

## **Press Release – April 28, 2026**

### **REFU Elektronik GmbH on the European Commission’s Decision to Immediately Exclude Inverters from High-Risk Countries from EU Funding**

REFU Elektronik GmbH takes note of the recent decision by the European Commission to exclude, with immediate effect, EU funding for energy projects that use inverters from so-called high-risk countries. According to recent reports, including those by Der Spiegel and pv magazine, this regulation entered into force in April 2026 and has immediate impact on newly submitted projects.

The core of the decision is that projects relying on financing from European institutions—particularly the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the European Investment Fund (EIF)—will no longer be permitted to deploy inverters originating from countries classified as security-critical.

The regulation applies to inverters from so-called high-risk countries. Based on current information, these include in particular China, Russia, Iran, and North Korea. In practical terms, the primary impact is on Chinese manufacturers, which currently account for a significant share of the European market.

Furthermore, the European Commission has instructed all relevant European funding banks to systematically review all projects under consideration for financing. As part of this review, the inverter technologies used must be explicitly assessed. Components from high-risk countries are to be excluded from project planning and will consequently disqualify projects from receiving EU funding.

This rule applies immediately to new projects. At the same time, transition periods have been defined: existing project pipelines must be reported promptly and submitted within specified deadlines for approval. In many cases, adjustments to the selected technology will be required to maintain eligibility for funding. A full phase-out in key funding segments is expected by April 2027.

The measure applies beyond the borders of the European Union to projects connected to the European power grid or supported by EU financial instruments, thereby giving the decision far-reaching implications for energy and industrial policy.

REFU Elektronik GmbH considers the decision by the European Commission to be the next important and appropriate step in strengthening the security of Europe’s power infrastructure—following the introduction of the NIS2 Directive and existing KRITIS regulations for the protection of critical infrastructure.

REFU Elektronik GmbH notes that the European Commission has, with this decision, clearly prioritized the protection of Europe’s energy infrastructure. The integrity and security of critical system components—especially digitally connected inverters—are now at the center of energy policy decisions.

At the same time, REFU Elektronik GmbH emphasizes that the energy transition in Europe has so far been targeted for completion by 2045. However, with the currently available production capacities within Europe, this objective is not realistically achievable. Against this backdrop, REFU Elektronik GmbH calls for industrial policy framework conditions to be aligned accordingly and for a significant expansion of European manufacturing capacities.

At the same time, REFU Elektronik GmbH calls on the European Commission and policymakers across Europe to further strengthen the industrial policy framework:

- **a significant and sustainable reduction in industrial electricity prices in Europe,**
- **targeted and scalable support programs for the power electronics industry,**
- **and concrete measures to expand existing production capacities for inverters and energy storage systems in Europe.**

**Only through competitive industrial electricity prices and reliable investment incentives can European industry fulfill the role now politically assigned to it as the backbone of a secure energy infrastructure.**

As a German manufacturer of power electronics, REFU Elektronik GmbH already meets the highest standards in quality, IT security, and regulatory compliance. Our products stand for transparency, control, and technological sovereignty.

REFU Elektronik GmbH is convinced that if security policy requirements become the central steering mechanism of the market, Europe must also create the economic conditions necessary to sustainably strengthen its own industry and maintain global competitiveness.

#### **About REFU Elektronik GmbH**

REFU Elektronik GmbH was founded in 1965 and is headquartered in Pfullingen. The company operates production sites in Hungary and Poland and is part of the PRETTL Group, an internationally active corporate group with more than 12,000 employees worldwide. REFU Elektronik develops and manufactures innovative power electronic solutions for renewable energy and industrial applications and stands for the highest standards of safety, quality, efficiency, and reliability.

REFU Elektronik GmbH has met the European deadline of March 6, 2026, and has registered in accordance with the requirements of the NIS2 Directive and KRITIS regulations.



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