Alexander Neef

SHORT BIO

Dr. Alexander Neef works as Consultant at Neon on locational signals in the electricity market, balancing energy and energy systems. He advises the German government on implementing locational signals to relief grid congestion. For a Danish investment fund, he has analyzed the economic benefits of offshore energy islands. Prior to his work at Neon, he held a scholarship for the German Bundestag, where he worked on the gas supply of Germany and the future of biogas for electricity generation. He holds a Ph.D in physics from Technical University Berlin and a M.Sc. in physics from University of Regensburg.

Positions

2024 – present	Consultant at Neon, Berlin Focus: locational signals in the electricity market, managing excess renewable generation
2024	Scientific associate, German Bundestag Advisor to MP Lisa Badum (B90/Grüne). Focus: gas supply of Germany, future of biogas for electricity generation, linking science and politics through the National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina
2018 – 2024	Doctoral Research, Fritz Haber Institute, Berlin Study of electronic properties of molecular semiconductors with time- and angle-resolved photoemission spectroscopy. Description of dynamic disorder and orbital-resolved observation of singlet fission

EDUCATION

2018 – 2024	Physics (Ph.D.), Technical University Berlin "Fluctuations and exciton dynamics in molecular semiconductors" (summa cum laude)
2015 – 2018	Physics (M.Sc.), University of Regensburg GPA: 1.2, interim research stay at CIC/Nanogune, San Sebastian
2011 – 2014	Chemisty and Biochemistry (B.Sc.) Ludwig-Maximillians-Universität Munich $\ensuremath{GPA:}\xspace 1.9$
2009 – 2011	Chemistry (Early university studies), University of Regensburg

HONORS

2024	Best thesis award, Physikalische Gesellschaft zu Berlin
2022	Best poster award, Gordon research conference Lucca
2012 – 2018	Scholarship, Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes
2011	4th round, International Chemistry Olympiad

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

2025 – ongoing Bewirtschaftungsentgelt (BFE)

The switch to a single-price balancing energy system in Switzerland from 2026 requires an update of the methodology for calculating the management fee for some installations in the feed-in remuneration system. We analyze the existing regulation, identify the need for adjustments, and develop a transparent, data-based formula for the variable cost component (balancing energy costs).

2025 Offshore energy island (Danish investment fund).

Germany has ambitious offshore wind targets that require costly grid expansion. For a large project developer we assess whether a hybrid hydrogen/electrical connection of North Sea wind can reduce system costs. 2025.

2024 – ongoing Local signals (BMWK)

In uniform pricing mechanisms such as in Germany, the transport of large volumes of cheap wind energy in the north to load centers in the south and west is frequently constrained by limited grid capacity. This leads to expensive redispatch measures and the loss of cheap wind energy. Neon advises the Federal Ministry for Economy and Climate Action on policies that help to coordinate dispatch and investments by introducing local price signals.