



Sabiedrisko pakalpojumu  
regulēšanas komisija

# On Special Regulatory Environment

April 23, 2026

# What`s new in Latvia?

## ➤ **Innovative Business and Priority Project Aid Law (2024)**

**Delegated act:** Regulations on the Procedure for Submission and Evaluation of Applications in the Special Regulatory Environment (*under development*)

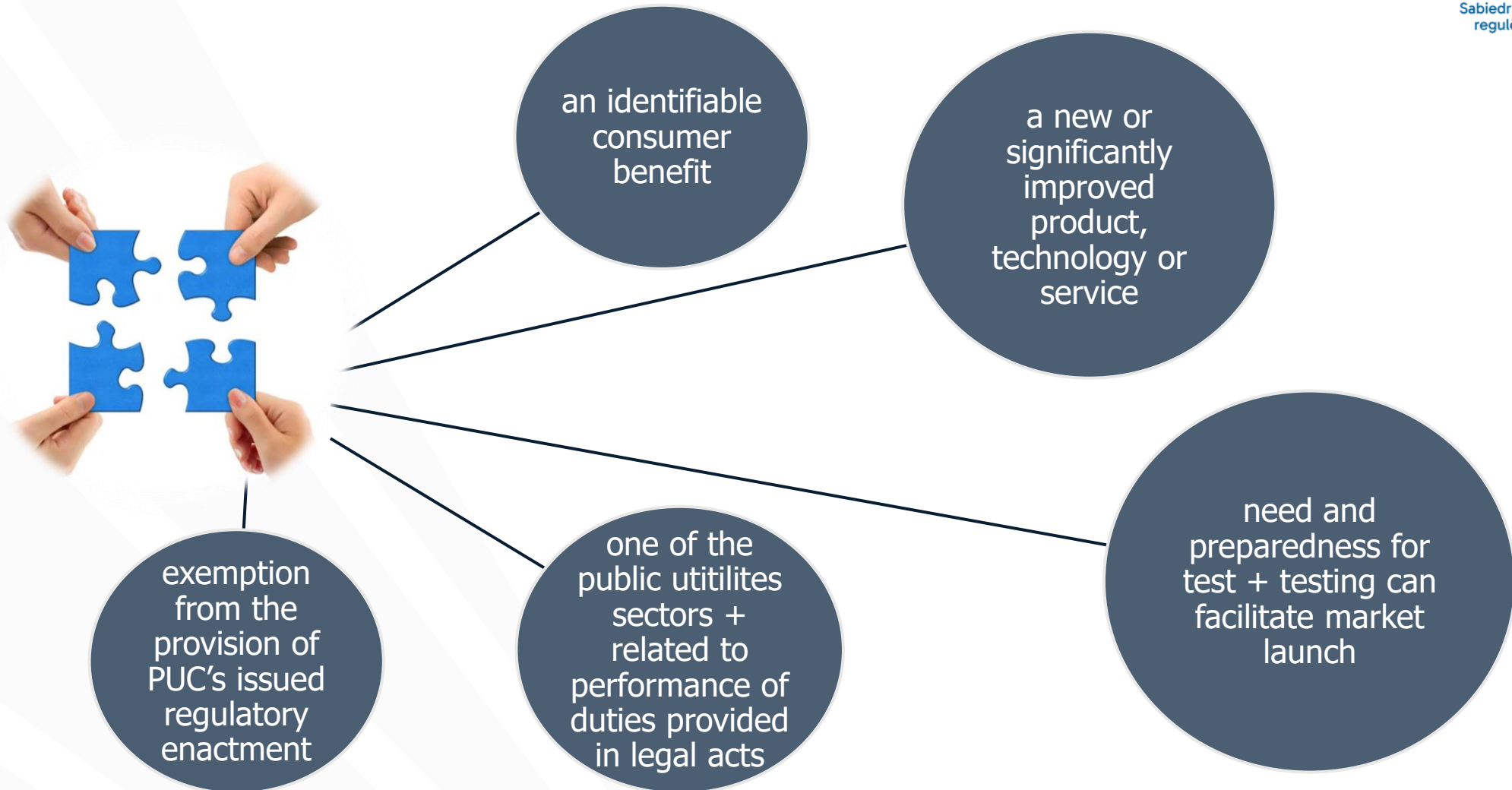
## ➤ **Artificial Intelligence Centre Law (2025)**

