
NTC process on the german border & impacts on the NTC

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Principal Market Operations

online meeting, 18th September 2024

Overview about the NTC processes on the CH borders

NTC CH→DE

Evolution NTC CH-DE-value

Core points of the NTC CH-DE methodology

NTC situation in May/June 2024

France exchange & load flow situation

Next steps & outlook

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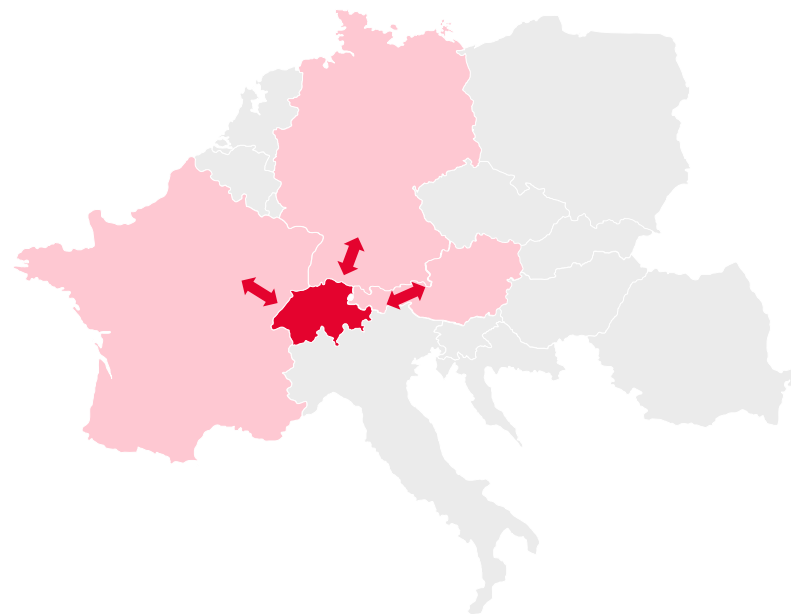
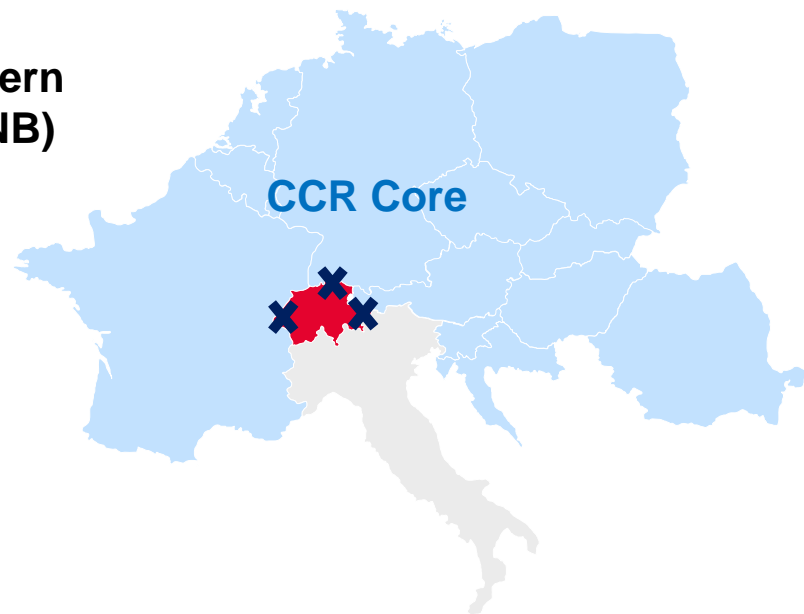
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While the NTC values on the southern border are determined in the context of CCR Italy North, still individual bilateral processes on the northern borders exist

Swiss Northern Borders (SNB)



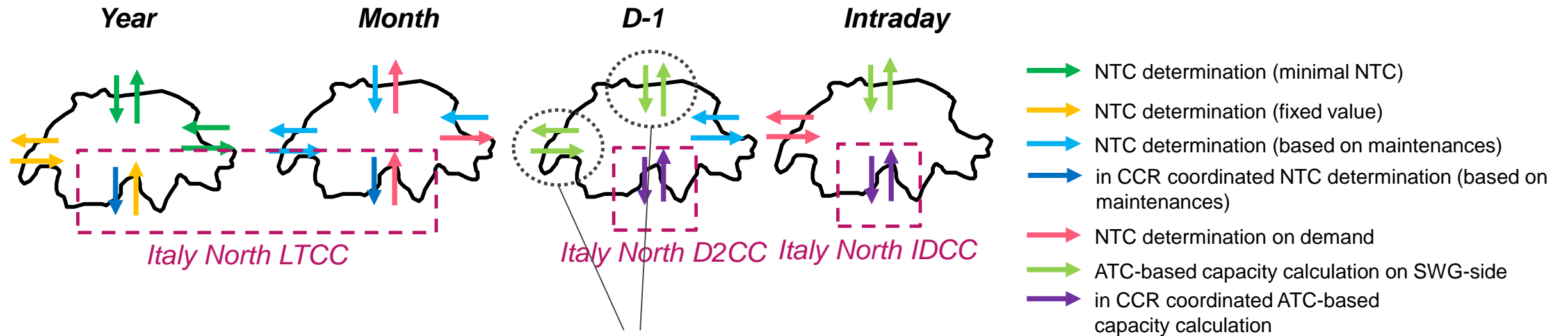
- Individual bilateral processes
- No coordination with CCR Core (Flow-Based Market Coupling)

Italian Border



- Swissgrid fully integrated in the capacity calculation processes as a *Technical Counterparty*

The NTC values on the CH-borders are determined based on different methodologies in the different timeframes



Calculation of the Swissgrid-proposal is done internally with a tool developed to serve particularly the methodology defined for export towards Germany.

- **NTC CH→DE** (in summer, based on methodology defined with EICOM)
- NTC FR→CH
- NTC CH→FR
- NTC ADF→CH (only in Winter)

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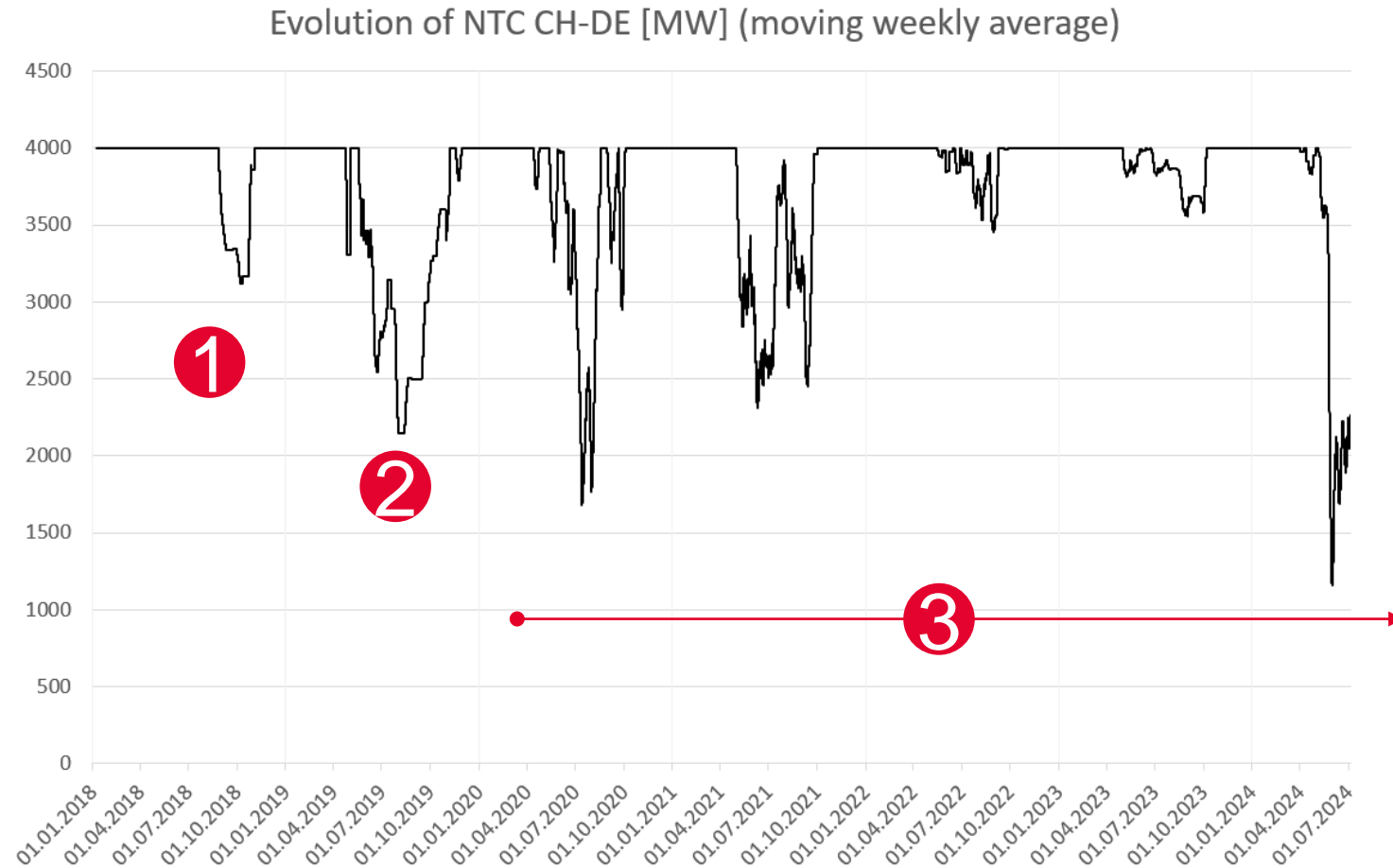
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RECAP: The NTC CH-DE methodology was developed in order to increase the transparency of the NTC determination

