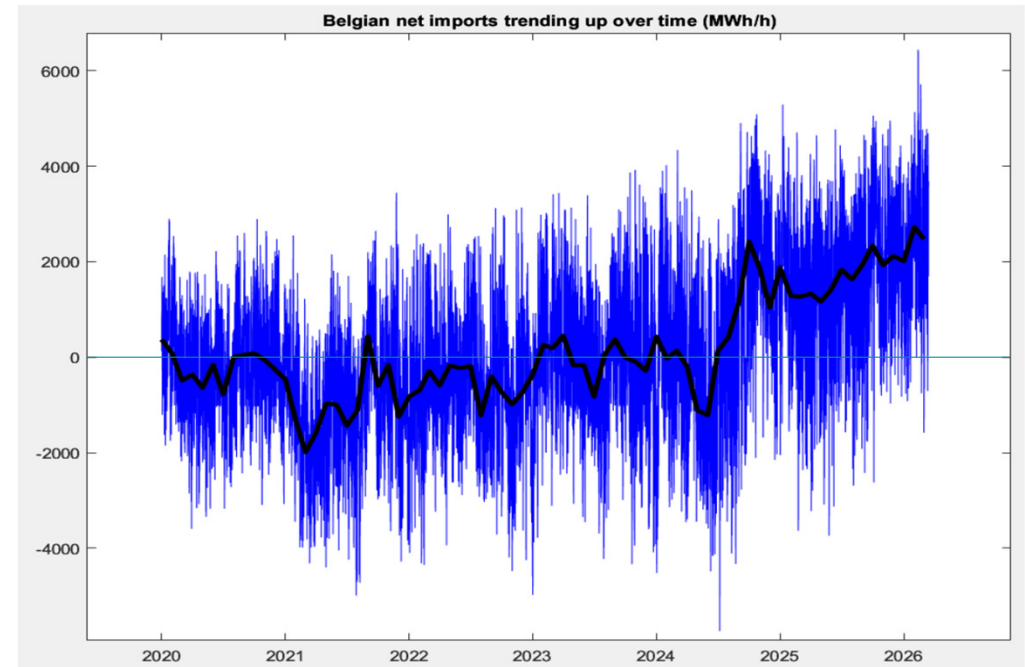
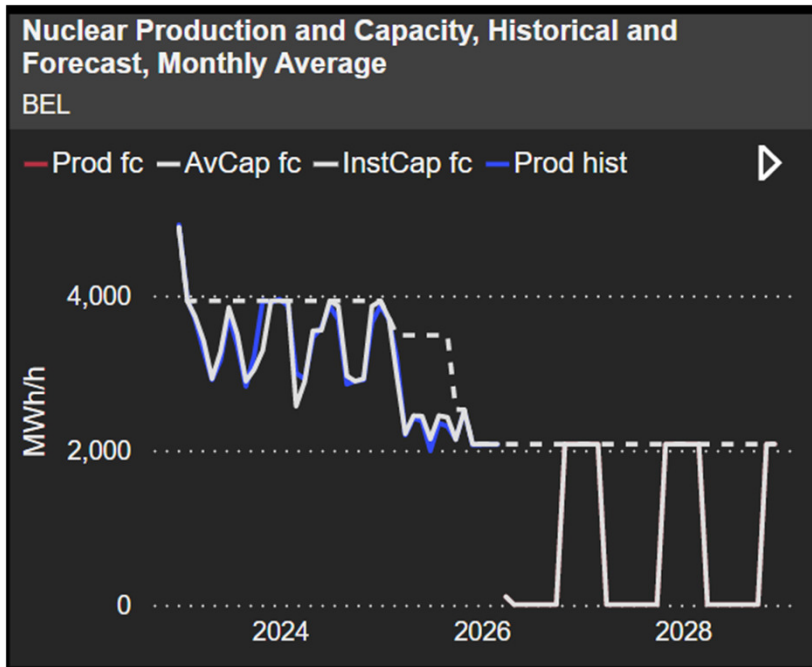
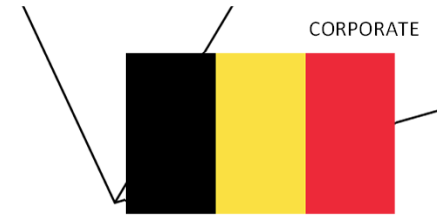
- Averaging close to **25 GW in hour 13-16**
- 25 GW ~must-run level of inflexible nuclear and hydro → raises potential for negative hours
- However, avg **net exports of > 10 GW** allow for less modulation of French nuclear & hydro



