

ECRB REPORT

Evaluation Report of Projects of Energy Community Interest

April 2026

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Executive Summary

This report presents the assessment of six Projects of Energy Community Interest (PECI) included in the 2024 PECI list, adopted in December 2024 under the Energy Community TEN-E framework.

Given the recent designation of these projects as PECIs, it is important to underline that most projects are at an early stage of development, and therefore progress, particularly in terms of construction, is expected at coming stage.

The evaluated portfolio includes five electricity transmission projects and one energy storage project, all of which are of strategic importance for enhancing cross-border interconnections, increasing transfer capacities, supporting renewable energy integration, and strengthening security of supply in the Energy Community.

The assessment shows that:

- Most projects are currently in conceptual, feasibility, or planning phases, with implementation timelines extending into 2028–2032.
- Activities in 2025 have primarily focused on feasibility studies, preparatory works, work around financing arrangements, and regulatory alignment, rather than construction.
- No systemic implementation delays are identified when assessed against the expected project maturity following 2024 PECI designation.

At the same time, the evaluation highlights several structural challenges that may affect timely implementation in later phases:

- Permitting and administrative procedures, particularly for cross-border infrastructure;
- Financing constraints and increasing investment costs;
- External risks, including geopolitical and security factors in case of Ukraine.

Overall, the projects are progressing broadly in line with expectations for newly designated PECIs. However, early identification and mitigation of implementation risks will be critical to ensure that projects can transition efficiently into construction phases in the coming years.

Evaluation Report

1. Regulatory background

The Regulation (EU) 2022/869 on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure is adapted and adopted by the Energy Community[1] Ministerial Council in 2023 (the EnC TEN-E Regulation)[2]. The EnC TEN-E Regulation establishes a comprehensive legal and regulatory framework for the identification, development, and monitoring of infrastructure projects of regional relevance within the Energy Community. It mirrors key principles of the EU TEN-E framework, aiming to enhance cross-border energy connectivity, security of supply, market integration, and the integration of renewable energy sources across Contracting Parties (CPs).

Following the entry into force of this framework, the Energy Community Ministerial Council adopted the first list of Projects of Energy Community Interest in December 2024. This list includes priority electricity transmission and energy storage projects considered essential for achieving regional energy policy objectives and strengthening interconnected infrastructure across the Energy Community.

Monitoring obligations are defined under Article 5 of the EnC TEN-E Regulation, which requires regular reporting on the progress of PECI projects. Project promoters are responsible for submitting an annual report detail of which are defined in paragraph 4 of Article 5. The competent authorities shall submit the respective reports and the associated information to the Energy Community Regulatory Board (ECRB). Paragraph 6 of the same Article further requires that, by 30 April of each year in which a new Energy Community list should be adopted, the ECRB shall submit to the PECI Groups a consolidated report covering projects of the PECI list falling under the competence of national regulatory authorities. This report evaluates the progress achieved, assesses expected changes in project costs, and, where appropriate, provides recommendations on how to address delays and implementation challenges.

Within this framework, the ECRB plays a central role in monitoring the implementation progress of PECI projects. Based on the data received from NRAs, the ECRB is mandated to assess project advancement, identify delays and barriers, and prepare an annual evaluation report. This report is submitted to the relevant Energy Community bodies and serves as a key instrument for

[1] www.energy-community.org. The Energy Community comprises the EU and Albania (AL), Bosnia and Herzegovina (BA), North Macedonia (MK), Georgia (GE), Kosovo* (KS), Moldova (MD), Montenegro (ME), Serbia (RS) and Ukraine (UA). Armenia, Türkiye and Norway are Observer Countries. Throughout this document the symbol * refers to the following statement: This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Advisory Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.
[2] Decision 2023/02/MC-EnC amending Annex I to the Treaty to adapt and adopt Regulation (EU) 2022/869 on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure

ensuring transparency, regulatory oversight, and the timely delivery of strategically important infrastructure projects.

