Future Power Markets Workshop

Questions & Answers

Thank you for attending the Future Power Markets Workshop on **Wednesday, 19 November 2025**.

This document provides answers to the questions raised during the event. For ease of reference, the FAQ is organized by each segment presented on the day.

Segment
1. EirGrid-ESB Networks TSO-DSO Operating Model
2. Future Arrangements for System Services (FASS)
3. Scheduling & Dispatch Programme (SDP)
4. Strategic Markets Programme (SMP)
5. Energy Market Policy (EMP)
6. EirGrid LDES - Feedback on Procurement Consultation

1 EirGrid-ESB Networks TSO-DSO Operating Model

Q1: ResearchGate: In 2025, a paper on the DSO-TSO operating model by EirGrid was published. Could this be shared ahead of the meeting on 3rd December?

A1: Please use the following link to access the document:
https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/11225596
If you experience any issues accessing it, please contact us at FuturePowerMarkets@Eirgrid.com or futurepowermarketsNI@soni.ltd.uk

Q2: What are the key outcomes for participants of this work?

A2: More detailed information available in the upcoming webinar and previously published webinar materials, but at a high level, the concept is that participants connected to the distribution system may have defined operating procedures and receive specific information from the DSO or TSO to ensure coordinated utilization. Whether this would be relevant to a particular participant would depend on the mechanisms they take part in.

One scenario could be engaging in a DSO product designed to manage congestion on the distribution network. In such cases, processes will be established to align with other market activities—such as wholesale market arrangements, energy markets, system services—so that when resources are used for a DSO service, the impact is accounted for across all other markets.

Participants will have obligations to meet requirements for each product they engage in. If fulfilling a DSO obligation affects compliance in other markets, this will influence how the participants need to trade in those other markets. Therefore, clear information flows as being established under the TSO-DSO Operating Model are essential to ensure coordination and visibility across all services and markets.

2 Future Arrangements for System Services (FASS)

Q1: Will we see FASS go live delayed and when will we see the new PIR?

A1: We are continuing to work towards a May 2027 Go-live. Regarding the PIR, our initial plan was to publish it in October. However, we need greater clarity on several workstreams—such as non-reserve services, licensing and regulation, and credit management implementation—before we can update the PIR. We will proceed as soon as possible once these areas are resolved.

Q2: Do you think you would be in a place to update/release the PIR V4.0 this side of 2025?

A2: We will aim to publish it before Christmas. Otherwise, it will be early in the New Year. As discussed, the publication date will be driven by the open items such as the non-reserve services.

Q3: On the non-reserves consultation is there any rough timeline for the consultation to be released?

A3: We have had a complete draft of the consultation paper ready since June of this year. However, we must first reach alignment on the consultation paper with the Regulators before proceeding. We are continuing to engage with them and hope to publish the paper as soon as that alignment is achieved.

3 Scheduling & Dispatch Programme (SDP)

Q1: SDP-04 Wind Dispatch Improvements: please could you clarify what is exactly in scope with SDP-04 implementation now, without RAs approval of SDP-01 NPDRs? Is SDP-04 a new algorithm that redistributes curtailment and constraints proportionally among wind units, still all with Priority of Dispatch?

A1: The 'Guide to Rebalancing' document published here provides an overview of the scope and objectives of the SDP-04 initiative.

In short, SDP-04 aims to strengthen the Control Centres' capability to manage renewable generation (wind and solar) and introduce a fairer approach to constraint and curtailment allocation.

A key feature of this initiative is "rebalancing", which enables the redistribution of constraint and curtailment allocations among renewable generation units in response to changing weather conditions and unit availabilities. As part of SDP_04, this functionality will be delivered through

upgrades to the Wind Dispatch Tool, including new dispatch functionality and improved decision-support views.

Q2: From FPMDA October newsletter: the Programme is engaging with the RAs on the SDP-04 market participant guide in advance of sharing with market participants. Is the market participant guide finalised now? A publication date has been agreed?

A2: The 'Guide to Rebalancing' document (SDP-04 Market Participant Guide) was published on 20th November here. A market message was issued on 21st November informing industry of the documents publication. An email was also sent by the SDP Programme to the Future Power Markets mailing list on 21st November with notification of the document's publication.