Belgium: Full nuclear maintenance

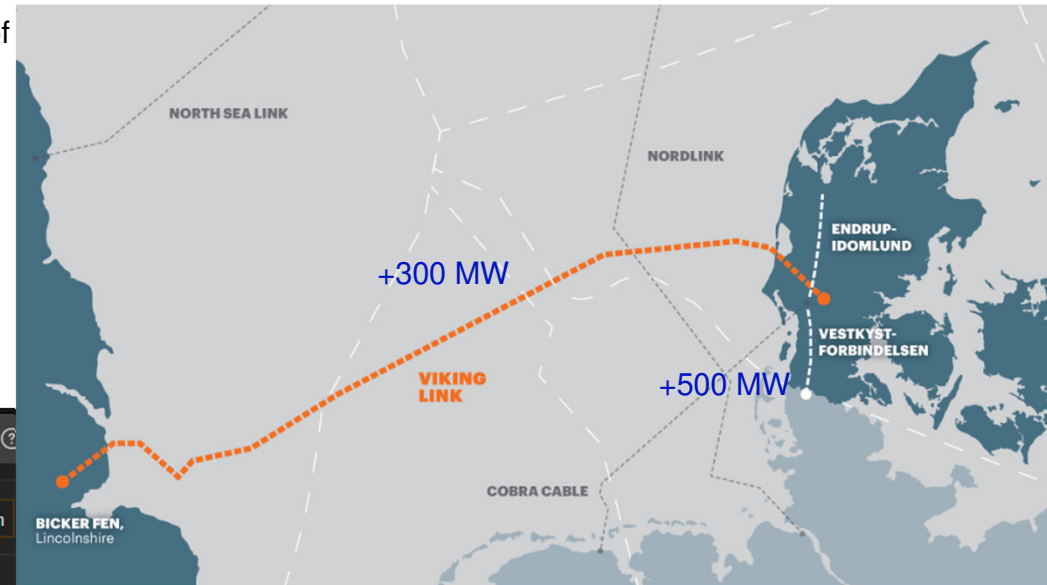
Expect even higher Belgian net imports

- Full outage for the next three summers
- **2 GWh/h = 9 TWh** of Belgian nuclear potential missing this summer
- However, Belgium has a quite well interconnected system and can cover more than 50% of peak summer demand with imports



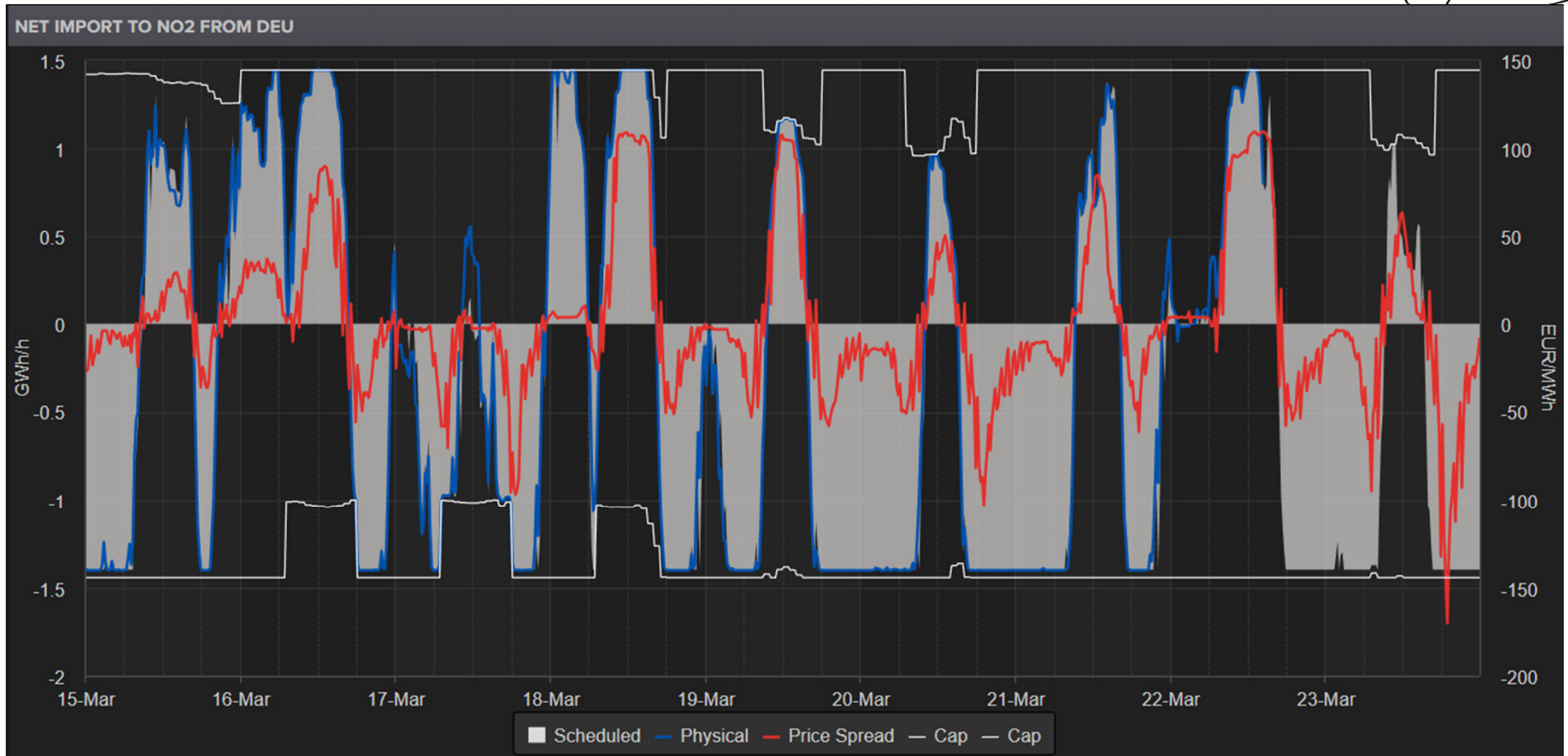
SDDP Scenario: The impact of WestCoast Link and Viking link phase 2 on NRD summer prices is minimal

- WestCoast Link (Vestkystforbindelsen) is due for completion 15th of April, which increases the transmission capacity between
 - DK1 and DEU with **500 MW**
 - DK1 and GBR with **300 MW**
- Can expect an even **tighter coupling between DK1 and DEU**
- The impact on the rest of the Nordic prices is limited