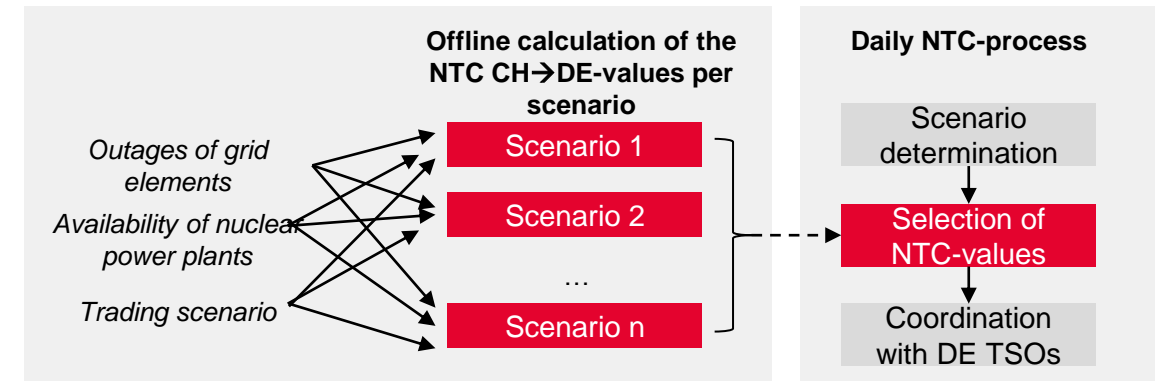


- 1 • In the past, the **NTC CH-DE was set to 4000 MW**. Only in rare cases, manual adhoc reductions were done, e.g. like in summer 2018
- 2 • In summer 2019, these reductions were so big and happened so often, that **a lot of market participants requested** more transparency
 - During winter 2019/20, **Swissgrid developed in collaboration with EICom a methodology** to determine the NTC CH-DE. This methodology was **consulted with the branche** and published on the Swissgrid website. Detailed insights were given to the market participants in a **technical workshop held in February 2022**
- 3 • **Since Summer 2020**, Swissgrid determines the NTC CH-DE during the summer period based on that methodology

The Swissgrid-proposal of the Day-Ahead NTC CH-DE during the summer period is based on a methodology commonly designed with EICom and consulted with the branche

• Key points:

- Based on a **loadflow-based calculation** of different scenarios (see picture on the right)
- Only considering **elements sensitive to an exchange CH→DE** (elements overloaded by local powerplants are discarded)
- A **seasonal european grid model, that is representative* for the summer period** is used.
(*Usually it is selected based on the median net positions of the same previous period (e.g. summer 2024 model was selected based on summer 2023))
- **Two trading scenarios** per scenario are calculated: «Full CH Export» and «Transit» (FR→CH→DE) → Final scenario is selected in D-2 **based on a price forecast**

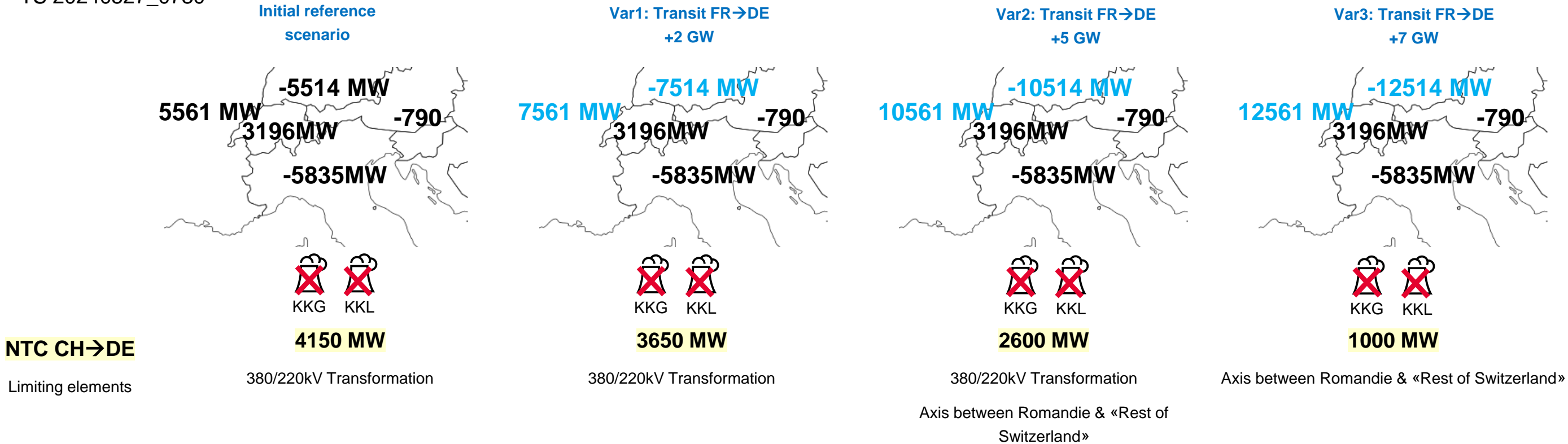


In May and June, the huge french net position caused an overestimation of the NTC CH-DE, leading to a stressed grid situation

- In general, any differences between realtime and the NTC scenario have an impact on the final NTC-value (over- or underestimation)
- The very low NTC-values in May and June were especially caused by
 - **Big deviation of the french net position compared to the scenario considered during the NTC calculation** ← Not covered by the Methodology
 - **Maintenances of KKG and/or KKL** ← Covered by the Methodology
 - **Maintenances of 220kV south-north-transit-elements**

The higher the transit FR→DE, the lower the NTC CH→DE

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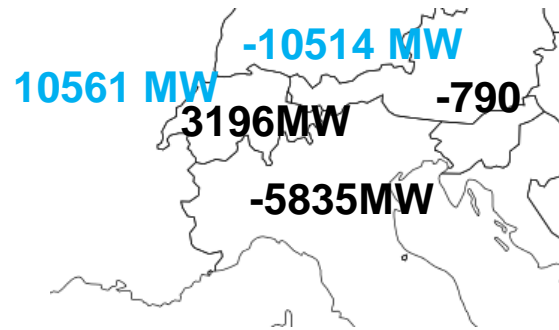


! Swissgrid currently has no accurate forecast of the Net Positions of France and Germany in the NTC determination process. State-of-the-Art forecasts are only available at a too late time of the process (see: slides for next steps / improvements).

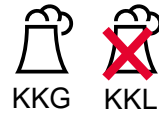
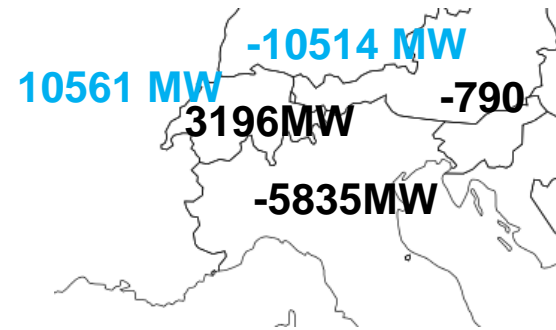
➔ As a short term solution, the **reference scenario** has been **changed** from the initial to a one located between Var1 and Var2

The more nuclear power plant production is available, the higher the NTC CH-DE

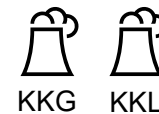
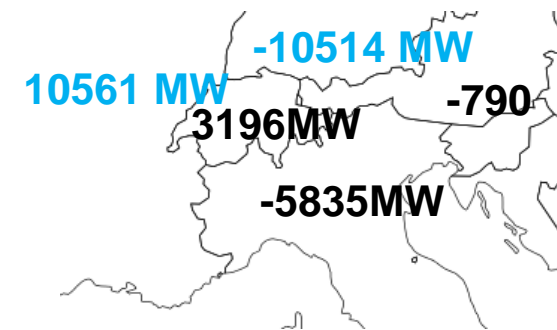
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2600 MW