2. Scope of evaluation

This report covers the PECI included in the 2024 PECI list, adopted by the Energy Community Ministerial Council through its Decision of December 2024 on the establishment of the PECI list.[3] The list was adopted pursuant to the EnC TEN-E Regulation, which defines the criteria and process for the selection and monitoring of priority energy infrastructure projects within the Energy Community.

The report encompasses six PECI projects, grouped by infrastructure category as follows:

Electricity transmission

- E01: Increasing the capacity of existing 220 kV interconnection between Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro, 220 kV OHL Trebinje–Perućica
- E08: 330 kV OHL Balti (Moldova) – Dnestrovsk HPP-2 (Ukraine)
- E07: Closing the 400 kV Albanian internal ring
- E04: Trans Balkan Corridor, Double OHL 400 kV Bajina Bašta (Serbia) – Višegrad (Bosnia and Herzegovina) / Pljevlja (Montenegro), (BA and ME sections)
- E06: Reconfiguration of 400 kV grid and new 400kV interconnection Albania-Kosovo*

Energy storage facilities

- E13: DTEK Storage (225 MW)

The report evaluates the implementation progress of these projects based on data provided by NRAs, as collected by via respective project promoter. The assessment covers key aspects defined under the EnC TEN-E framework, including implementation status, timelines, investment costs, regulatory treatment, financing structure, and delays or challenges encountered.

The scope of this report is limited to monitoring and evaluating project progress in accordance with the Article 5 of the EnC TEN-E Regulation. It does not reassess the selection, eligibility, or priority status of the projects included in the PECI list.

[3] Decision 2024/07/MC-EnC on establishment of the list of projects of Energy Community interests

3. Methodology

The assessment presented in this report is based on data collected from NRAs, which compiled and submitted information provided by project promoters in the spirit of Article 5 of the EnC TEN-E Regulation. The data collection process follows a structured reporting framework ensuring consistency and comparability across projects. To support this process, the ECRB developed a standardized reporting template, which was used by project promoters to provide the required information. This template ensures harmonised data collection across all PECI projects and facilitates a systematic evaluation of their implementation progress.

The information collected covers the following key aspects:

- Project implementation status, including the current phase of development.
- Timelines and key milestones across different project phases.
- Investment costs, including planned and updated cost estimates.
- Regulatory treatment, such as asset classification and inclusion in the regulated asset base.
- Financing structure and expected costs.
- Implementation challenges, including delays related to permitting, financing, technical, or regulatory issues.

The data submitted has been reviewed and consolidated by the ECRB to assess project progress, identify common barriers, and support the formulation of recommendations aimed at facilitating timely project implementation. Certain project-related data and information are provided by the ECS.

4. Projects' assessment

The following provides a detailed assessment of the implementation progress of each project from the PECI list.

The project-level assessment follows a consistent analytical structure for all projects to ensure comparability and transparency. Where relevant, the ECRB provides additional observations regarding risks, regulatory issues, and implementation bottlenecks.

4.1. Project E01

General project information

Project name	E01: Increasing the capacity of existing 220 kV interconnection between Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro, 220 kV OHL Trebinje–Perućica
Project type	Electricity transmission line / single-system circuit
Involved CPs	Bosnia and Herzegovina (BA) and Montenegro (ME)
Project promoter(s)	Independent System Operator of Bosnia and Herzegovina (NOSBIH – ISO BA) Elektroprenos Bosne i Hercegovine a.d. Banja Luka (Transco BA) JSC Montenegrin transmission system operator (CGES – TSO ME)
Project description and impact	Resolving exiting congestions between BA and ME, increasing NTC between BA and ME, enabling and supporting RES integration in the region, as well as further market integration. Increasing of security of the national systems.
Technical characteristics	*Voltage level*: 220 kV *Capacity*: 570-600 MW *Length*: 42.5 km (BA) and 63.2 km (ME)

Implementation status

In both sides the project status is in '**planning/approval**' phase.