*Data from 19th of March

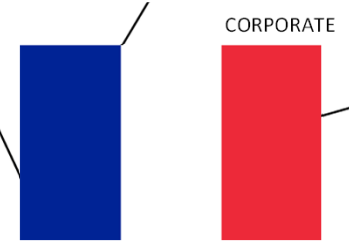
Nordic power flows: NO2 to DEU



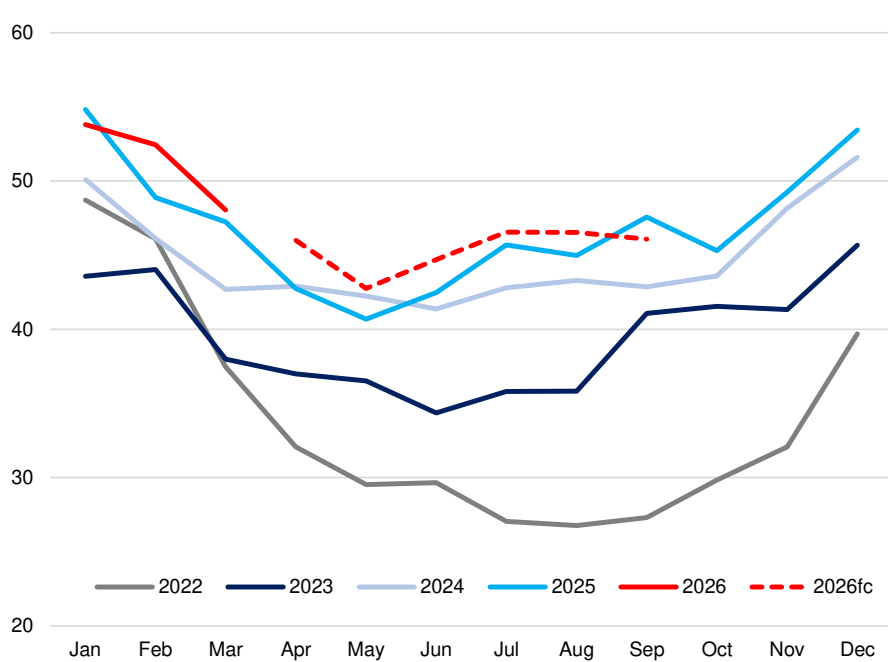
Healthy French nuclear availability – increasing modulation (fc Mar 20th)

Healthy French nuclear availability with Flamanville 3 fully online

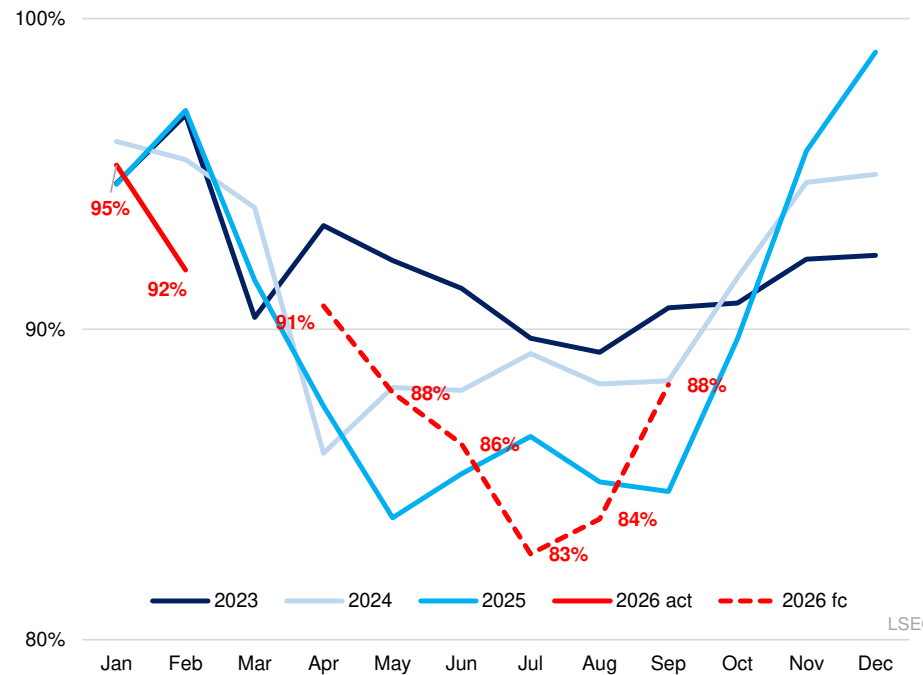
- Generation **Sum-26: 172 TWh**, vs. 165 in Sum-25 & Sum-24
- +7 TWh largely compensate the “missing” 9 TWh of nuclear generation in Belgium
- Nuclear modulation (declining load factors) like last summer



FRA nuclear availability (GW)

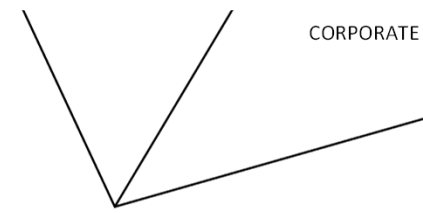


French nuclear: Load factors (%)