3800 MW



4700 MW

NTC CH→DE

Limiting elements

380/220kV Transformation

Axis between Romandie & «Rest of Switzerland»

380/220kV Transformation

Axis between Romandie & «Rest of Switzerland»

380/220kV Transformation

Axis between Romandie & «Rest of Switzerland»

NTC reductions because of maintenances of nuclear power plants are considered by the Methodology

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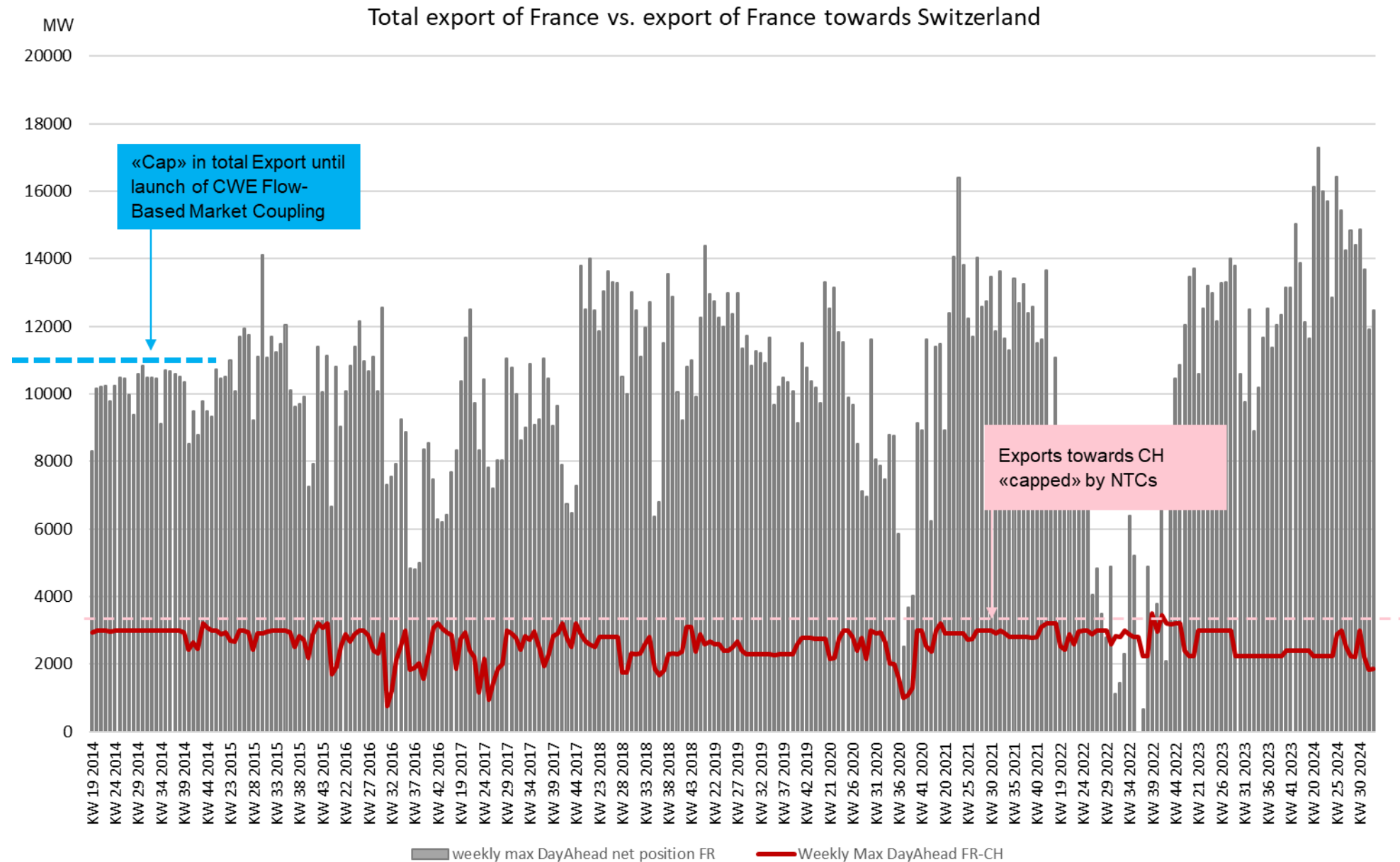
Core points of the NTC CH-DE Methodology

NTC situation in May/ June 2024

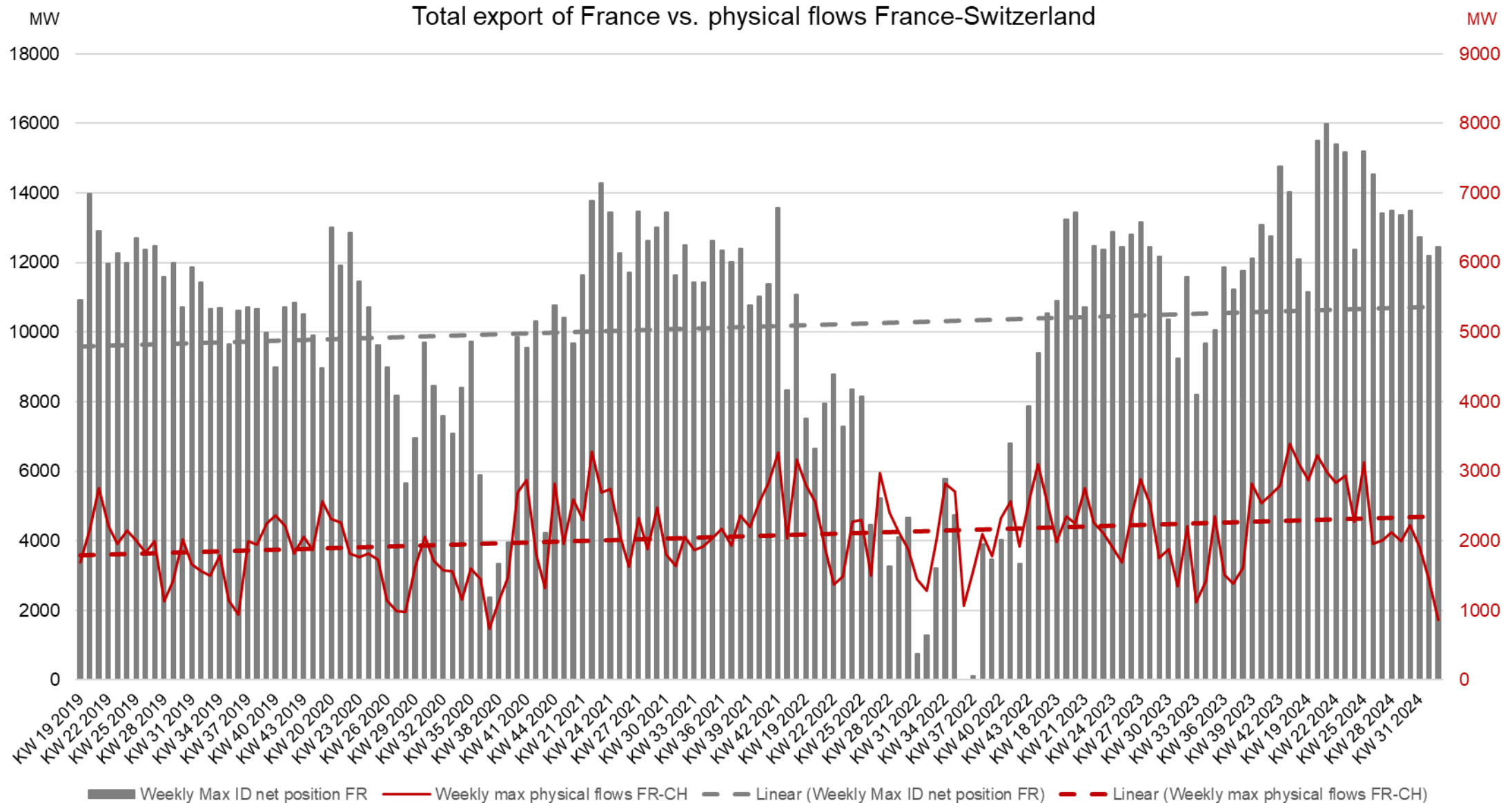
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Next steps & outlook

