



CWaPE
Commission
Wallonne
pour l'Energie

FULL DAY EVENT OF APRIL 4TH 2019

PILOT PROJECTS IN WALLONIA – A NEW STORY TO BE WRITTEN

Presented by Thierry COLLADO



PLAN

1. WHY PILOT PROJECTS ?
2. THE CONCEPT OF PILOT PROJECTS IN REGULATION
3. THE TWO FIRST OFFICIAL PILOT PROJECTS
4. TO CONCLUDE...

1. WHY PILOT PROJECTS ?

WHICH PURPOSE ?

- Anticipate a new concept discussed at European level
- Explore new and alternative ways to promote and develop RES
- Stimulate research in new technologies / methods (i.e. artificial intelligence)

- Study how to achieve these objectives while preserving the balance of the whole system
- Study how to eventually change the rules for the future
- Sometimes these studies need operational implementation

BUT : regulatory barriers may prevent tests from being carried out in practice

1. WHY PILOT PROJECTS ?

1ST EXAMPLE OF BARRIER : GRID ACCESS

Current rules for the grid-access are defined in « electricity decree » (art.26§1) :

- Access to the grid is regulated. Producers, suppliers and eligible customers have an access at published tariffs.
- The end-customers is only allowed to be provided by a grid operated by a DSO/TSO, except in three described cases :
 - An historical or authorised professional close distribution system
 - An authorised private distribution system
 - An authorised direct line
- These cases are well defined exceptions. They are strictly determined by the decree.

BUT : unfortunately the two projects didn't meet these conditions

1. WHY PILOT PROJECTS ?

2ND EXAMPLE OF BARRIER : MARKET MODEL

- Each supply operation (sales transaction) must be covered by a license
- Self-consumption is allowed BUT only for oneself
- Unbundling between market players/suppliers and DSO

BUT : both projects propose collective self-consumption and a (market) role for DSO

1. WHY PILOT PROJECTS ?

3RD EXAMPLE OF BARRIER : EQUITY AND SOLIDARITY IN TARIFF DESIGN

- Tariffs must ensure a transparent and fair contribution of the end-customer to grid costs and taxes or charges
- Tariffs must be uniform on a DSO-area

BUT : both projects involve differentiated conditions and may involve local positive discriminations

2. THE CONCEPT OF PILOT PROJECT IN REGULATION DECREE « TARIFFS » (19TH JAN 2017 + 17TH JULY 2018)

Art 21 :

⇒ The CWaPE may adopt specific market rules and tariff rules :

- for a limited period of time ;
- for defined geographical or electrical area ;
- specifically developed for the implementation of innovative pilot projects *as referred to art.27 of « electricity decree » or « gas decree »* ;
- and in particular for the development of solutions to the problem of connection of decentralized productions to distribution networks.



2. THE CONCEPT OF PILOT PROJECT IN REGULATION DECREES « ELECTRICITY » AND « GAS » (17TH JULY 2018)

⇒ Amending art. 26 by adding a fourth exception to provide an end-user : a pilot project, authorized by the CWaPE

⇒ New art.27 :

The CWaPE may authorise development of pilot projects :

- Constituting an alternative network to public grid operated by public SO
- To test the generalization of a new pricing principle for distribution networks
- According to 7 non-exhaustive requirements

2. THE CONCEPT OF PILOT PROJECT IN REGULATION

REQUIREMENTS FOR A PILOT PROJECT (ART.27)

To be authorized, a pilot project must meet 7 non-exhaustive requirements :

- 1 ° to study the implementation of optimal technological solutions (especially : energy efficiency, flexibility demand, optimization of decentralized production and promotion of local self-consumption and short loops) ;
- 2 ° to be innovative;
- 3 ° doesn't have as effect or aim to derogate from the obligations imposed to market players, unless it is demonstrated that it is necessary for the project ;
- 4 ° doesn't have as main objective for the participants of the pilot project to avoid completely or partially all kind of taxes and charges they would be liable if they were not within the scope of the pilot project ;
- 5 ° to be reproducible to the entire Walloon market in a non-discriminatory way ;
- 6 ° to ensure the publication of the results of the pilot project;
- 7 ° to be limited in time and not exceed five years.

3. THE TWO FIRST OFFICIAL PILOT PROJECTS FOLLOWED PROCEDURE IN A FEW WORDS

- Since 2017 : discussions and collaboration to define the right concept and the strictly needed derogations
- Intermediate steps : conditional authorization (*E-cloud Tournai : 9th Febr 2018 ; MéryGrid : 30th May 2018*)
- Final step : full authorization according to the 7 criteria (*MéryGrid : 7th Febr 2019 ; E-cloud Tournai : 21st March 2019*)
- Contents :
 - On-field implementation during a limited period
 - Specified derogations : metering rules, market rules, specific tariffs
 - Expected results of cost-benefits analyse and feasibility study concerning generalization of concepts
 - Reporting

For further information :

MéryGrid : <https://www.cwape.be/?dir=4&news=924>

E-cloud : <https://www.cwape.be/?dir=4&news=940>

TO CONCLUDE...

WHAT DID WE LEARN UP TO NOW ?

Expectations are high, both from the market and from the project leaders

Pilot project concept opens new perspectives for innovation while securing the current framework until societal benefits are demonstrated

By definition, an exceptional regime requires a tailor-made treatment :

- need for discussion early enough to reconcile regulatory principles with specific needs of the project
- need to monitor progress during the project
- need of trust and collaboration, especially to deal with the lack of guidelines at the beginning of discussion

But what next ?

We all wish a lot of success and hope for conclusive results !



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

Presented on 04/04/2019 by Thierry COLLADO

COLLECTIVE SELF-CONSUMPTION FRAMEWORK IN WALLONIA AND IN EUROPE