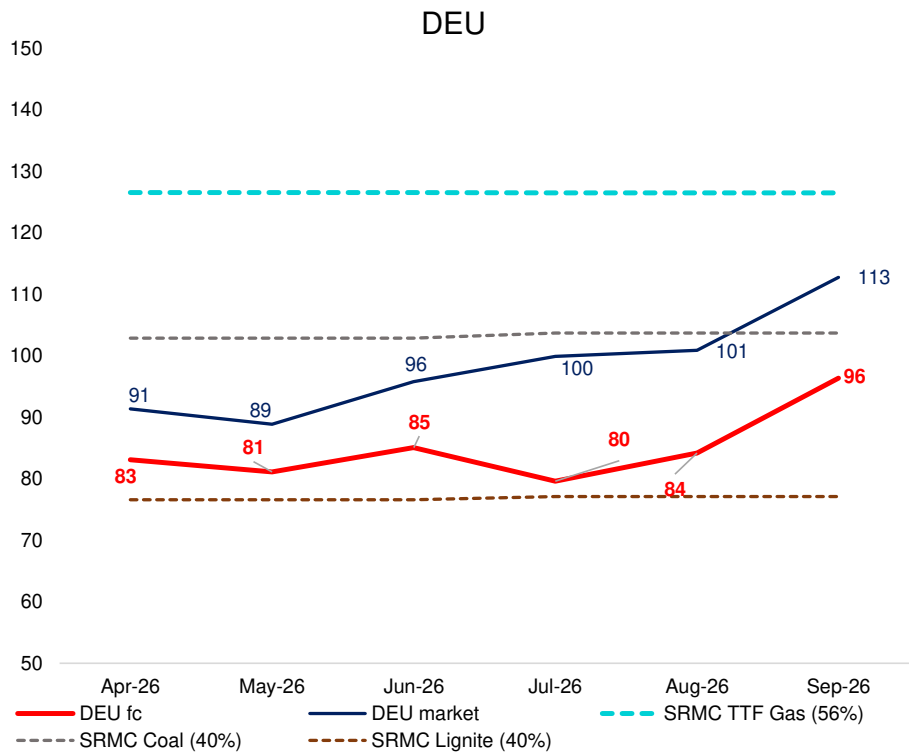


Price Forecast (Mar 25th)

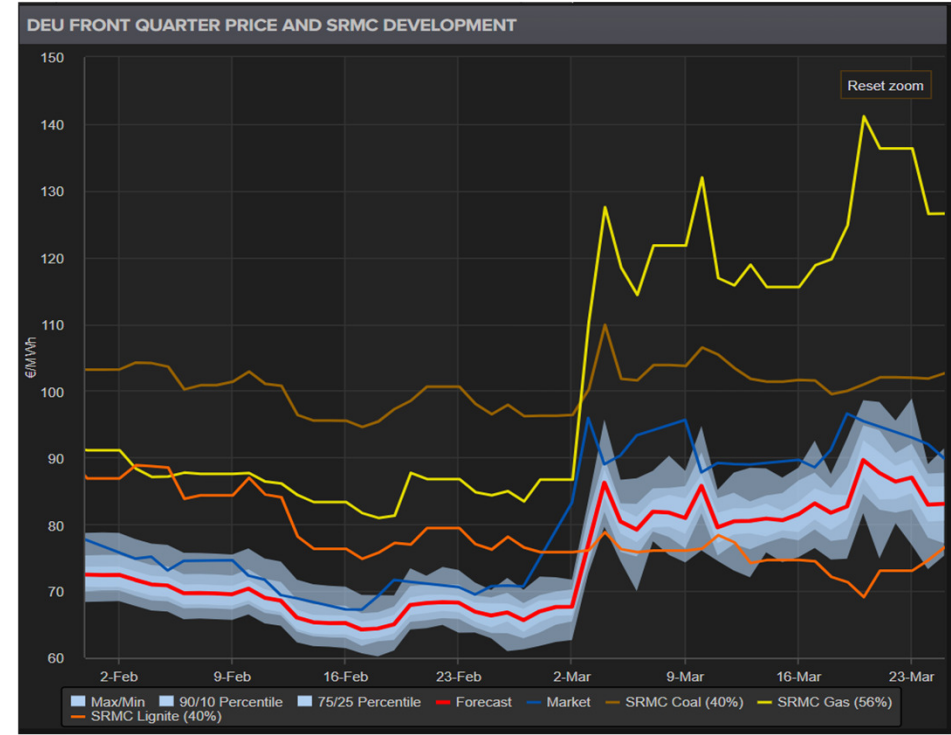
Underlying TTF Gas: 54.4 €/MWh



Bearish compared to current market valuation

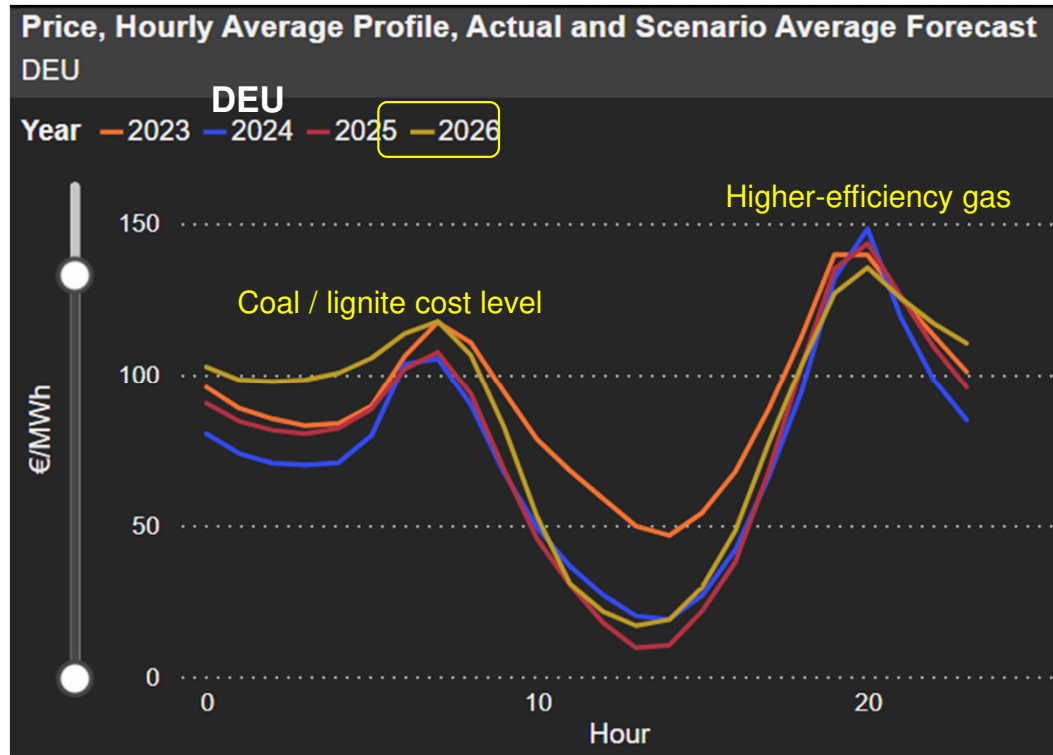
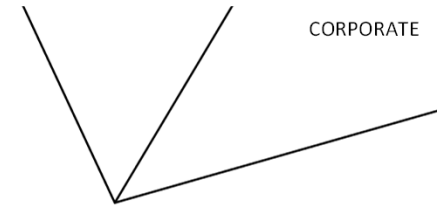