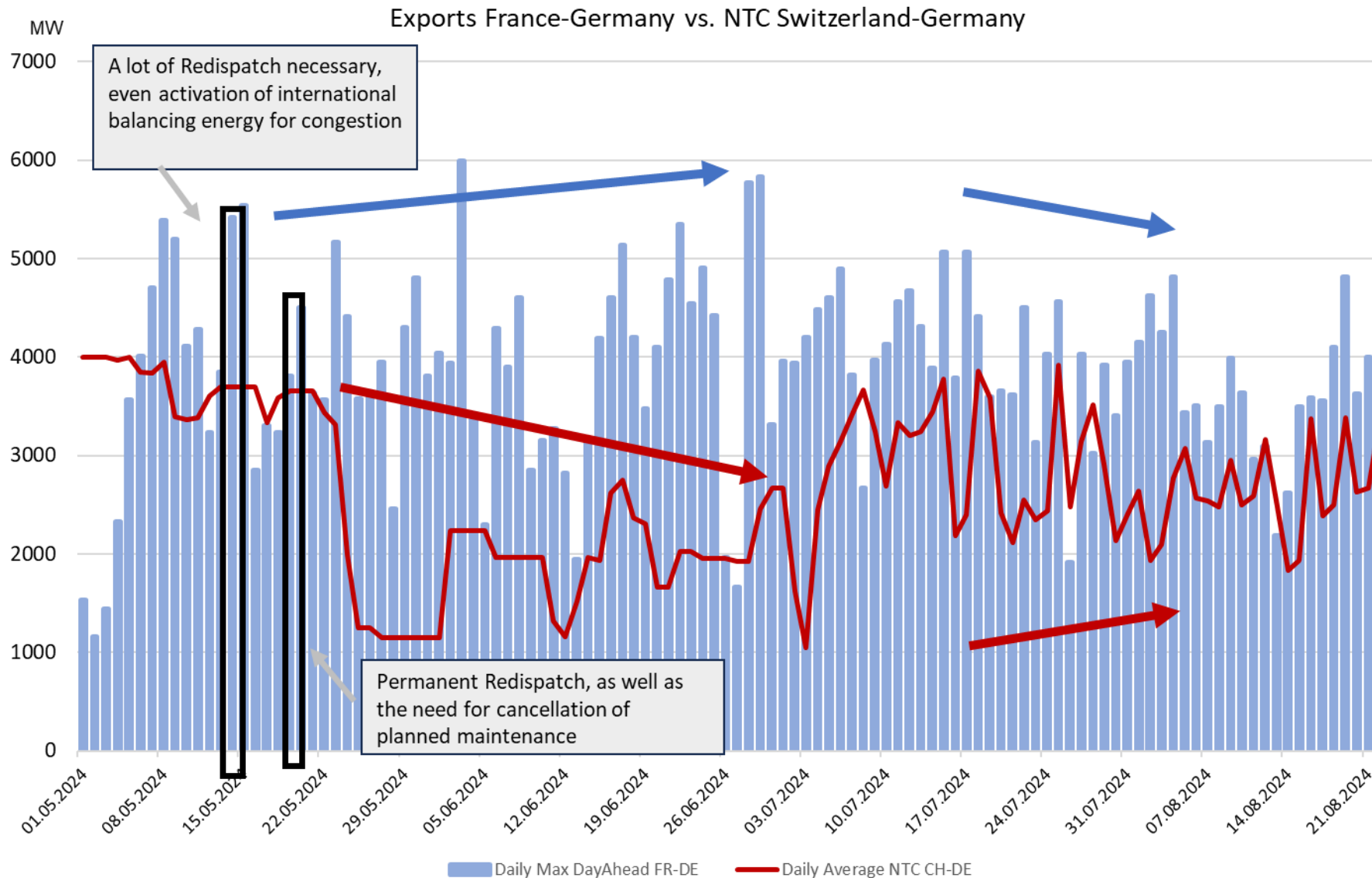
The maximum scheduled exchange of France has increased year over year in the past 10 years – a reason are the new EU regulations (Flow-Based, 70%minRAM) ...



... which leads to increased flows through Switzerland, creating additional bottlenecks within our grid.



In May, Swissgrid was confronted with almost uncontrollable grid violations, due to the unprecedented export situation of France, combined with outage of nuclears etc.

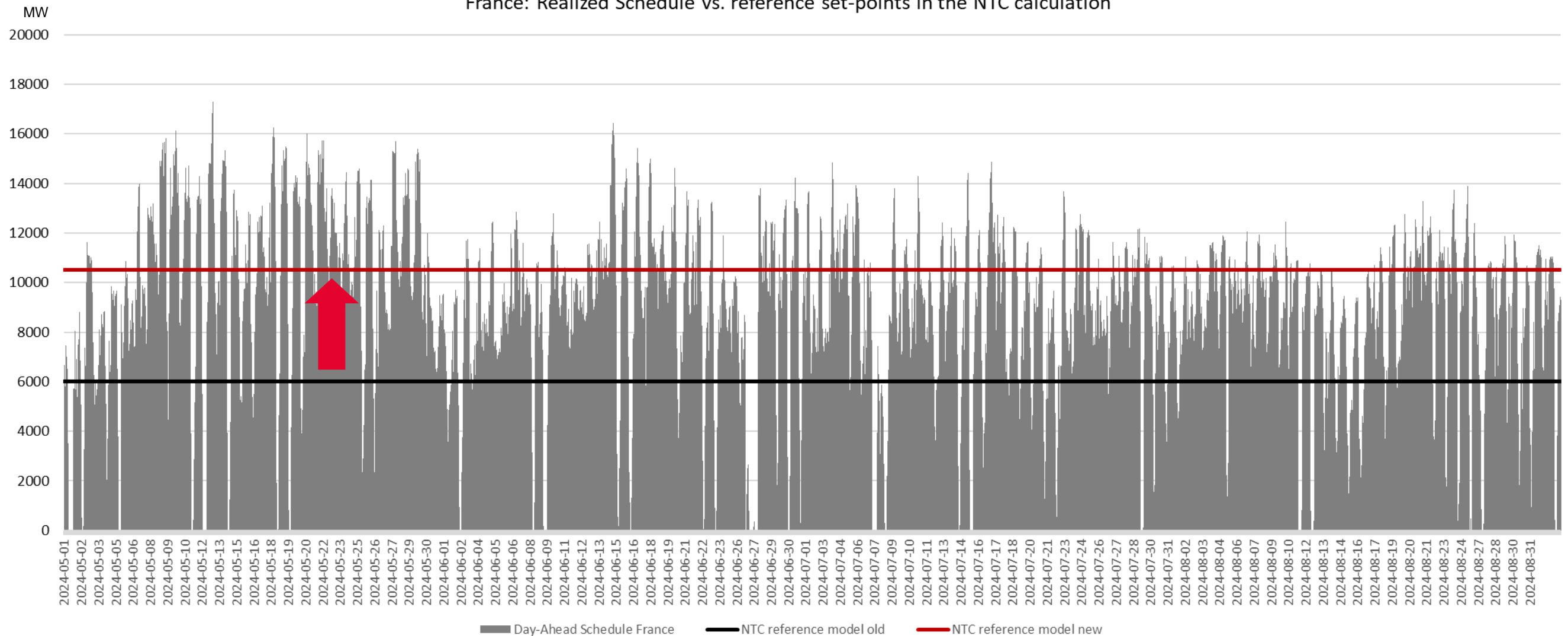


- In particular, the export towards the “Core region” (Core Flow-Based Market Coupling) peaked during the summer
- Exchanges between France and Germany lead to the most severe flows through Switzerland
- Swissgrid was partly left without any redispatch potential
- After these extremely critical situations, Swissgrid had to reduce the export NTCs by adjusting to the new situation of France
- As maintenances and Nuclears came back, Swissgrid could step-wise increase the NTC again

A key point was the adjustment of the net position of France in the reference scenario used for the NTC calculation.

