

The increase in renewable energy generation expectations reduces supply elasticity and increases price variations. In turn, higher demand expectations produce the opposite effect by absorbing price shocks

The impact of market expectations on supply elasticity and price volatility in the German-Austrian day-ahead electricity market

INTRO

- The characteristics of the electricity market make it more responsive to price variations.
- Greater price variations imply a higher risk for market participants.

AIM

- Find how expected variable renewable energy (VRE) and demand impact the day-ahead supply elasticity and, ultimately, make the wholesale price vary.

METHODS

- Compute the German-Austrian hourly supply elasticities between 2011 and 2018 (two main elasticities).
- Fixed effect model to estimate the impact of hourly VRE expected production and demand on elasticities.
- Compute the realized daily variance of log returns.
- Fixed effect model to estimate the impact of elasticities on realized variance.

RESULTS

- The relation between VRE and elasticities is negative and statistically significant.
- The link between expected demand and hourly elasticities is positive and statistically significant.
- A 1% increase in the inflexible elasticity of the curve reduces realized volatility by a greater amount than the same increase for the peak elasticity.

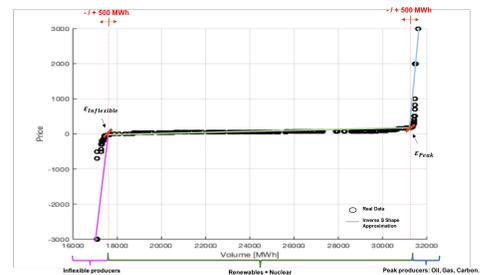
DISCUSSION

- The increase in VRE can decrease the efficiency of the electricity market by raising the price risk of market participants.
- The anticipation of demand absorbs price shocks and enhances market efficiency.
- It is essential to understand the drivers that affect supply elasticity due to their policy and investment implications.

TABLE – Elasticity estimates on daily realized variance

	RDVar All hours
Inflexible Elasticity	-75.53*** (16.57)
Peak Elasticity	-7.335*** (2.138)
Control variables	Yes
Time dummies	Yes
Fixed effects	Yes
Observations	42144

Driscoll-Kraay standard errors are in parentheses.
* p < 0.1, ** p < 0.05, *** p < 0.01



$$\varepsilon_{inflexible(h,t)} = \alpha_h + \beta_1 E[demand]_{(h,t)} + \beta_2 E[wind]_{(h,t)} + \beta_3 E[solar]_{(h,t)} + \beta_4 X'_{t-1} + \beta_5 X'_{t-1} F'_{t-1} + v_{(h,t)}$$

$$\varepsilon_{peak(h,t)} = \alpha_h + \beta_1 E[demand]_{(h,t)} + \beta_2 E[wind]_{(h,t)} + \beta_3 E[solar]_{(h,t)} + \beta_4 X'_{t-1} + \beta_5 X'_{t-1} F'_{t-1} + v_{(h,t)}$$

$$Realized\ Variance_{(t)} = \sum_{k=1}^{24} r_k^2$$

$$Realized\ Variance_{(t)} = \alpha_h + \beta_1 \varepsilon_{inflexible(h,t)} + \beta_2 \varepsilon_{peak(h,t)} + \beta_3 X'_{t-1} + \beta_5 X'_{t-1} F'_{t-1} + v_{(h,t)}$$

TABLE – Expected VRE and demand estimates on supply elasticities. Dependent variables : inflexible producers' elasticity and peak producers' elasticity

	Inflexible elasticity	Peak elasticity
Lag demand in TWh	0.145*** (0.0240)	0.164* (0.0833)
Wind forecast in TWh	-0.375*** (0.0174)	-1.032*** (0.0596)
Solar forecast in TWh	-0.320*** (0.0231)	-0.286*** (0.0995)
Control variables	Yes	Yes
Time dummies	Yes	Yes
Fixed effects	Yes	Yes
Observations	42384	42384

Driscoll-Kraay standard errors are in parentheses.

* p < 0.1, ** p < 0.05, *** p < 0.01