Q3: Could you provide us with an update on when you expect the Market Participant Guide for SDP-04 to be published. Thank you.

A3: The 'Guide to Rebalancing' document (SDP-04 Market Participant Guide) was published on 20th November here. A market message was issued on 21st November informing industry of the documents publication. An email was also sent by the SDP Programme to the Future Power Markets mailing list on 21st November with notification of the document's publication.

Q4: Is there any idea of earliest possibly go live of SDP-01?

A4: As per the SDP status update, a comprehensive planning activity will be required following a decision from the RAs on Mod 13_23. The timeline will reflect the time required to progress a broad range of activities to take place before the go-live, including market participant engagement, support and readiness activity. The TSOs estimate they will need a minimum of 6 months to complete these activities to be confirmed during the planning activity.

Q5: SDP - could you please provide more insight into how the RAs and SEMC are assessing the related NPDR mods I.E Is there weekly/monthly meetings taking place?

A5: The TSOs are not in a position to provide detail on how the RAs and SEMC are assessing Mod_13_23 and SEM-24-044. The RAs have requested that the TSOs undertake modelling to inform their assessment and the TSOs aim to progress this activity in the coming months.

Q6: Have you seen different run operation patterns since the deployment of SDP-02?

A6: The TSOs plan to share information on post SDP-02 go-live observations and findings, in the new year, so that patterns can be assessed over a suitable period of time.

Q7: In earlier updates, it was described that following SDP, there would be some monitoring of the level of dispatch versus PN on batteries, and the extent of resdispatch, reasons etc. - is it possible to expand on this, and how it is expected to be monitored/reported on?

A7: The TSOs and RAs are engaging on this subject. Relevant information will be shared with industry following the completion of this engagement between the TSOs and RAs.

4 Strategic Markets Programme (SMP)

Q1: Is there any concern with EU market software calculation speeds, when we add in Irish individual units and complex bids?

A1: We are aware of the algorithm performance issues giving rise for concern to the EU and the reforms that have been proposed in the draft CACM 2.0 guidelines. At the EU level we continue to advocate for the algorithms to be able to reflect the unique characteristics of the Irish system and market as we did successfully in the past for ISEM. When SEM goes-live in the SDAC/SIDC markets when Celtic arrives in 2028 it is our objective that SEM participants will retain a degree of flexibility in their bids and offers notwithstanding the constraints of the algorithm and performance concerns outlined above. Ultimately, the products on offer will be an issue for the NEMOs and participants will need to raise any concerns directly with them.

5 Energy Market Policy (EMP)

Q1: Is MRLVC still the preferred way forward or would be be more likely to see GB return to EUPHEMIA?

A1: MRLVC remains the preferred way forward under the current Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA). Articles 312–317 of the TCA explicitly propose Multi-Regional Loose Volume Coupling as the post-Brexit solution for day-ahead cross-border trading. The European Commission formalized this position in November 2024 (COM(2024)539), directing validation of MRLVC through a joint TSO report addressing fallback arrangements, Border Bidding Zone forecasting, and Offshore Bidding Zones.

The Specialized Committee on Energy, supported by TSOs (including EirGrid) and Regulatory Authorities, continues to review technical aspects. A non-commercial version of the report and informal regulatory opinions will be published later this year. EirGrid and other TSOs, coordinated by ENTSO-E, are actively engaging with DESNZ, the European Commission, and national authorities to ensure timely implementation of whatever policy decisions emerge.

Currently, this is unlikely without renegotiating the TCA. EUPHEMIA (implicit market coupling) remains the most efficient model, but GB's departure from the Internal Energy Market means reintegration would require a new legal framework. While some stakeholders advocate for price coupling, the formal EU position and ongoing validation work indicate that MRLVC is still the short-term path forward.

Q2: Could not find any minutes from the SCE meeting last week yet (unreliable source) the paper this weekend had mentioned EU requesting GB add to budget for single market access which should include Electricity.

A2: It will take a while for the minutes to be published. Please refer at a later date to this website Specialised Committee on Energy - GOV.UK for past agenda items and minutes.

6 EirGrid LDES - Feedback on Procurement Consultation

No questions were raised during this segment.