**Delegated act:** Regulations on the Procedure for the Organisation of the Special Regulatory Environment and Data Processing by the Artificial Intelligence Centre (2026)

## ➤ **Special Regulatory Environment Regulations (2025)** issued by the PUC

➤ The Ministry of Climate and Energy, the PUC, the Latvian District Heating Association, electricity distribution system operator AS "Sadales tīkls" signed **a memorandum on close cooperation in the fields of electricity and heat supply (2024)**

# Charateristics of Special Regulatory Environment



# Which innovation can be tested?

## Criteria for innovation

- a new or significantly improved product, technology or service, or innovative ways of using an existing product, technology, or service in the market
- complies with a regulated public service sector
- the innovation is related to fulfilling the obligations of a merchant set out in the regulatory framework of the specific regulated sector and improving the quality of their performance
- a need for testing
- testing may facilitate the introduction of the innovation to the market
- identifiable benefits for users
- additional criteria (if necessary)

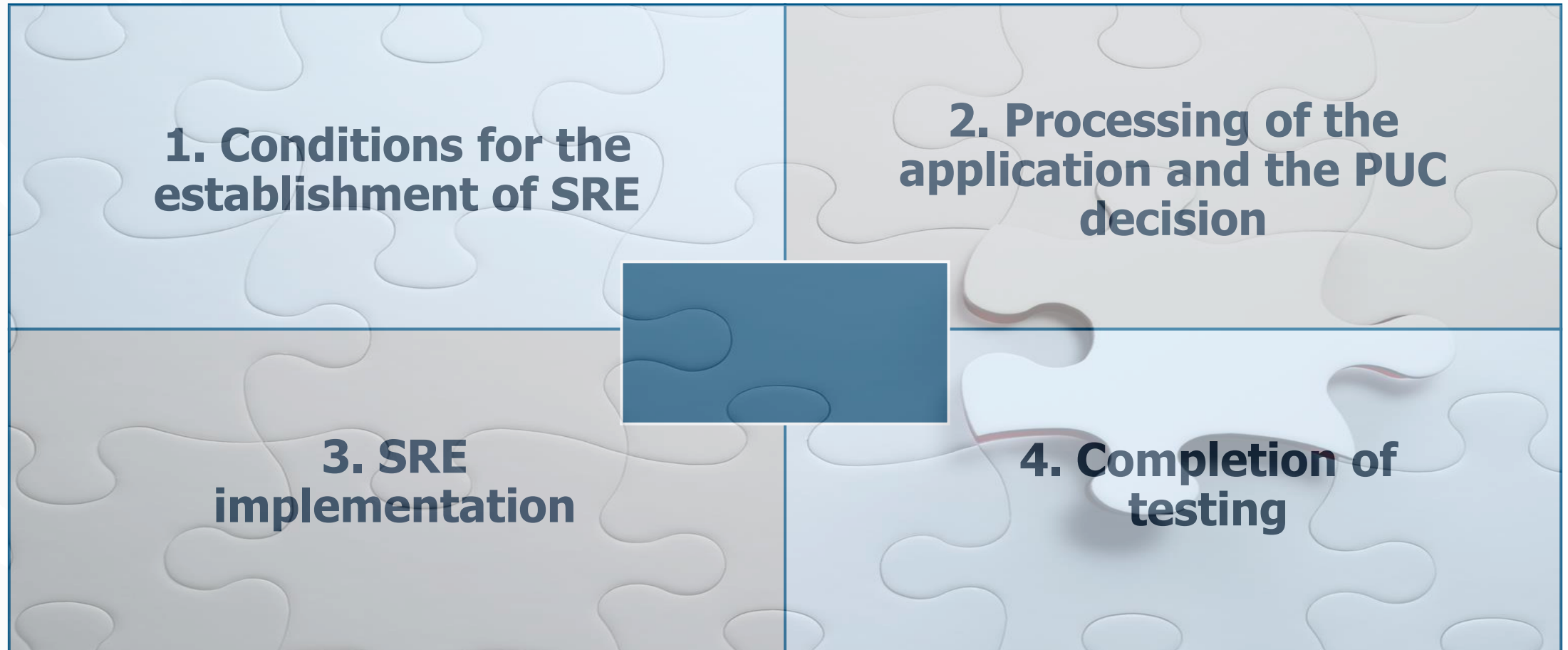
## Criteria for public utilities services provider

