

Stage 01: Initial Written Assessment

What stage is this document in the process?

01 Initial Written Assessment

02 Definition Procedure

03 Assessment Procedure

04 Report Phase

P243

Publication of Generator Forward Availability by Fuel type

P243 aims to produce a more detailed forecast of Generator availability, by publishing Output Useable data broken down by 'fuel types' on the Balancing Mechanism Reporting System (BMRS).



ELEXON recommends
A 3 month Assessment Procedure



Impacts:
Generators, Transmission Company, the BMRS, Non Physical Traders, Interconnector Users, Interconnector Administrators and Interconnector Error Administrator.

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About this document:

This document is an Initial Written Assessment (IWA), which ELEXON will present to the Panel on 13 August 2009. The Panel will consider the recommendations and agree how to progress P243.

Further information is available in the P243 Modification Proposal which is Attachment A of this document.



Any questions?

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1 Why Change?

Data on the BMRS and BSC website

The Balancing Mechanism Reporting System (BMRS) is an informational website that provides current and historic data on the electricity market, such as Imbalance prices, forecasted Demand and system prices.

Currently, the BMRS provides near real-time information for Out-turn data. Out-turn data is a measure of the actual generation exported onto the Transmission System and is collected in real time via National Grid's operational metering. The data is reported at both national and BM Unit level, and is also broken down to show Generation by Fuel type. There are 11 'Fuel type categories', including the major fuel types:

- Oil;
- Coal;
- Wind;
- Nuclear; and
- Gas

National Grid also publishes Output Useable data via the BSC website. Output Useable data is the forecast of how much generation will be produced (Generator availability) and is based on information submitted by Generators in compliance with Grid Code obligation OC2. The Output Useable data is published for the following periods:

- 2-14 days ahead;
- 2-49 days ahead;
- 2-52 weeks ahead;
- 1-2 years ahead; and
- 3-5 years ahead.

The issue

Both Out-turn and Output Useable data include data on the whole of the GB Transmission System, known as 'National' data.

However, unlike Out-turn data, Output Useable data is not broken down by Fuel Type, is not published on the BMRS and is not published on a BM Unit basis. Therefore, while you can see a detailed breakdown for Generation Out-turn on a BM Unit level, you cannot see a comparable detailed breakdown for Output Useable data. This means that:

- Detailed comparisons between the Output Useable and Out-turn data cannot be made. Only high level comparisons are possible;
- The future availability of a plant cannot be viewed; and
- Strategic decisions with respect to generation cannot be made.

The issue of publishing Output Useable data by fuel type was previously discussed under Issue 17 'Review of Electricity Market Information' in 2005. Although the Issue Group believed that a Modification should be raised to consider this issue further, no such Modification has been raised until now.



The BMRS

The BMRS can be accessed at:
www.bmreports.com



11 fuel type categories

- Oil;
- Coal;
- Wind;
- Nuclear;
- Gas;
- French Interconnector;
- Irish Interconnector;
- Pumped Storage;
- Hydro;
- OCGT; and
- CCGT.

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Proposed solution

P243 aims to publish on the BMRS, Output Useable data broken down by the same fuel types as Out-turn data.

Louis Dreyfus has requested that as a minimum the Modification should ensure that Output Usable data is published on the BMRS:

- by BM Unit, so as to enable comparisons between Out-turn and Output Useable data;
- for the same 11 'Fuel type categories' used for Out-turn data; and
- For the 2-14 days and 2-52 weeks ahead periods.

As these are minimum requirements, the Modification Group can add further requirements as they may see appropriate in order to develop a robust solution.

It is not the intention of P243 to place any further obligations on BSC Parties. As such this solution will not require the submission of new information. It only aims to introduce a new way of aggregating current Generator availability data already supplied by BSC Parties.

Applicable BSC Objectives

The Proposer believes that this Modification would better facilitate the Applicable BSC Objectives (c) as it would improve the accessibility and transparency of information on likely availability of generation capacity by fuel type.

Additionally, the provision of availability by fuel type in a readily understandable way is believed to assist small Parties and those that do not have significant forecast capabilities. In doing so, it is believed that P243 will reduce entry barriers for potential market participants and benefit small Parties/Parties that have limited resources for forecasting.

Market Liquidity

The term market liquidity refers to the volume of transactions within a market. With sufficient buyers and sellers, a market enjoys continuous offers, bidding, and consummated transactions, thus achieving market liquidity (See attachment A).

The Proposer has noted that publication of such data would increase transparency of the UK electricity market and bring it in line with transparency levels across Europe. It is argued that an increase in transparency would have a positive impact on market liquidity and therefore support the efforts by Ofgem to increase the liquidity in the UK electricity market.



What are the Applicable BSC Objectives?

- (a) The efficient discharge by the Transmission Company of the obligations imposed upon it by the Transmission Licence
- (b) The efficient, economic and co-ordinated operation of the GB Transmission System
- (c) Promoting effective competition in the generation and supply of electricity and (so far as consistent therewith) promoting such competition in the sale and purchase of electricity
- (d) Promoting efficiency in the implementation of the balancing and settlement arrangements

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**Modification Group
Terms of Reference**

Standard Terms of Reference for the SSMG can be found on at the [SSMG webpage](#).

