# Good practices to address pandemic risks

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# Why a list of good practices?

- While the **energy system has proven to be resilient** thanks to the good preparedness of the sector, it is important to remain vigilant.
- The document identified **a list of risks and challenges** in the short-term and long term, as well as **a series of 20 good practices** to address risks in the energy sector that are associated with a pandemic.
- It takes stock of the exchanges in the relevant coordination groups (ECG, GCG and OCG), as well as the Offshore Safety Authorities Group and the European Nuclear Safety Regulators Group.
- The Staff Working Document was published and transmitted to the EP and Council on 2 June.

# RISKS AND CHALLENGES

## Short-term

- ensuring energy supply,
- movement and availability of specialised energy workers,
- movement and access for Euratom safeguards inspectors,
- access to components and raw materials that are critical for energy,
- access to protective equipment and medical testing for energy workers,
- business continuity of critical energy infrastructure,
- preparedness to rebound of energy demand,
- cyber and hybrid threat preparedness.

## Long-term

- uncertainty regarding the duration of the pandemic,
- specialised workforce unavailability or lower resilience,
- additional unexpected contingencies, including extreme weather events
- reliability of critical supply chains,
- impact of delays of postponing maintenance,
- large project delays and investment reductions,
- non-realistic emergency stockholding for upcoming calendar years,
- loss of control of critical energy assets.

# GOOD PRACTICES at a glance (1/2)

- preserving supply to vulnerable customers;
- declaring the energy sector as an essential service;
- preserving free movement for specialised energy workers;
- preserving essential transport flows moving to ensure energy supply chains;
- well-functioning of the internal energy market;
- strong risk preparedness plans;
- strong business continuity and contingency plans;
- solidarity and cross-border coordination, communication and information sharing;
- teleworking for non-shift activities and non-core activities;
- rescheduling non-essential maintenance works;

# GOOD PRACTICES at a glance (2/2)

- hygiene and sanitary measures, as well as training on hygiene protocols;
- cross border assistance, cooperation and training for operators;
- redundancy of control rooms and implementation of remote control;
- establish base camps and reserves of volunteers for critical infrastructure;
- reduction of regular exchange of personal;
- pre-confinement of staff before accessing isolated locations;
- in key locations, early detection, evacuation measures and specific support to workers;
- reinforce cybersecurity measures and cooperation;
- pragmatic risk-based approach by national regulators, in particular the nuclear sector;
- attention to the economic impact on energy companies, subcontractors and investors.

# Conclusions

- The current energy preparedness and security regulatory framework provides a strong structure to ensure energy security of supply.
- It is important to remain vigilant:
  - Redouble the coordination and information flows;
  - Consider extreme scenarios;
  - Cross-border preparedness, cooperation and mutual assistance;
  - Redundancy of critical elements and secured digitalisation of activities
  - Strong risk preparedness and business continuity plans;
  - The rebound of demand and the resilience of critical supply chains will require to remain attentive.

# Thank you





European Commission