	Bosnia and Herzegovina		*Montenegro*	
Phase	*Start*	*End*	*Start*	*End*
Concept / Feasibility	2024	2025	2024	2025
Planning / Design	Jan 2026	June 2027	2026	2027
Permitting	NA	NA	permitted	permitted
Construction	Jan 2027	Dec 2028	2027	2028
Commissioning	Dec 2028	Dec 2028	-	Dec 2028

Project progress and regulatory treatment

Description	*Bosnia and Herzegovina*	*Montenegro*
Project progress in 2025	No significant activity reported	Feasibility Study was done and resolved financing through Loan Agreement with EBRD
Planned milestones for the following period	Start of tendering procedure in 2026	Public procurement for Main Contractor
Delays	No delays	No delays
Regulatory treatment	Classified as regulated assets and will be included in regulated asset base (RAB)	Classified as regulated assets and will be included in regulated asset base (RAB)
Regulatory incentives/exemption	Not applicable	Not applicable
Cross-border cost allocation	No decision yet	No decision yet

Information on costs

Description	*Bosnia and Herzegovina*	*Montenegro*
Investment costs in million EUR	4.55 Estimated	15 Estimated
Operating costs in EUR/year	50,000 Estimated for maintenance	105,000 Estimated for maintenance
Source of financing	TSO financing	Loan from International Financial Institution
Financing Structure	100% Equity	100% Loan

4.2. Project E08

General project information

Project name	E08: 330 kV OHL Balti (Moldova) – Dnestrovsk HPP-2 (Ukraine)
Project type	Electricity transmission line / single-system circuit
Involved CPs	Moldova (MD) and Ukraine (UA)
Project promoter(s)	SE Moldelectrica (TSO MD) NPC Ukrenergo (TSO UA)
Project description and impact	Increasing NTC between Moldova and Ukraine, enabling and supporting RES integration in the area, electricity market development, and improvement of security of supply.
Technical characteristics	*Voltage level:* 330 kV *Capacity*: 600 MW *Length*: 40 km (UA) and 90 km (ME)

Implementation status

In both sides the project status is in '**under consideration**' phase.

	Moldova		*Ukraine*	
Phase	*Start*	*End*	*Start*	*End*
Concept / Feasibility	2026	2027	2026	2027
Planning / Design	2027	2028	*Implementation dates on Ukrainian side to be confirmed after agreeing on all conditions between all the Romanian, Moldovan and Ukrainian stakeholders.*	
Permitting	2028	2029		
Construction	2029	2031		
Commissioning	2031	2032		

Project progress and regulatory treatment

Description	*Moldova*	*Ukraine*
Project progress in 2025	The project promoter focused on identifying and securing potential sources of financing for the implementation of the project. Project included in the TNDP 2025-2034 of Moldelectrica, approved by ANRE.	The project promoter focused on identifying and securing potential sources of financing for the implementation of the project. Project included in the TNDP 2025-2034 of Moldelectrica, approved by ANRE. Not yet included in the TYNDTP for 2026-2035 of Ukrenergo.

Planned milestones for the following period	Plan to continue engagement in identifying and securing financing for the project.	Conducting working consultations between Ukrenergo and Moldelectrica to agree on further steps regarding the structure, technical parameters and expected stages of implementation.
Delays	No delays	No delays
Regulatory treatment	Classified as regulated assets and will be included in regulatoed asset base (RAB). Possibility to be included earlier if the project is declared project of public utility of national interest in accordance with the Law.	Classified as regulated assets and will be included in regulated asset base (RAB)
Regulatory incentives/exemption	Not applicable	Not applicable
Cross-border cost allocation	No decision yet	No decision yet

Information on costs

Description	*Moldova*	*Ukraine*
Investment costs in million EUR	40 Estimated	14 Estimated
Operating costs in EUR/year	100,000 Estimated for maintenance	100,000 Estimated for maintenance
Source of financing	Grants and plans for loans from International Financial Institutions	Not yest defined
Financing Structure	Grant 15% Loan 85%	NA

4.3. Project E07

General project information

Project name	E07: Closing the 400 kV Albanian internal ring
Project type	Electricity transmission line / double-system circuit partly, and single-system circuit
Involved CPs	Albania (AL)
Project promoter(s)	Operatori I Sistemit te Transmetimit sh.a. (TSO AL)
Project description and impact	The project consists of closing the 400 kV internal transmission lines in a ring topology through the construction of the new 400 kV transmission line between substations Fier, Hoxhare and Rrashbull. The closing of the 400 kV internal ring is predicted to avoid possible bottlenecks in the internal grid and thus lead to the increase of the value of Net Transfer Capacity (NTC) of the Albanian grid.
Technical characteristics	*Voltage level:* 400 kV *Capacity*: 1080 MW *Length*: 78 km (AL) / (upgrade up to 110 km)

Implementation status

In both sides the project status is in '**under consideration**' phase.