- has carried out the necessary preparatory work regarding risk assessment and management, as well as the development of user information and protection measures
- test plan has been prepared
- no sanctions have been imposed on it
- it is not directly influenced by Russia or Belarus, their companies or their citizens
- its economic activity is not hindered or restricted

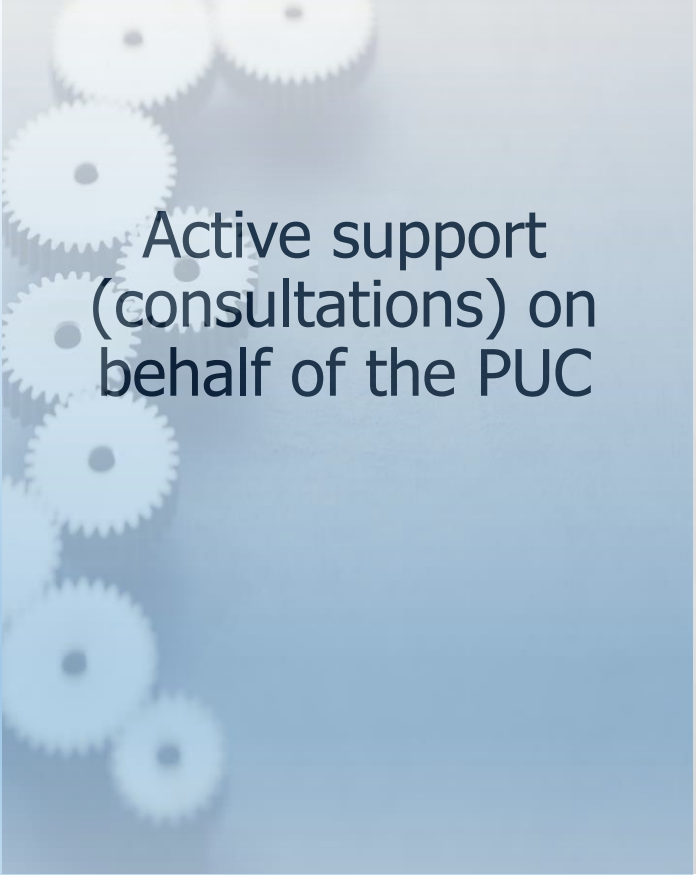
## Required documents

- Application (including description of the special regulatory environment, Annex No1 of the Regulations)
- Innovation test plan (Annex No2 of the Regulations)

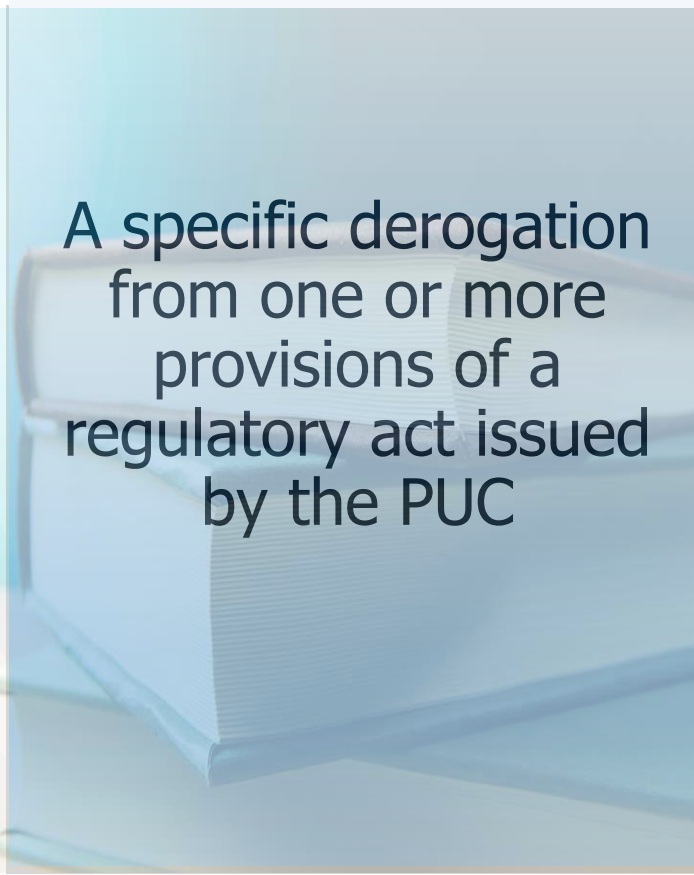
# Special Regulatory Environment (SRE) Regulations