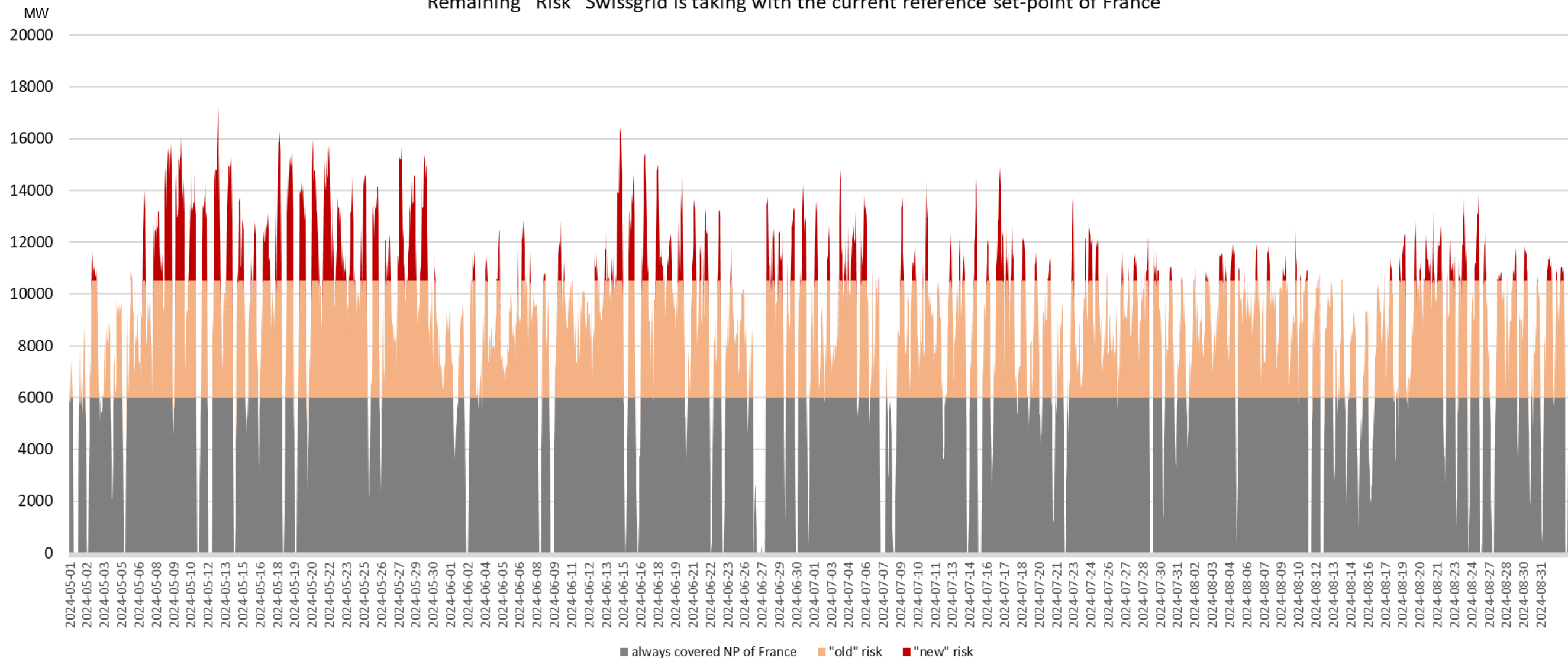
(note: all hours are displayed, also off-peak hours where exports are not necessarily relevant)

France: Realized Schedule vs. reference set-points in the NTC calculation



Even with the updated reference scenario, Swissgrid still takes certain risks which in reality materialized (red part of the diagram)

Remaining "Risk" Swissgrid is taking with the current reference set-point of France



The only true and optimal solution is a inclusion into all regional Capacity Calculation processes – preferably with the help of an Electricity Agreement

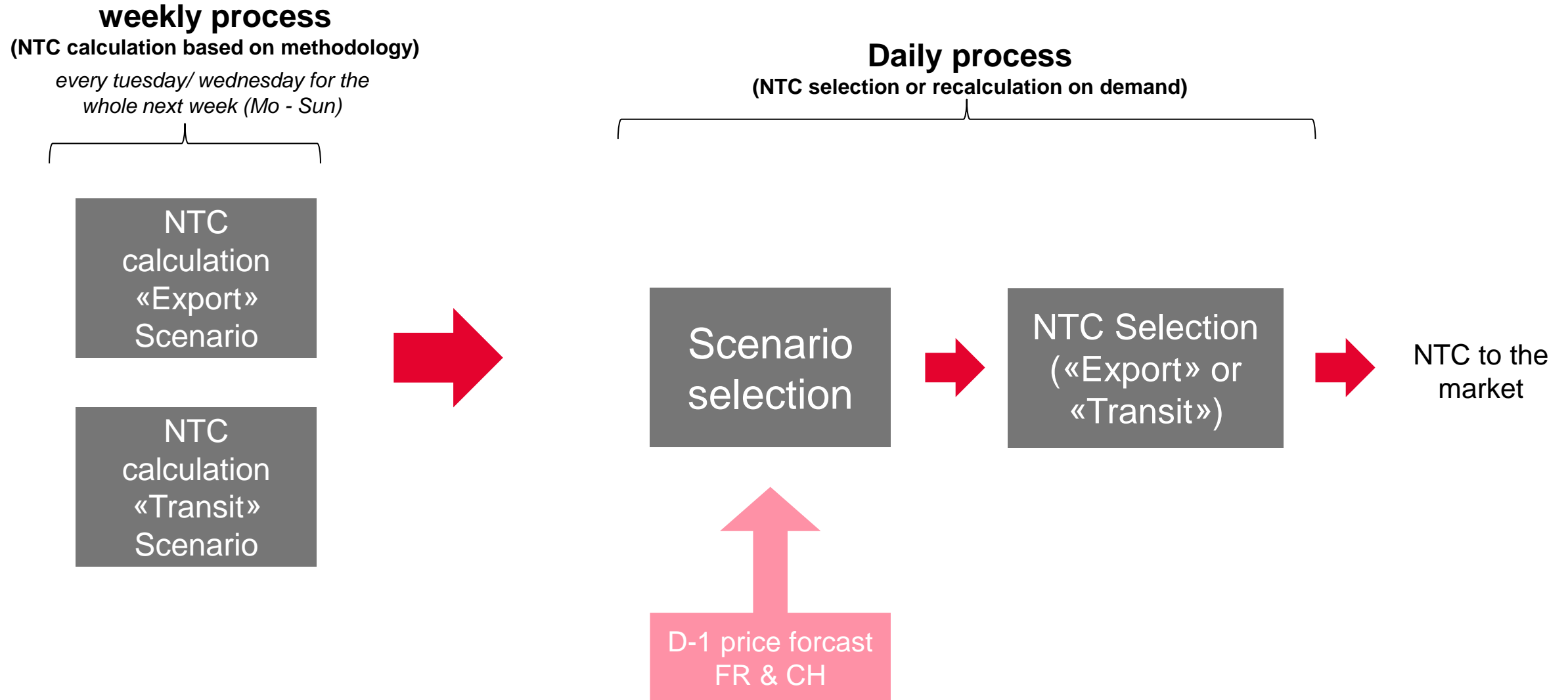
- Swiss cross-border capacity would be treated equally to EU cross-border capacities
- Full coordination would be in place according to agreed (fair) rules
- Violations in Switzerland would therefore impact all capacities, and not only the ones on the CH borders
- Hence, increasing grid security and strengthening security of supply
- Swissgrid would not have to act «reflexive» and «after-the-fact»
- Full transparency for market participants
- Swiss electricity system can support the energy transition in Europe
- Legal certainty for Swissgrid and Switzerland

Danke für Ihr Interesse

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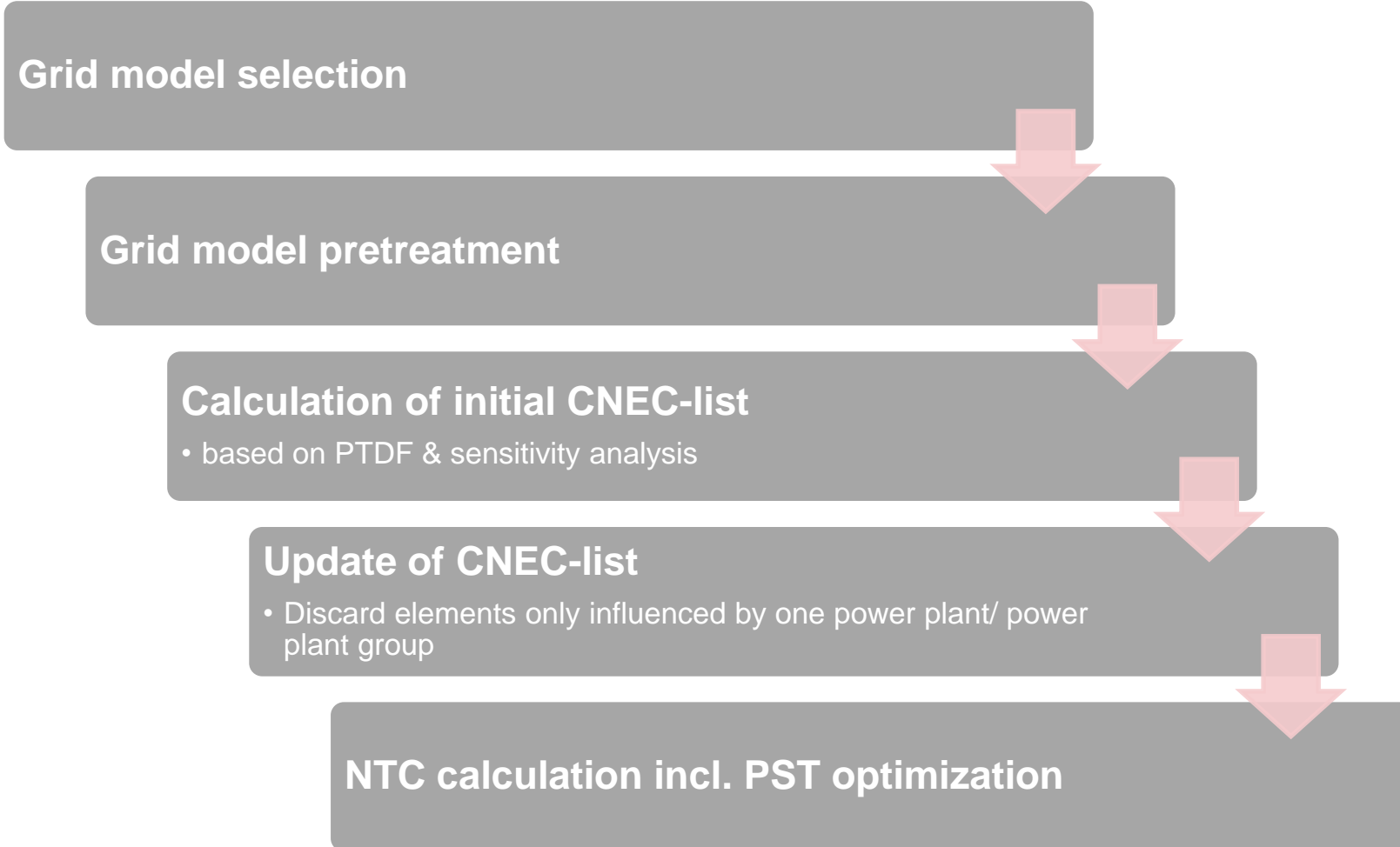
Appendix: Detailed explanation of the NTC CH-DE methodology