Our forecast is updated every day with the last traded fuels & carbon prices. Since the start of the War in Iran our fundamental forecast has risen, but somewhat less than the market price.



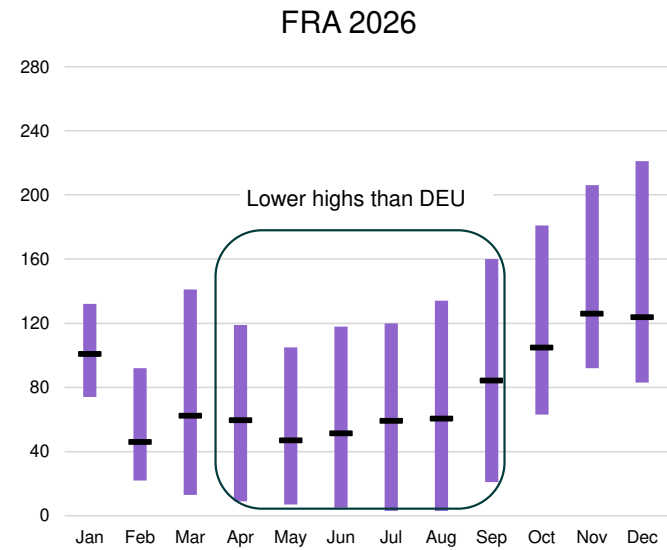
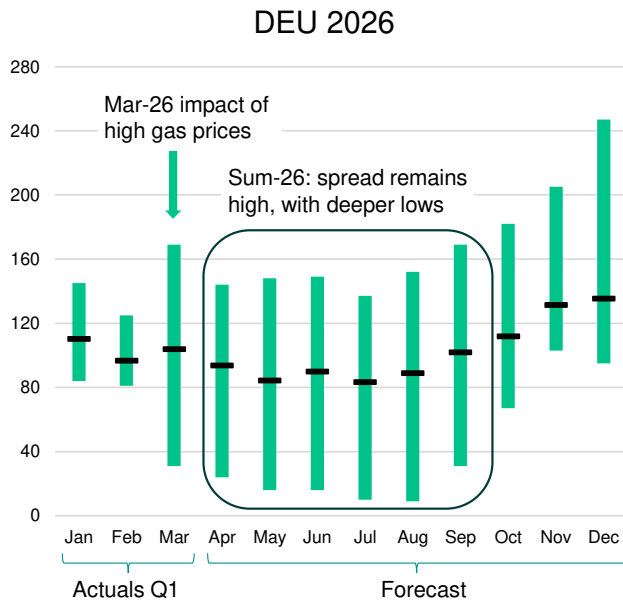
Average daily price profile Apr-Sep

Growing High-Low range



Average daily price profile: High-Low spreads

- March 2026 daily profiles have wide range and we will continue to see large H-L spread in the summer