	Albania	
Phase	*Start*	*End*
Concept / Feasibility	Apr 2026	Dec 2026
Planning / Design	May 2026	Mar 2028
Permitting	Apr 2027	May 2028
Construction	Jun 2028	May 2030
Commissioning	Jun 2030	July 2030

Project progress and regulatory treatment

Description	*Albania*
Project progress in 2025	The project has successfully applied for grant for technical assistance from WBIF to cover the feasibility study and environmental & social scoping. The grant has been allocated, and the kick-off meeting for launching the study took place April 2026.
Planned milestones for the following period	Completion of the feasibility study and ESIA & final planning approval and investment decision. The project is upgraded and includes wider scope of investments.

Delays	Slight delay is encountered in the drafting process for ToR for the feasibility study under WBIF. No or very limited impact in the timeline.
Regulatory treatment	Classified as regulated assets and will be included in regulated asset base (RAB).
Regulatory incentives/exemption	Not applicable
Cross-border cost allocation	No decision yet

Information on costs

Description	*Albania*
Investment costs in million EUR	Initially planned: 31 Current estimation: 70 Current estimation includes major revisions in the scope of project. The new scope is aligned with WBIF application and compared to PECI 2024. Possible increase up to 80m EUR.
Operating costs in EUR/year	20,000 Estimated for maintenance
Source of financing	TSO financing and plans for loans from International Financial Institutions, including a possible WBIF grant
Financing Structure	Possible structure: Equity 9% Grant 21% Loan 70%

4.4. Project E04

General project information

Project name	E04: Trans Balkan Corridor, Double OHL 400 kV Bajina Bašta (Serbia) – Višegrad (Bosnia and Herzegovina) / Pljevlja (Montenegro), (BA and ME sections part of PECI list)
Project type	Electricity transmission line / double-system circuit
Involved CPs	Bosnia and Herzegovina (BA) and Montenegro (ME)
Project promoter(s)	Independent System Operator of Bosnia and Herzegovina (NOSBIH – ISO BA) Elektroprenos Bosnie i Hercegovine a.d. Banja Luka (Transco BA) JSC Montenegrin transmission system operator (CGES – TSO ME)
Project description and impact	Increasing NTC between RS, BA and ME, enabling and supporting RES integration in the region, better utilisation of HVDC MONITA together with its upgrading, and further electricity market integration. Increased security of the electricity supply.
Technical characteristics	*Voltage level:* 400kV *Capacity*: 1200-1330 MW *Length*: 17.2 km (BA) and 14.95 km (ME)

Implementation status

In both sides the project status is in '**planning/approval"** phase. In addition, in BA, the '**permitting**' phase has been initiated.

	Bosnia and Herzegovina		*Montenegro*	
Phase	*Start*	*End*	*Start*	*End*
Concept / Feasibility	May 2013	Feb 2015	2020	2022
Planning / Design	Oct 2019	Oct 2022	2025	2026
Permitting	Dec 2019	Dec 2027	2026	2026
Construction	Dec 2027	Dec 2028	2027	2028
Commissioning	Oct 2025	Dec 2028	-	Dec 2028

Project progress and regulatory treatment

Description	*Bosnia and Herzegovina*	*Montenegro*
Project progress in 2025	Permitting activities.	Approval Spatial Plan Document. Urban technical condition issued.
Planned milestones for the following period	Focusing activities in obtaining the permit.	Working on detailed design, land expropriations and construction permit
Delays	Delays encountered in:	Delays encountered in:

	Permitting: - Process was delayed due to EMS reconsideration of project due to financing issues. - Process for BA was stopped in 2022 and will start again in 2027. The duration of the permit process cannot be accurately estimated. **Financing:** From the adoption CBA of the project until today, the construction price increased by approximately 100%. Financing of the project needs reconsideration after the end permitting process.	**Permitting:** Long period for approval Spatial Plan Document, causing 2-years delay. **Technicalities:** Disputes on Land expropriation delayed the project.
Regulatory treatment	Classified as regulated assets and will be included in regulated asset base (RAB)	Classified as regulated assets and will be included in regulated asset base (RAB)
Regulatory incentives/exemption	Not applicable	Not applicable
Cross-border cost allocation	No decision yet	No decision yet

Information on costs

Description	*Bosnia and Herzegovina*	*Montenegro*
Investment costs in million EUR	17.5 Estimated (Cost estimate increased for 6.6 from previous estimation due to higher construction costs and a change in the project route)	13.2 Estimated
Operating costs in EUR/year	28,000 – 187,000 Estimated for maintenance (based on CBA)	100,000 Estimated for maintenance
Source of financing	TSO financing	TSO financing
Financing Structure	To be defined	100% Equity

4.5. Project E06

General project information

Project name	E06: Reconfiguration of 400 kV grid and new 400 kV interconnection Albania–Kosovo*
Project type	Electricity transmission line / single-system circuit
Involved CPs	Albania (AL) and Kosovo* (XK)
Project promoter(s)	Operator Sistemi, Transmisioni dhe Tregu SH.A (KOSTT – TSO XK) Operatori I Sistemit te Transmetimit sh.a. (OST – TSO AL)
Project description and impact	The project will positively impact the increase of NTC between Kosovo and Albania and the integration of RES in both power systems.
Technical characteristics	*Voltage level:* 400kV *Capacity*: 1350 MW *Length*: 25 km (AL) and 45 km (XK)

Implementation status

In both sides the project status is in '**planning/approval"** phase.

	Albania		*Kosovo**	
Phase	*Start*	*End*	*Start*	*End*
Concept / Feasibility	Apr 2026	May 2025	Jun 206	Jun 2027
Planning / Design	Jun 2026	Dec 2027	Dec 2026	May 2027
Permitting	Mar 2027	Jun 2028	Jan 2028	Jun 2028
Construction	Jun 2028	Jun 2030	Jun 2028	Jun 2030
Commissioning	Jul 2023	Aug 2030	Jun 2030	Aug 2030

Project progress and regulatory treatment

Description	*Albania*	*Kosovo**
Project progress in 2025	The project has successfully applied for grant for technical assistance from WBIF to cover the feasibility study and environmental & social scoping. The grant has been allocated, the ToR is expected to be finalised and the study to start within first half of 2026.	The project has successfully applied for grant for technical assistance from WBIF to cover the pre-feasibility study and environmental & social scoping. The grant has been allocated, and the feasibility study and ESIA is expected to start within June 2026.
Planned milestones for the following period	Completion of the feasibility study and ESIA & final planning approval and investment decision. The project is	Completion of the feasibility study and ESIA & final planning approval and investment decision. The project is being

	updated and includes wider scope of investments. As such it is included in the PECI process for 2026 and aims to be approved in the 2026 PECI list.	reviewed and will include a wider scope of investments. As such it is included in the PECI process for 2026 and aims to be approved in the 2026 PECI list.
Delays	Slight delays encountered in draft ToR for the feasibility study under WBIF.	Slight delays encountered due to change of pre-feasibility to direct feasibility study and ESIA.
Regulatory treatment	Classified as regulated assets and will be included in regulated asset base (RAB)	Classified as regulated assets and will be included in regulated asset base (RAB)
Regulatory incentives/exemption	Not applicable	Not applicable
Cross-border cost allocation	No decision yet	No decision yet