The NTC CH-DE is calculated on a weekly basis for the whole next week and only updated in case of relevant grid changes



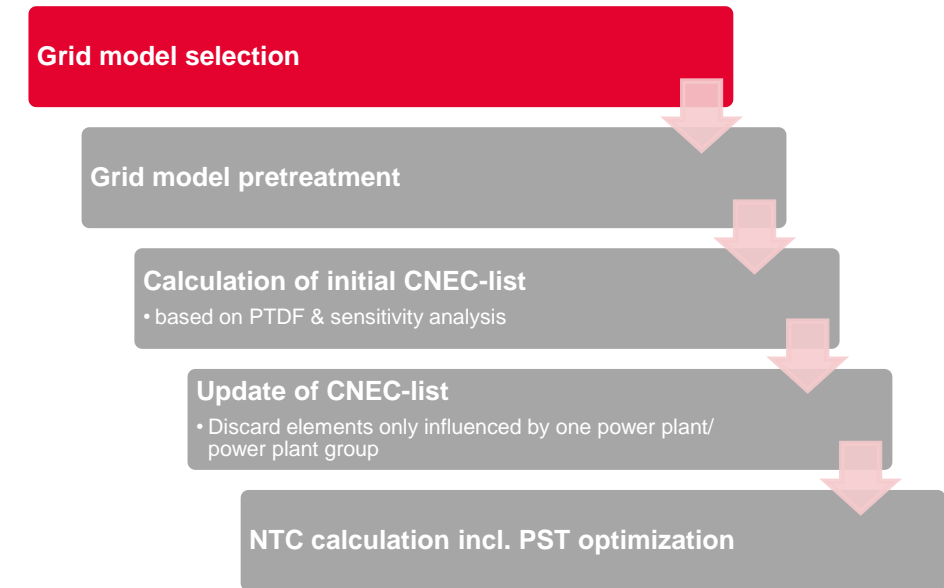
The NTC calculation is performed in several subprocesses for 8 hours a day.

- The calculated hours are: 00:30, 03:30, 07:30, 10:30, 13:30, 16.30, 19:30 and 22:30.
- The remaining hours are extrapolated



The calculation is based on reference grid models (standard models)

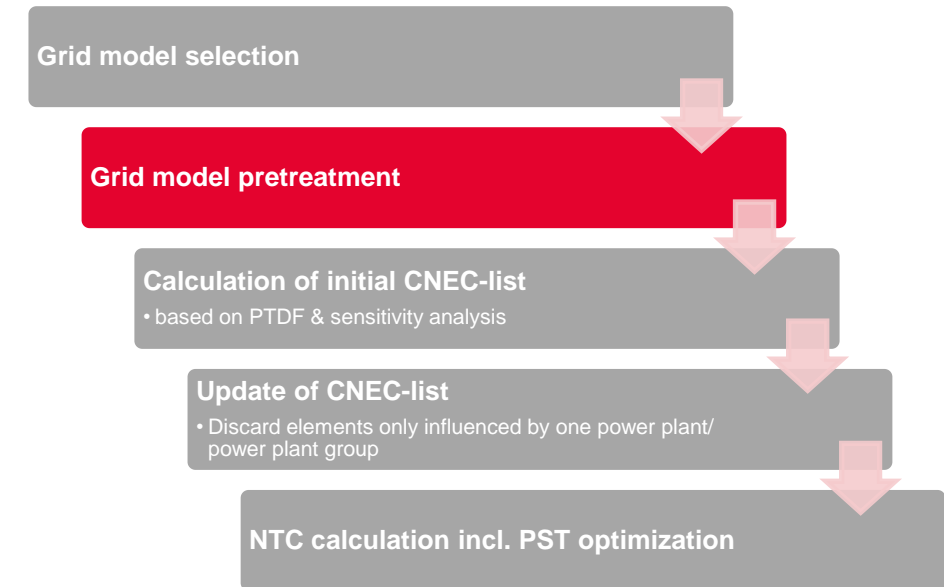
- The **weekly planning grid models** are created every Monday evening for the whole next week. (Monday - Sunday)
- These grid models are based on **snapshots of the past week**, which include also schedules of the past week
- **As the European net positions can change significantly from hour to hour** in these models, high changes in the NTC values were the consequences
- In order to avoid this, it was decided to introduce «standard CGMs», which are representative for the total season
- The standard CGM is selected **once per season**. The selection criteria is, that the included **schedules are in the range of the median of the previous season** (e.g. the standard-models for summer 2024 where chosen based on the median of schedules of summer 2023)



The grid model is pretreated by shifting the schedules to the starting schedules.

- The grid model is shifted to the starting schedules **by adjusting the net positions** of Switzerland and the adjacent countries
- The **starting schedules** were defined as follows :

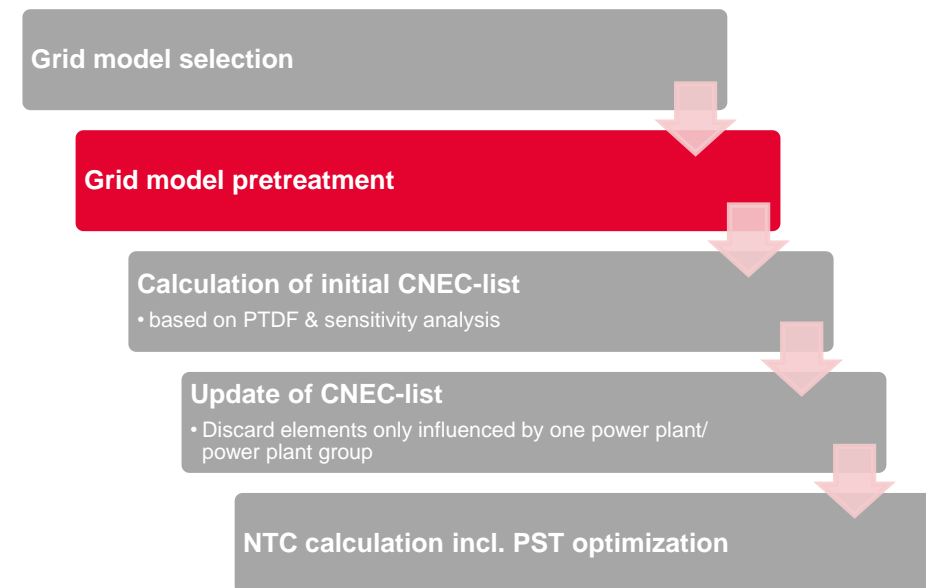
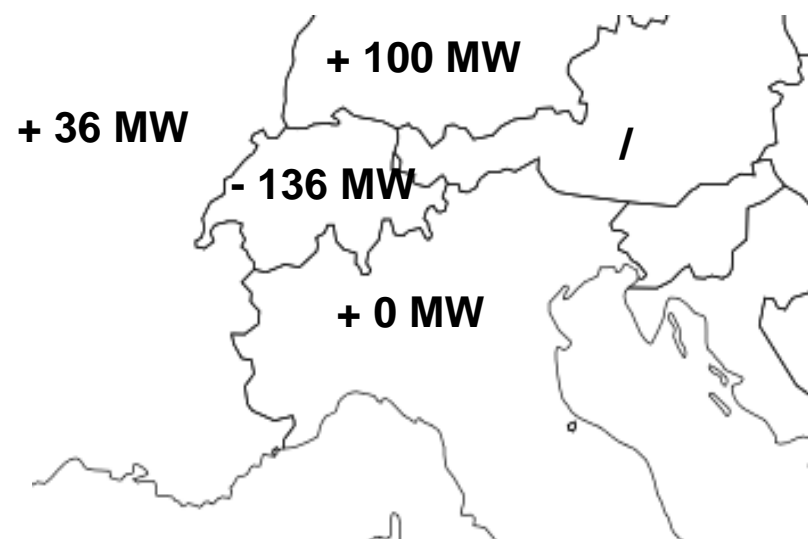
	Full Export	Transit
CH-DE	3000	4000
CH-FR	1000	-2500
CH-IT	$NTC_{CH \rightarrow IT}$	$NTC_{CH \rightarrow IT}$