Terms of Reference

ELEXON believes that the P243 Modification Group should be formed from members of the Settlements Standing Modification Group (SSMG). In addition, the P243 Modification Group should be supported by group members who attended the P219/P220 Modification Groups.

We recommend that the areas for consideration raised by this IWA should form the basis of the Modification Group Terms of Reference, along with any additional areas proposed by the Panel.

P243 Terms of Reference		
No	Area	Reason
1	Whether it is feasible to publish the required information	Is it possible for National Grid to obtain and consequently publish this data, broken down by fuel types, and what the impacts of publishing this information are on industry
2	Whether there are any confidentiality issues surrounding the publication of such data	Publishing such information may provide details into how particular generators may behave
3	Consider how the 'Output Useable data broken down by fuel type' will be published	Should the data be published as a graph, CSV file, tabulated?
4	Consider whether the continued publication of Output Useable data on the BSC and National Grid websites is appropriate	If Output Useable data is broken down by fuel type and published on the BMRS, it would mean duplication of data across three different website
5	The Implementation approach for P243	Whether P243 should be implemented in a standard BSC release or as a Standalone Modification
6	The benefits and drawbacks of P243, including any cost benefit analysis.	To identify the benefits of the P243 solution
7	Whether an Alternative Modification is required	To identify whether an Alternative solution would better facilitate the BSC Objectives when compared to the baseline and Proposed Modification

Timetable and costs

Estimated progression costs based on proposed timetable	
Meeting costs (including Modification Group member expenses)	£2,000
ELEXON resource	£67 man days, equating to £12,420

As the areas for consideration are well defined, BSCCo recommends a 3 month Assessment Procedure for P243. This time will be used to further consider and consult upon the areas raised in this IWA.

We estimate that progression of P243 will require:

- 4 Modification Group meetings;
- 1 ELEXON impact assessment;
- 1 industry consultation and 1 impact assessment by BSC Agents, Parties and Party Agents; and
- 1 request for Transmission Company analysis.

4 Likely Impacts

Impact on BSC Systems and process

BSC System/Process	Potential impact
BMRS	Changes will be required to the BMRS in order to make the new data items available to Parties via the website and (for High Grade users) the TIBCO messaging service.

Impact on BSC Agent/service provider contractual arrangements

None

Impact on BSC Parties and Party Agents

BSC Parties and non-Parties who currently use the BMRS High Grade Service will be able to receive the new and amended data items via the website and/or TIBCO messaging. Parties and non-Parties using the Low Grade Service would be able to access the new and amended data items via the public website.

Impact on Transmission Company

Changes will be required to the National Grid systems, in order to submit the amended (new and existing) data files to the BMRS. Changes to the 'BMRS & SAA Interface Specification' which sets out the format of data submitted to the BMRS and ELEXON.

Impact on ELEXON

Area of ELEXON's business	Potential impact
Service Delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Observing Operational Acceptance Testing (OAT), keeping track of development progress and the management of LogicaCMG in their provision of the BMRS. Potential impact on BSC website, depending on where the P243 data is published

Impact on Code

Code section	Potential impact
Section Q	These sections will require amendment to reflect the P243 solution developed by the Modification Group
Section V	
Section X	

Impact on Code Subsidiary Documents

CSD	Potential impact
BMRA Service Description	Change would need to be captured in this document to reflect the P243 solution

Impact on Core Industry Documents and other documents

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Impact on Core Industry Documents and other documents

Document	Potential impact
Grid Code	Changes may be required to this document, to reflect any aggregation and publication of Output Useable data

Impact on other Configurable Items

Configurable Item	Potential impact
Logica Interface Definition and Design (IDD) Part 1	Changes to these documents may be required to reflect the data items proposed under P243
Logica Interface Definition and Design (IDD) Part 2	
BMRA Design Specification	
BMRA Manual System Specification	
BMRA Operating Services Manual	
BMRA System Specification	
BMRA User Requirements Specifications (URS)	

Other Impacts

Item impacted	Potential impact
None	

5 Recommendations



On the basis of this initial written assessment, ELEXON invites the Panel to:

- DETERMINE that Modification Proposal P243 progresses to the Assessment Procedure;
- AGREE the Assessment Procedure timetable of 3 months, where an Assessment Report should be completed and submitted to the Panel at its meeting in November 2009;
- DETERMINE that the P243 Modification Group should be formed from members of the Settlements Standing Modification Group (SSMG), supported by group members who attended the P219/P220 Modification Groups; and
- AGREE the Modification Group's Terms of Reference.

Assessment Length

BSCCo recommends an Assessment Procedure of 3 months

6 Further Information

Attachment A: P243 Modification Proposal form

Further information is included in the P243 Modification Proposal form, which is included as Attachment A to this document.

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