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**Financing solar and wind power in France:
regulatory framework and outlook**

Planning a net-zero France

Driven by the climate emergency, the French Government is resolutely committed to accelerating the ecological transition of our country.

Since 2021, the government has been preparing:

- **3rd national low-carbon strategy (SNBC):** France's roadmap for implementing its GHG emissions reduction policy
- **3rd national climate change adaptation plan (PNACC)**
- **3rd multi-annual energy programme (PPE):** serves as a key instrument for steering France's energy policy, including the Clean Mobility Development Strategy. The PPE has been published as of February 2026.

These documents form the basis for coherent, integrated and ambitious action: France's strategy for energy and climate (SFEC)



Multi-annual energy programme (PPE): focus on PV and Wind Power

The multi-annual energy programme (PPE) sets out the State's energy priorities for mainland France, over the next 10 years.

It sets production and decarbonization goals for each energy sector.

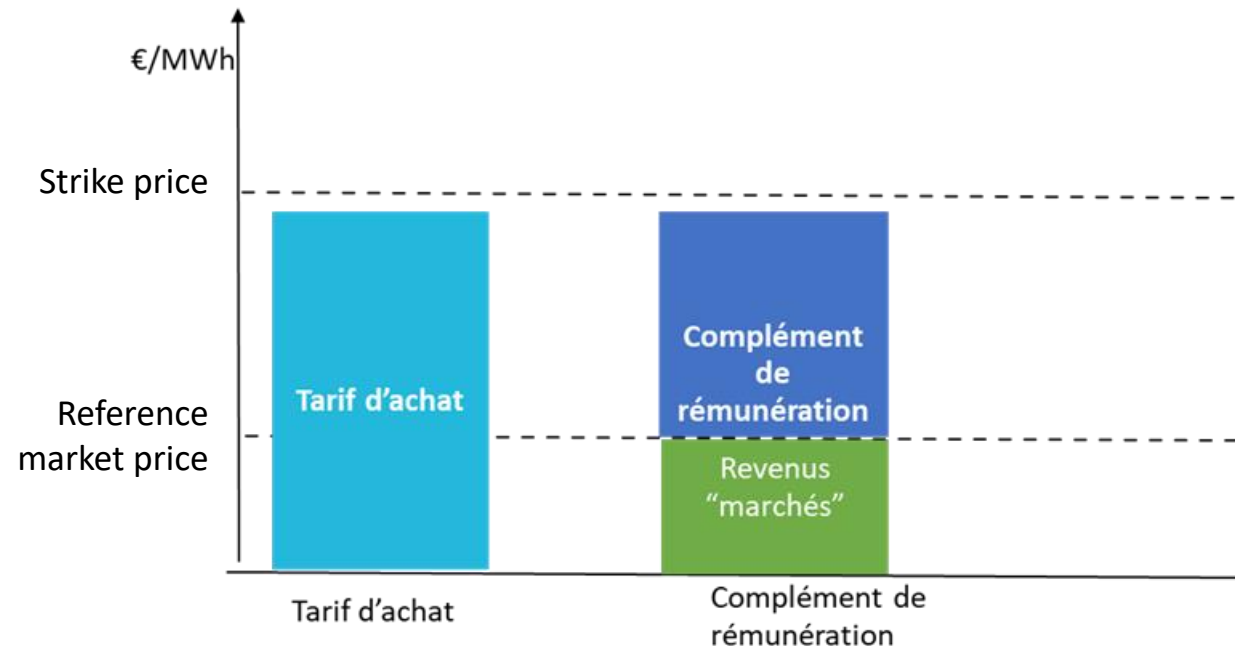
	2023	2030	2035
PV (GW)	19,3 GW ~ 22,7 TWh	48GW ~ 59 TWh	55 – 80 GW ~ 67 – 98 TWh
On Shore Wind Power (GW)	21,9 GW ~ 48,7 TWh	31 GW ~ 68 TWh	35 – 40 GW ~ 80 – 91 TWh

Indicative distribution for PV:

- 41 % on small and medium roofs;
- 5 % on small capacities on the ground;
- 54 % on large capacities, with 38 % on the ground and 16 % on roofs.

Feed-in tariffs & contract for differences

- To support the development of new wind and PV generation capacities, there are two main support mechanisms:
 - Feed-in tariffs, which were historically used and are only maintained today for small projects
 - Contract for differences



Feed in tariffs

- In France, feed-in tariffs have been progressively phased out and are now only reserved for small capacities.
- However, a large amount of capacities still benefit from this mechanism, and those installations don't respond to market signals, especially in case of negative prices. This situation is causing "wrongfully formed negative prices", because those installations could technically be disconnected from the grid.