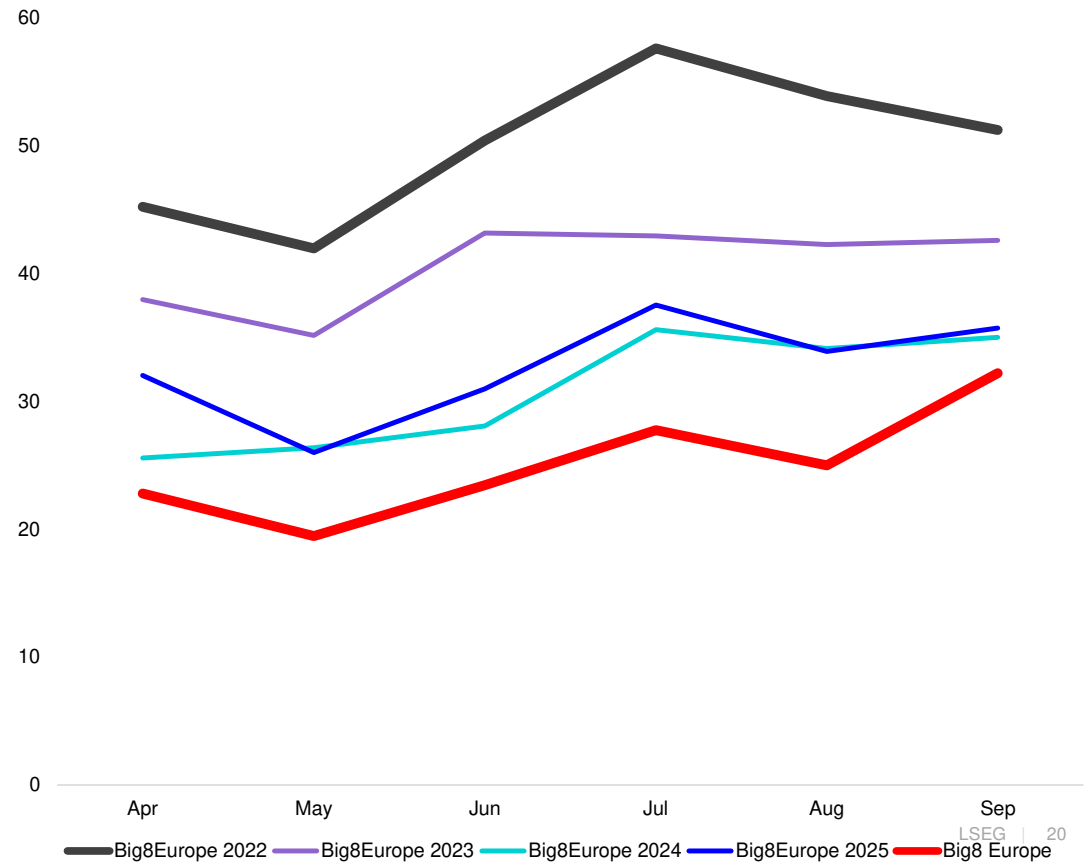


Gas-fired generation

Gas-fired generation expected to respond to higher gas price

- **23% lower gas-fired generation** compared to Sum-25
- Despite much higher gas costs in 2022, the reliance on gas-fired power was much higher:
 - French nuclear power crisis
 - Dry hydro year
 - Much lower renewable capacity than today
 - Power demand destruction since late 2022

Summer gas generation Big8Europe (GWh/h)

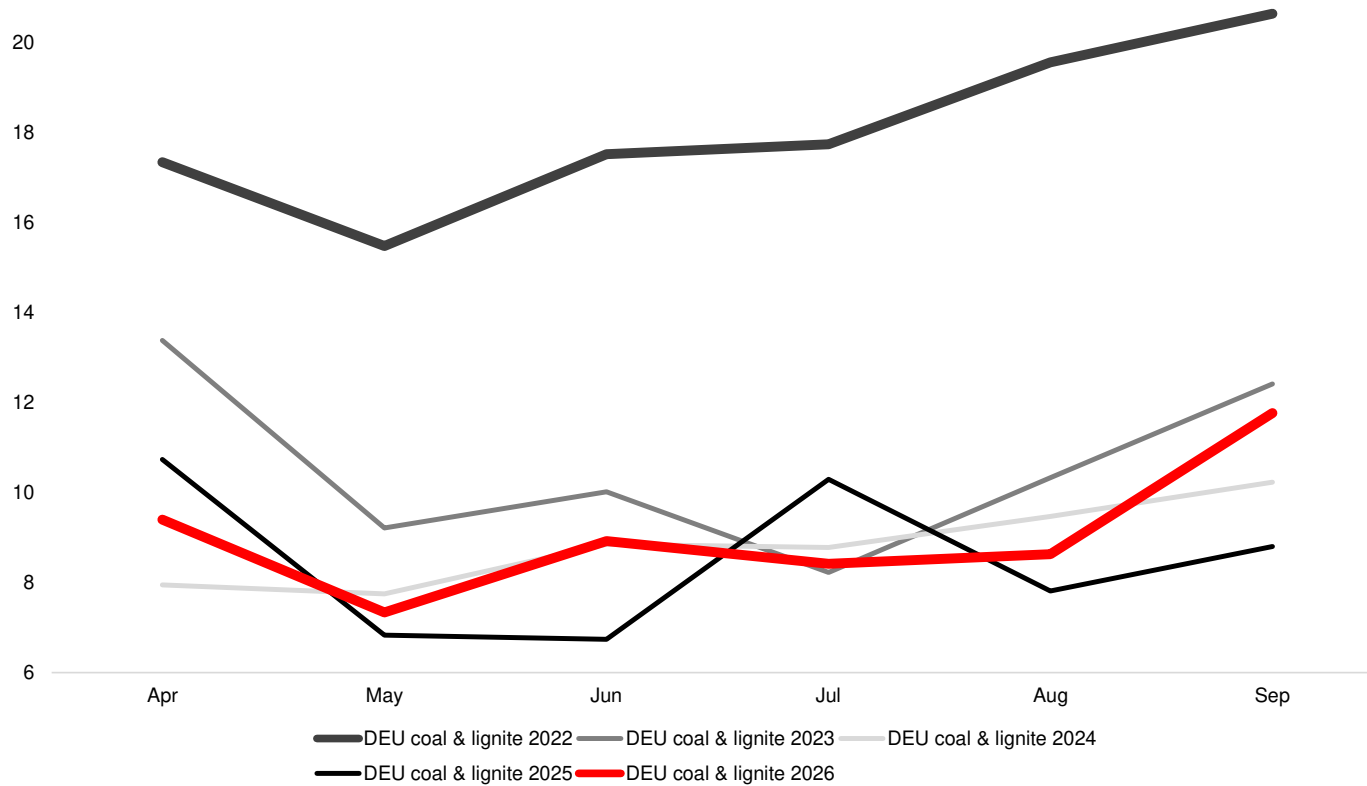


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Coal and lignite generation in Germany

Fuel switching in Germany does raises overall coal & lignite generation by 6% compared to last summer. However, coal firing is far below Sum-22 levels.

