



**Massive Renewables uptake through enhanced grids**  
A transatlantic perspective  
1<sup>st</sup> June, 16.30 CET

The Brattle Group's report '[Unlocking the Queue](#)' was released on February 25<sup>th</sup> 2021, by WATT, Working for Advanced Transmission Technologies, a US policy and advocacy coalition. According to the report, Grid Enhancing Technologies (GETs) can double the amount of Renewables taken into the system in the next five years. GETs – both for existing and new power grids - are valuable tools to get unlock the queue of Renewables that want to connect to the system.

Why is infrastructure important altogether, and, why are we discussing its enhancement? The answer is simple: Electricity infrastructure is at the heart of the energy transition – it has the potential to be a bottleneck at worst, or an accelerator at best.

There is a growing consensus in both EU and US that more transmission is needed. Biden's 'build back better' agenda is focused on infrastructure investment. Yet, while we agree with the need for more infrastructure, we all know that delays will occur. The cost of delay is high to society: we miss carbon targets and we pay for congestion and curtailment. Therefore, waiting is not an option: Grid Enhancing Technologies buy us valuable time since they can be installed in less than a year. They can bridge the gap and provide value to customers by letting renewables connect to the system now and avoid waiting years in the queue. Meanwhile, more efforts are needed to develop new, more efficient, innovative transmission technology to connect rapidly growing renewable energy capacity.

With the Biden presidency and its priority on climate there is a new opportunity for success on the Paris agenda. The Climate summit on 22<sup>nd</sup> April in Washington, preceding the COP 26 in November in Glasgow, showed strong commitment for making this decade a decade of ambition, decision and action.

The results of the Brattle report should be acknowledged and must form part of a renewed transatlantic energy and climate agenda.

Our webinar will share the results of the study in greater detail. We will discuss what it means for Europe and will discuss related transatlantic opportunities to make the most out of our infrastructure: the heartbeat of the energy transition.

Our speakers will include representatives from utilities, government, regulators and experts. Join us to share your views!

## AGENDA

**Susanne Nies** (Board chair of currENT) and **Jenny Erwin** (Board chair of WATT) will introduce currENT and WATT, their objectives, and the panel.

**Jay Caspary** (VP of Grid Strategies LLC) will present the Brattle Report, followed by reactions and comments by all speakers on the report and what it means for US and EU.

**Rob Gramlich** (President of Grid Strategies LLC, Executive Director of WATT, Executive Director of Americans for the Clean Grid (ACEG)) will talk about transatlantic climate and energy relations: green race or green couple?

**Oliver Koch** (DG ENER, European Commission) will comment on the report and present the European Commission perspective on the role of optimization technologies and networks in achieving 70% of interconnector capacity available for the market.

**John Fitzgerald** (CEO, SuperNode) will talk about the need for new innovative transmission technology to accommodate the rise of rise of renewables.

**Michael Jesberger** (CTO TransnetBW) will comment on the report and present the TransnetBW perspective on needed grids and optimisation.

**Giles Dickson** (CEO WindEurope) will comment on the report and present the Wind Industry perspective on the Brattle report.

Participants will be able to interact with our speakers through chat questions.

*This is the fifth webinar of the currENT series on 'new challenges, new solutions for future proofing the power grid' and the first common webinar of WATT and currENT*

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