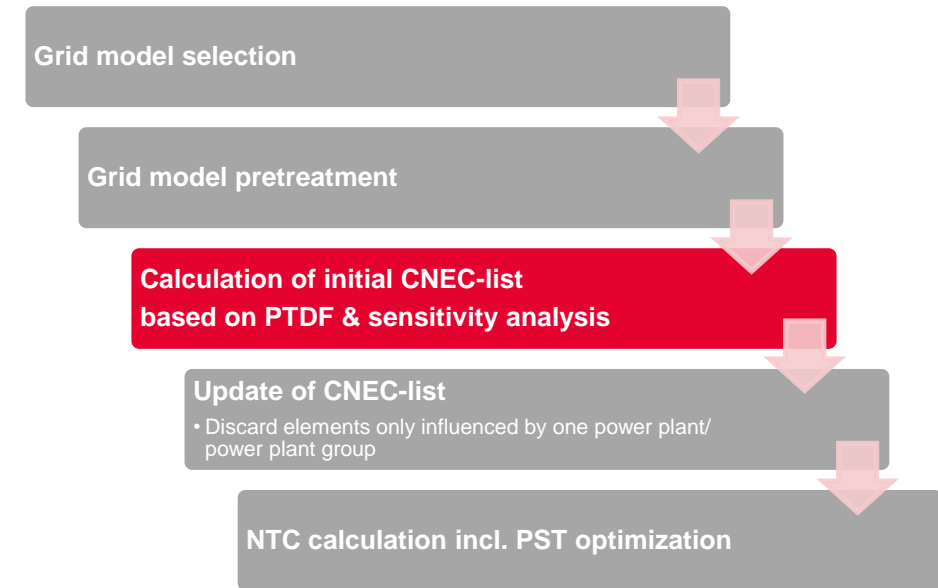
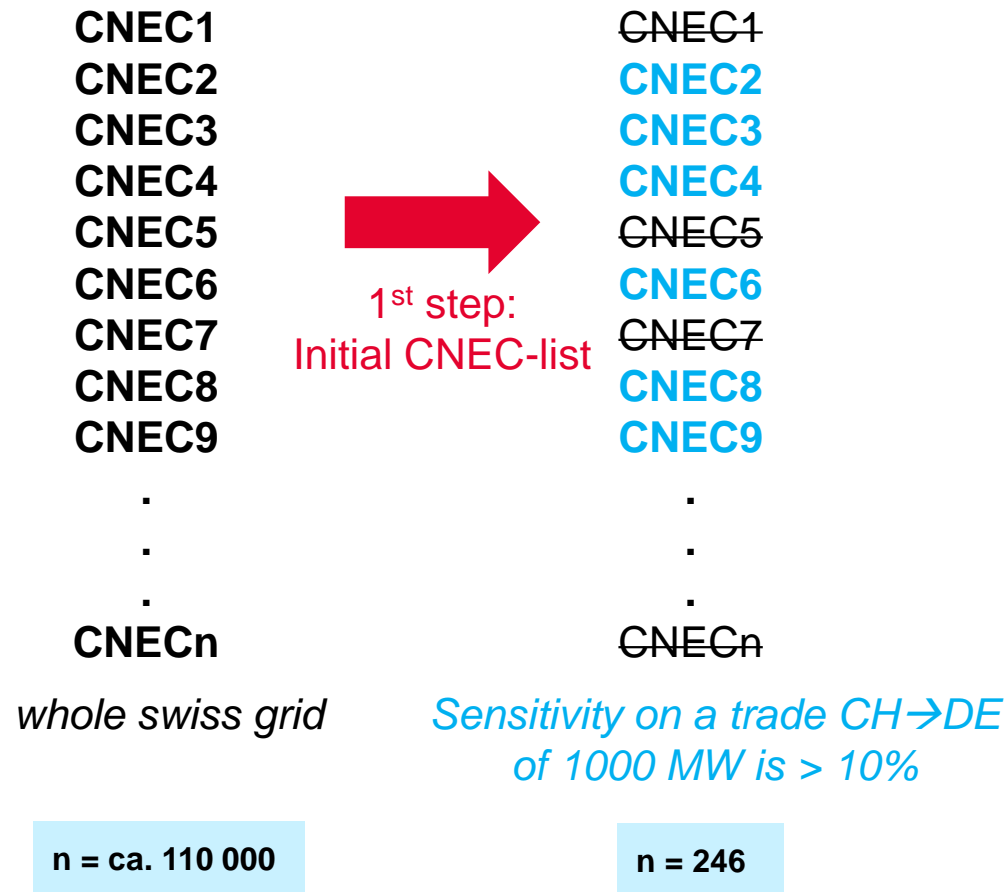
Grid model pretreatment - example

Example: «Transit»-scenario calculation 15.08.2021 16:30

Initial schedules (Standard-Model)	Starting schedules for CC	Adjustment of net position
$S_{CH \rightarrow DE} = 3900 \text{ MW}$ $S_{CH \rightarrow FR} = -2536 \text{ MW}$ $S_{CH \rightarrow IT} = 2400 \text{ MW}$	$S_{CH \rightarrow DE} = 4000 \text{ MW}$ $S_{CH \rightarrow FR} = -2500 \text{ MW}$ $S_{CH \rightarrow IT} = 2400 \text{ MW}$	$\Delta NP_{DE} = 4000 \text{ MW} - 3900 \text{ MW} = 100 \text{ MW}$ $\Delta NP_{FR} = -2500 \text{ MW} - (-2536) \text{ MW} = 36 \text{ MW}$ $\Delta NP_{IT} = 2400 \text{ MW} - 2400 \text{ MW} = 0 \text{ MW}$ $\Delta NP_{CH} = -100 \text{ MW} - 36 \text{ MW} + 0 \text{ MW} = -136 \text{ MW}$



All CNECs(*) that are influenced by > 10% by a trade CH→DE of 1000 MW are considered in the initial CNEC-list