Article 175 de loi de finances pour 2025 (arrêté du 22 décembre 2025): enforce new regulations on producers covered by feed-in tariffs over 10 MW:
The "acheteur obligé", ie EDF-OA, can send them a signal demanding a disconnection from the grid during specific time periods :

- If the producers disconnect their installation, they receive a standard compensation (calculated on the basis of the negative-price premium used for CfDs)
- If the producers continue to produce, they neither receive the compensation nor their feed-in tariff.

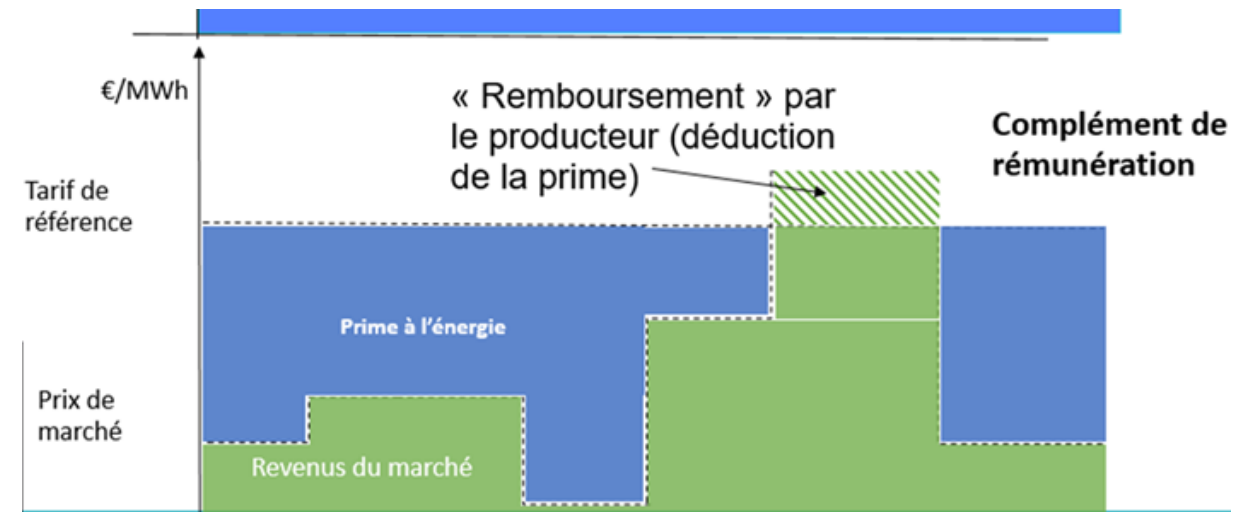
Contract for differences - 1/3

- Contracts for differences consist of a premium paid to a generator when the market price is below the strike price, in addition to the revenues they get from selling electricity on the market.
- It enables a project developer to cover the costs of its installation (investment and operation) while ensuring a normal return on invested capital.
- It can be assigned in two forms:
 - "Open window" : eligible installations directly conclude a contract for difference with Electricité de France;
 - By call for tenders: the winning bidders are designated by the Minister in charge of energy.
- The premium is paid "ex-post". It depends on the observed average market price.

Contract for differences – 2/3

In France, CfDs are symmetrical: in case of high market prices (above the strike price), producers must pay the difference to the state.

In case of negative prices, CfDs are not paid out. Instead, producers can benefit from a negative-price premium, which can be subject to a non-production condition.



Contract for differences : recent evolutions – 3/3

- [Article 175 de la loi de finances pour 2025 \(arrêté du 8 septembre 2025\)](#) modified the payment condition for the negative-price premium, in order to improve the integration of renewables within the electric system:
 - Tolerance of production (1 % for PV generation and wind power generation);
 - The negative premium is paid independently of the production in a price zone between 0 and -10 c€/MWh;
 - The negative premium is paid independently of the production if the intraday price is positive.
- [Article 183 de la loi de finances pour 2026 \(arrêté du 16 avril 2025\)](#) :
 - CfDs and negative-price premium are calculated based on the new Market Timing Unit of 15 minutes.
 - New ramping obligations to control stop and go dynamics.
 - Specific rules for isolated 15 minutes intervals (positive or negative).

Contract for differences : what's to come next ?

Call for tenders could incorporate further developments starting in 2027

- Integration of the intra-day negative price signal :
 - The CfD would be paid only when both day-ahead and intraday market prices are positive.
 - When day-ahead or intraday market prices are negative, the generator receives the negative-price premium.
- Evolution of the negative-price premium calculation to reflect a better estimation of the production coefficient:
 - Regionalization;
 - Monthly, and possibility for PV generation hourly.
- More generally: implenting Levy/Tuot recommandations on the optimization of public support granted to renewable and storage capacities.
- In the long term, reflection on the opportunity to support PV and on shore wind power through a « normative CfD ».



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Thank you