# Navigating Through the Grid Congestion Problem as Experienced by the Greek RES Market – What Went Wrong and Lessons to be Learned

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# State of Greek RES Market

**Key Trends**

**1.**
High RES investment in recent years with positive economic impact
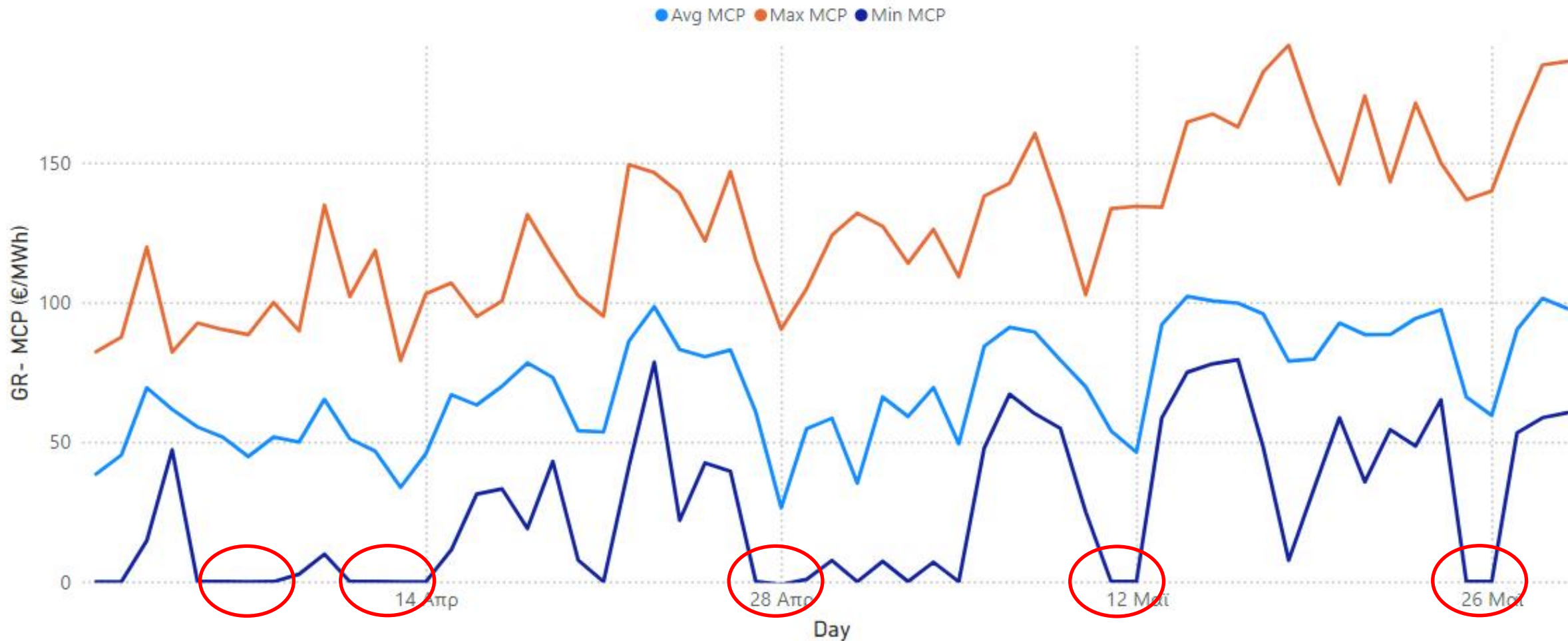
**2.**
Grid congestion slowing down licensing process

**3.**
Zero and negative prices in the spot market

# Greek Spot Market – Zero & Negative Prices

# RES Licensing Framework – A Key Factor?

**Phase A**
- Producer's Certificate & Environmental License
- Simplification of Phase A' in 2020
- Acceleration of initial licensing stages & increase of projects requesting grid access

**Phase B**
- Grid access, Installation License & Operation License
- Simplification of Phase B' did not produce same result
  A. Lagging grid infrastructure development
  B. Delayed BESS development – Effect on high injection curtailments and negative prices

# Measures to Address the Bottleneck

Introduction of **letters of guarantee** to filter out speculative investments (April 2021)

Promotion of **battery storage** to create electrical space and promote sophistication of RES business models

Entry into force of the Ministerial Decision establishing the *"Grid Connection Priority Framework"* (August 2022)

Regulation of capacity **injection curtailments**

# Lessons to be Learned

**Grid access must be secured early to avoid bottlenecks**

*Promotes viable projects that can actually be licensed and reach commercial operation*

**BESS & RES projects must mature at the same pace**

*Additional electrical capacity available; sophistication of RES business model*

**Proactive grid development**

*Infrastructure development and RES deployment must coincide*

**Interconnections**

*Demand boost from energy intensive industries of Central Europe*

**Promotion of self-consumption models**

*Especially those that do not involve injecting electricity to the grid*

**Legal certainty**

*Stability of regulatory framework is crucial for project planning and investor confidence*

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