Increased transmission capacity

Which are the major challenges and is it beneficial from an economic point of view?

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- > Organizational challenges
 - > Svenska kraftnät: number of employees doubled in 5 years or so
 - > Increased "production" volume demanding more efficient processes
- > Challenges in building new lines and cables
 - > Scarcity of external resources (contractors, consultants)
 - > Long permit processes
 - > Public acceptance



- > Obvious risk of suboptimization
 - > Those getting the benefits of transmission infrastructure aren't always those paying for it
 - > Risk of transmission investments cannibalizing on each other

- > Making sure that national grids are sufficient
 - > Transmission capacity is not beneficial if it's not available...



- > Security of supply
 - > Risks associated with decreased profitability of conventional power
 - > Especially relevant with a lot of subsidised production
 - > Instead of replacing production capacity in some areas with import capacity, we might end up having both



Is it beneficial from an economic point of view?

Well, it depends...

- > Is there a production surplus to transmit?
- > Whose economy?
 - > Swedish? Nordic? European?
 - > Consumers? Producers? TSO:s? Society as a whole?
- > How are various (socio-)economic effects valued?
- > Does policy, market design and grid planning work in the same direction?

...but, in principal: Yes.



In short:

Interconnection of European powermarkets

- > is not done overnight, and
- > is associated with some big challenges.

In order for it to be socio-economically beneficial, these challenges have to be managed successfully. Otherwise, we should choose a different path.



Thank you!

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