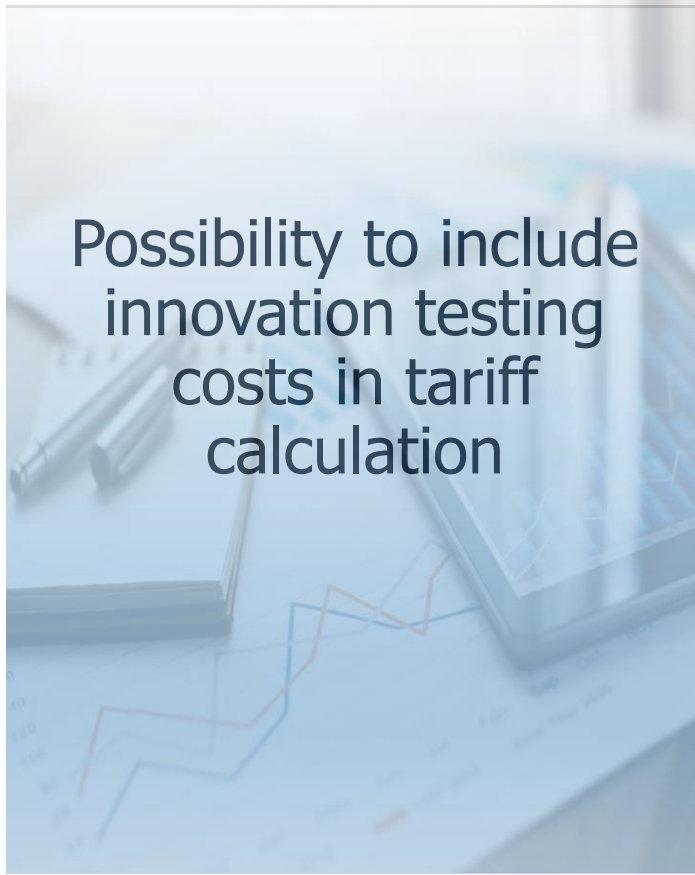
# How testing is encouraged



Active support  
(consultations) on  
behalf of the PUC



A specific derogation  
from one or more  
provisions of a  
regulatory act issued  
by the PUC



Possibility to include  
innovation testing  
costs in tariff  
calculation

# Approved special regulatory environments (1)

## Key facts

- District heating operator AS «Rīgas siltums»
- **Testing of the operation of a new technology** - an electrode water-heating boiler at its heat plant and **participating in the electricity balancing markets**
- **The collection of actual technical and economic data** over a two-year period to objectively assess the technology's impact on costs and the final heat energy tariff.
- **Requested derogation from the thermal energy supply services tariff calculation methodology granted**

# Approved special regulatory environments (2)

## Key facts

- Electricity distribution system operator AS «Sadales tīkls» and district heating operator «Salaspils Siltums»
- **Integration of a heat pump into the existing district heating infrastructure**, using electricity from the distribution system network
- **Gain of the practical experience** regarding the operation of the heat pump in the electricity balancing market, energy production costs and stability of the district heating service tariff
- **Possibility to assess the need to improve the tariff structure of electricity distribution system services** to promote the electrification of district heating
- **Requested derogations from the tariff calculation methodologies granted**



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Thank you for your  
attention!