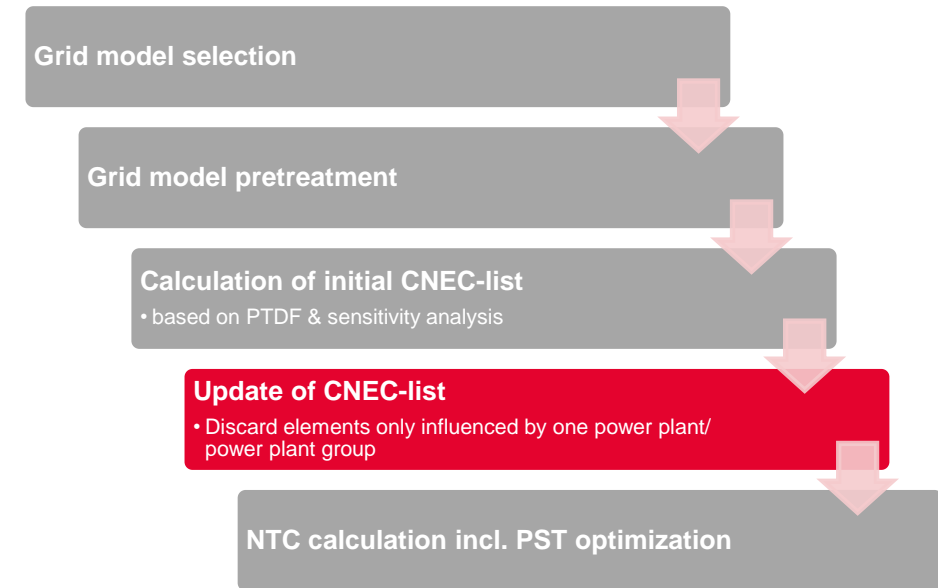
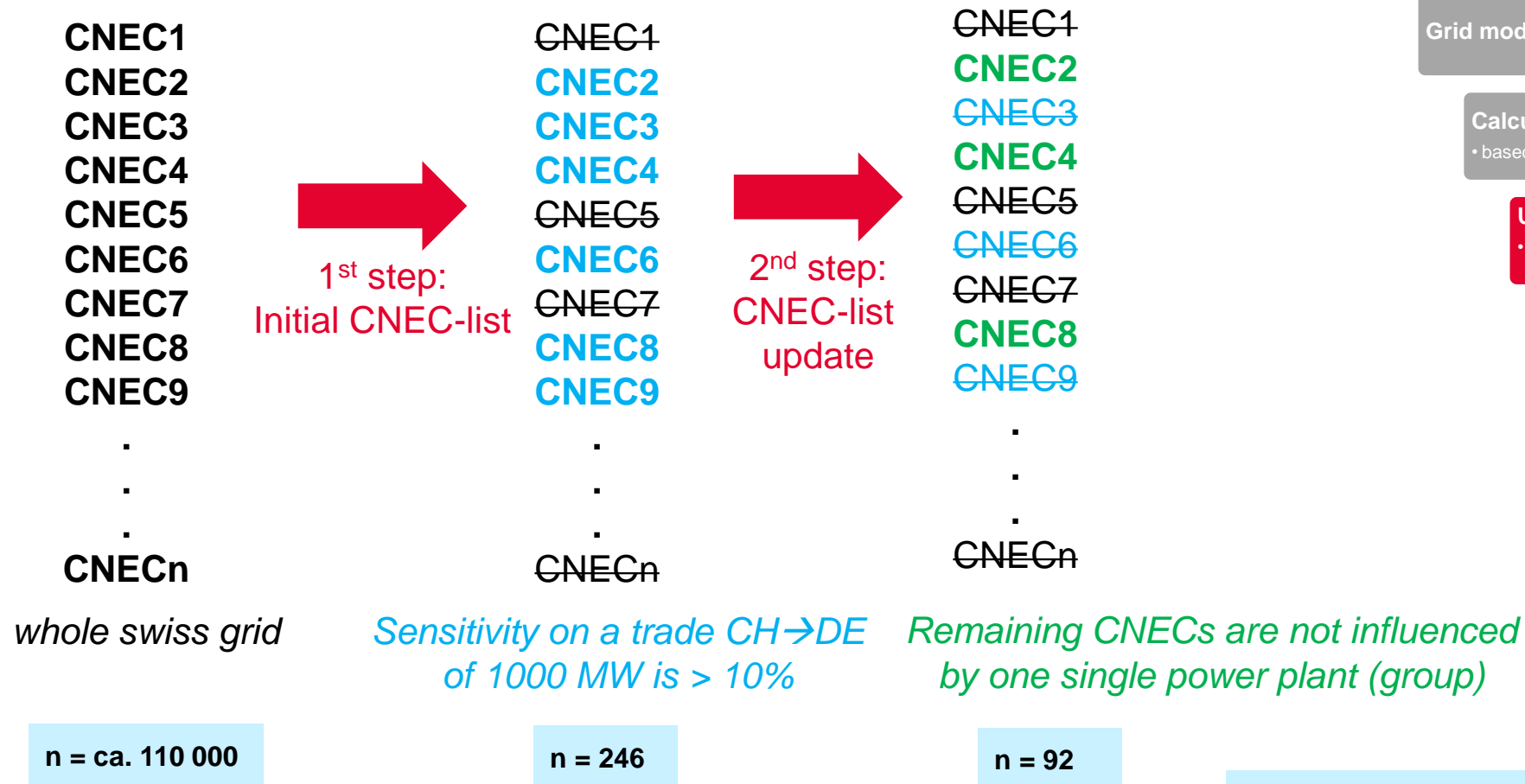


Example: «Transit»-scenario calculation 15.08.2021 16:30

(*) CNEC = **C**ritical **N**etwork **E**lement and **C**ontingency

All CNEC(*) that are influenced by only one power plant (group) are discarded.

- A CNEC is considered as influenced by only one power plant, if this **power plant contributes > 45% to the loading** of this CNEC
- If a CNEC is discarded, the related CNE is added in N-situation automatically



Example: «Transit»-scenario calculation 15.08.2021 16:30

(*) CNEC = **Critical Network Element and Contingency**

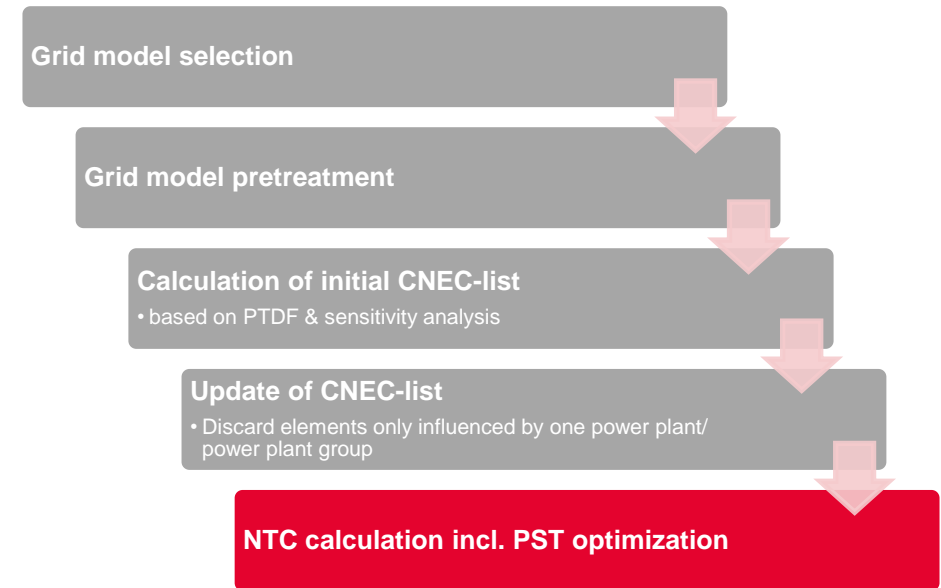
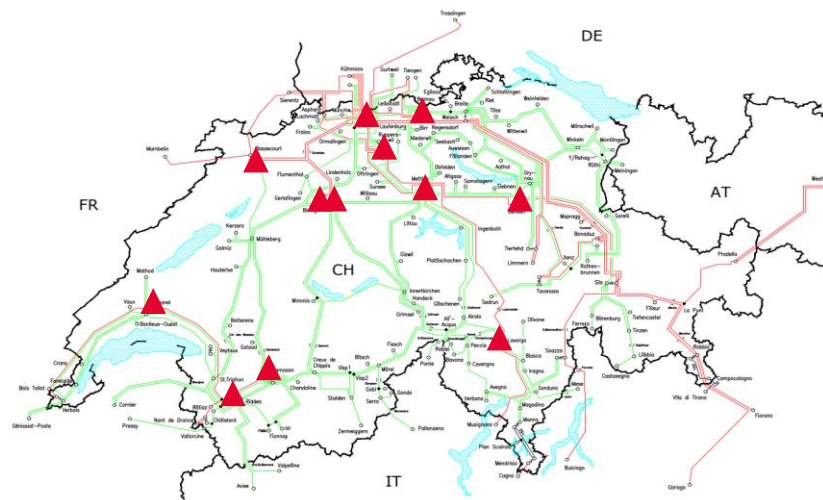
The NTC is increased by taking into account available PST taps.

- Execution of an **optimization function**, that maximizes ΔNTC while respecting the margin of the monitored CNECs and considering available PST taps
- The final NTC is then calculated as follows:

$$NTC_{CH \rightarrow DE} = Schedule_{Starting, CH \rightarrow DE} + \Delta NTC - TRM$$

- The TRM is 200 MW and the result is then rounded to the next 50 MW-step.

considered PSTs



NTC calculation example

Example: «Transit»-scenario calculation 15.08.2021 16:30

- $\Delta\text{NTC} = -345 \text{ MW}$
- $\text{NTC}_{\text{CH} \rightarrow \text{DE}} = 4000 \text{ MW} - 345 \text{ MW} - 200 \text{ MW} = 3455 \text{ MW} \rightarrow \underline{\underline{3450 \text{ MW}}}$

- If the same calculation was performed with the initial CNEC-list, the result would have been as follows

Example: «Transit»-scenario calculation 15.08.2021 16:30

- $\Delta\text{NTC} = -964 \text{ MW}$
- $\text{NTC}_{\text{CH} \rightarrow \text{DE}} = 4000 \text{ MW} - 964 \text{ MW} - 200 \text{ MW} = 2836 \text{ MW} \rightarrow \underline{\underline{2800 \text{ MW}}}$