Information on costs

Description	*Albania*	*Kosovo**
Investment costs in million EUR	30 Initial estimation Current estimation (for PECI 2026): 43	53 Estimated
Operating costs in EUR/year	690,000 Estimated for maintenance (based on CBA)	1,100,000 Estimated for maintenance
Source of financing	TSO financing, a loan from IFIs, including also a possible grant	TSO financing, a loan from IFIs, including also a possible grant
Financing Structure	To be defined	To be defined

4.6. Project E13

General project information

Project name	E13: DTEK Storage (225 MW)
Project type	Energy Storage Facility / Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)
Involved CPs	Ukraine (UA)
Project promoter(s)	JSC DTEK WESTENERGY
Project description and impact	BESS with total power/capacity 225MW/450MWh distributed at the 3 TPPs power locations with power delivery to substations visible by the TSO. The aim is to support the grid with ancillary services as well as provide energy shifting. It will reinforce the interconnection with Continental Europe and security of supply and improve frequency control in UA/MD control block.
Technical characteristics	*Voltage level:* 110kV/220kV/330kV (depending on the location) *Capacity*: 225 / 450 MW *Length*: NA

Implementation status

In both sides the project status is in '**under consideration**' phase.

	Ukraine	
Phase	*Start*	*End*
Concept / Feasibility	Mar 2022	Dec 2022
Planning / Design	Aug 2022	Dec 2022 (first stage)
Permitting	To be defined	
Construction	To be defined	
Commissioning	To be defined	

Project progress and regulatory treatment

Description	*Ukraine*
Project progress in 2025	The project has been placed on hold. It should be noted that the design documentation for the first stage of the project has been fully completed. The project will be reconsidered once the security situation stabilizes and conditions allow for its safe and effective execution.
Planned milestones for the following period	To be determined once the project implementation is resumed

Delays	Delay encountered due to the ongoing, large-scale, and repeated missile and drone attacks on DTEK Energy's thermal power plants and the adjacent substation. These hostile actions render the implementation of the project infeasible under the current circumstances. In addition, the BESS comprises flammable components, which significantly heightens the risks associated with the construction and operation of such equipment in wartime conditions.
Regulatory treatment	Merchant assets
Regulatory incentives/exemption	Not applicable
Cross-border cost allocation	No decision yet

Information on costs

Description	*Ukraine*
Investment costs in million EUR	Initially planned: 290 Current estimate (decrease): 140
Operating costs in EUR/year	2,200,000 Estimated for maintenance and administrative costs of total BESS capacity
Source of financing	Private financing and loans from International Financial Institutions
Financing Structure	The precise financing structure, including the specific allocation of each financing option, will be reconsidered once the project is resumed.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The evaluation confirms that the PECI projects are consistent with the strategic priorities of the Energy Community and are at a development stage appropriate to their recent designation in December 2024.

At this stage, the absence of construction activities or limited progress is a reflection of the normal project development cycle following PECI identification in 2024. Nevertheless, the assessment highlights a number of early-stage risks that may affect timely implementation in subsequent phases. These include challenges related to permitting procedures, financing arrangements and cost developments.

Against this background, continued regulatory oversight and proactive engagement by NRAs will be essential to ensure that projects progress efficiently towards implementation.

In light of the above, the ECRB invites NRAs to:

- Continuously monitor the progress of PECI projects within their competence, ensuring regular oversight of project development against planned timelines and milestones.
- Ensure that regulatory treatment of PECI projects is defined at an early stage, including clarity on asset classification and inclusion in the regulatory asset base (RAB), in order to provide regulatory certainty.
- Strengthen coordination with other NRAs and relevant authorities, particularly for cross-border projects, in order to ensure alignment on timelines, technical parameters, and key implementation steps where such coordination is required.
- Assess, at an early stage, the potential impact of PECI investments on network tariffs, ensuring that cost recovery mechanisms are transparent, predictable, and proportionate.
- Request project promoters to provide regular and sufficiently detailed reporting on the state of play of each project, including progress on implementation, timelines, costs, financing arrangements, and any emerging risks or delays.
- Encourage project promoters to identify and address implementation risks early, in particular about permitting procedures, financing, and technical preparedness.

Energy Community
Regulatory Board

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