DEU Coal & Lignite generation (GWh/h)



Gas Price scenarios

Variation of gas price by +/- 10% 20% 30%

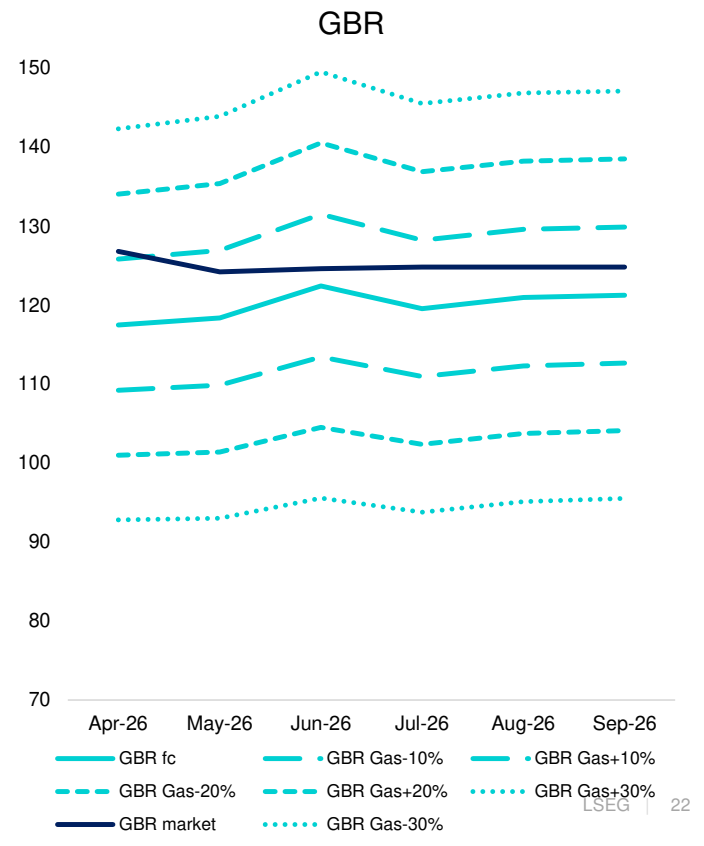
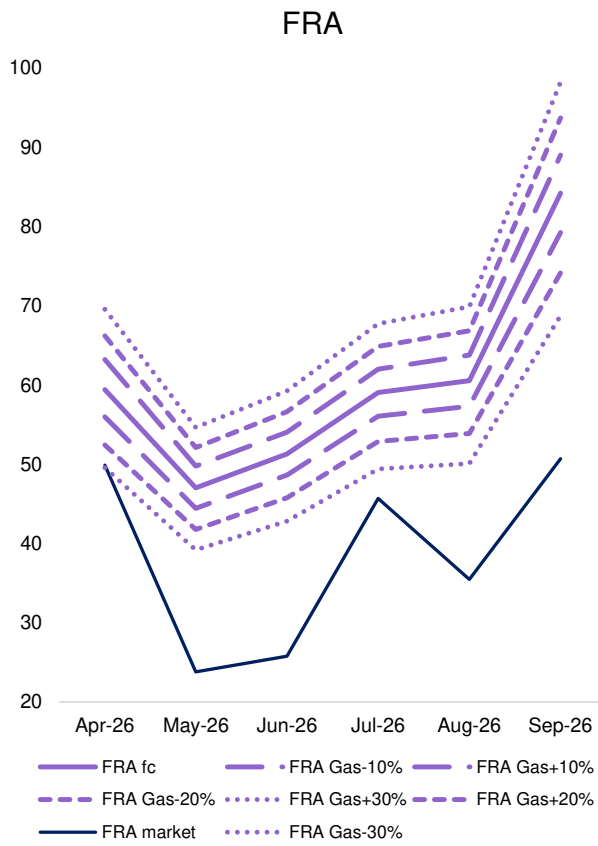
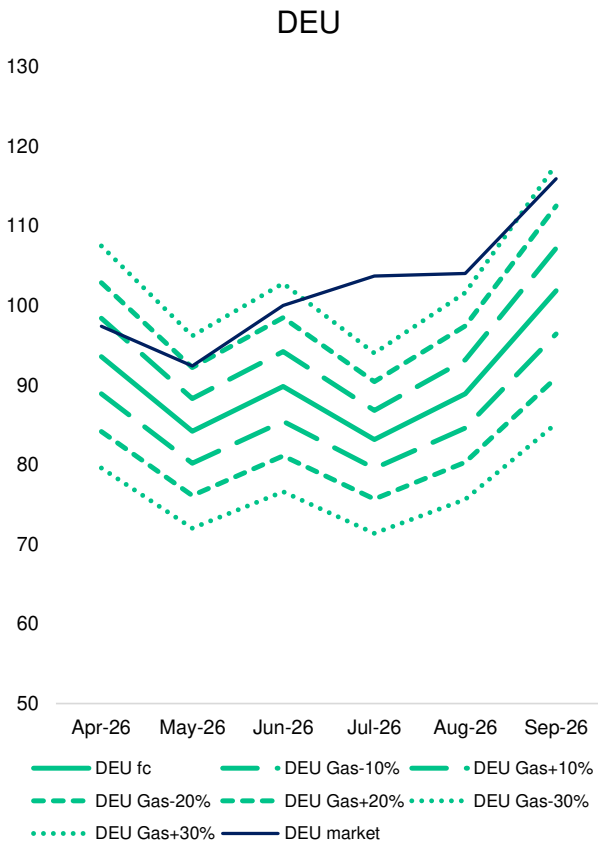
Fist rule:

+/-10% gas price

→ +/-5% DEU/FRA

→ +/-7% GBR

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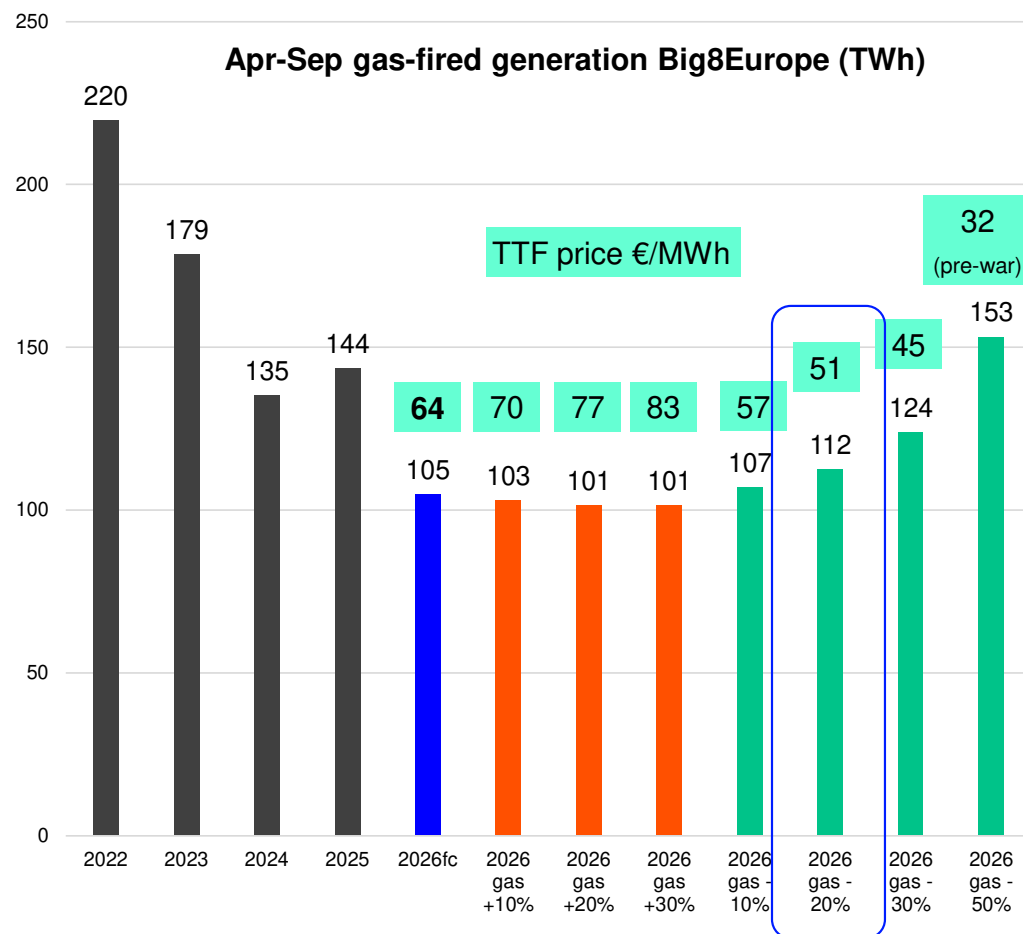


Gas Price scenarios

How would gas-fired generation outlook respond to gas price variations

- At the base case **Sum-26 gas price level ~64 €/MWh** there is very little fuel switching room left
- Even with strong gas price increase gas-to-power will not drop further. **The power sector cannot contribute any further to regulating European gas demand**
- Gas plants are largely out of the money: gas price could fall 20% without inducing too much gas-to-power rebound
- **Gas burn would start returning** from -30% (TTF dropping below 45 €/MWh)
- “-50% gas” is the “**pre-war**” scenario (TTF 32 €/MWh), for which we would have seen gas generation higher than last summer and **minimal hard coal generation**

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Underlying EUA Carbon: 63 €/t (Mar 20th)



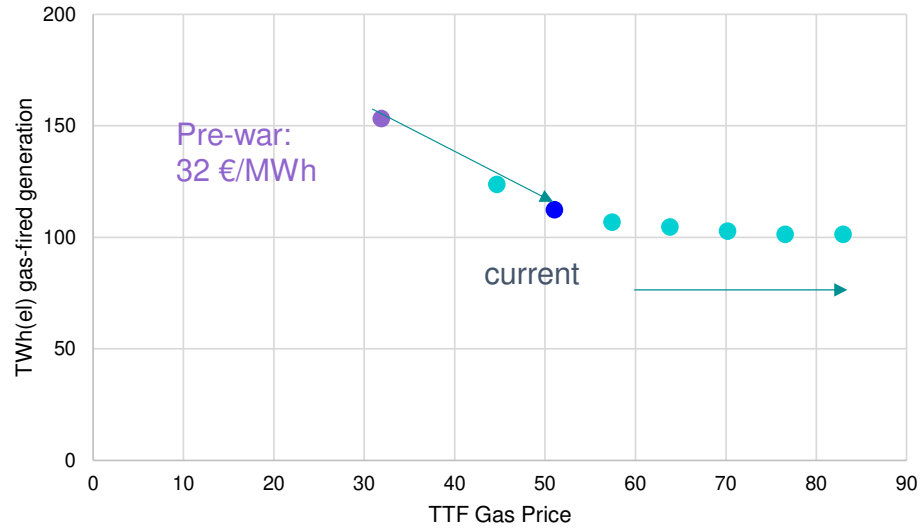
Gas Price scenarios

How would gas-fired generation outlook respond to gas price variations

- Gas generation turns inelastic from TTF Gas > 60 €/MWh

Underlying EUA Carbon: 63 €/t
(Mar 20th)

Summer 2026: TWh gas-fired generation Big8 Europe vs TTF gas price



Thank you

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