

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

P244

Provision of BritNed flow data to the BMRS

This Modification seeks to include data relating to the Netherlands-England Interconnector on the Balancing Mechanism Reporting System (BMRS).



ELEXON recommends
A 2 month Assessment Procedure



Impacts:
Transmission Company, BMRS, BMRS users.

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About this document:

This document is an Initial Written Assessment (IWA), which ELEXON will present to the Panel on 10 September 2009. The Panel will consider the recommendations and agree how to progress P244.

Further information is available in the P244 Modification Proposal which is an appendix to this document.



Any questions?

Contact:
Sherwin Cotta



sherwin.cotta@elexon.co.uk



0207 380 4361

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1 Why Change?



The BMRS

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

Interconnector data on the BMRS

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

Currently, the BMRS provides near real-time information for Out-turn generation data by fuel type. 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. There are 11 'Fuel type categories' which are:

- CCGT Modules;
- Oil Plant;
- Coal Plant;
- Nuclear Plant;
- Power Park Modules;
- Pumped Storage Plant;
- Non Pumped Storage Hydro Plant;
- Open Cycle Gas Turbine Plant;
- External Interconnection flows from France to England;
- External Interconnection flows from Northern Ireland to Scotland; and
- a single category containing any other generation not covered above

The issue

The above categories show that flows from the England-France and Northern Ireland-Scotland Interconnectors are reported separately on the BMRS.

In late 2010, a new Interconnector is scheduled to be operational. This Interconnector will run between the Netherlands and England and will be known as 'BritNed'.

However, there is no provision in the BSC to accommodate the reporting of Out-turn data for the BritNed Interconnector on the BMRS. In order to publish BritNed data, in line with data already published for the French and Irish Interconnectors, BritNed will require a similar fuel type category and BSC provisions for reporting information on the BMRS.

Why Assessment Phase?

The BSC Panel has the ability to progress a Modification straight to Report Phase, if it is deemed to be self evident. P244 can be seen as an example of such a self evident Modification as the principle of including Interconnectors as a separate fuel type category was agreed under a previous Modification (P220).

The P220 Modification Group believed that different Interconnectors should be published as separate fuel type categories as it helps increase the transparency of market information. Whilst the Group believed these fuel types should be 'hardwired' into the Code, they also noted that any future additions to fuel type categories would likely be on the recommendation of the Transmission Company (as with P244) and as such might be brought to the Panel's attention without the requirement for a Modification.

As P244 seeks to introduce data for a third Interconnector on the BMRS, supplementing the already established Interconnector data, it can be seen as self evident.

However, whilst we recognise that P244 could progress straight to the Report Phase, we are recommending a 2 month assessment. This is for 3 main reasons:

1. Although we have attempted to obtain Implementation costs from both the Transmission Company and the BSC Agent, these costs will not be available in

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advance of the September 2009 BSC Panel meeting. Should P244 progress straight to the Report Phase, the BSC Panel and industry participants would not have sight of costs until at the end of the Modification Process. We believe that it is important to consider the implementation costs as part of any industry consultation. This approach is also supported by the P220 Group who believed the implementation costs for BMRS Modification should always be visible;

2. We anticipate that data will be required for future Interconnectors (the forthcoming 'England – Belgium' Interconnector, a new '[France – England](#)' Interconnector and two '[Ireland - GB](#)' Interconnectors. As such, the Assessment Phase provides an opportunity for a Modification group to consider a more flexible way to accommodate future Interconnectors in a cost efficient manner; and
3. Additionally, the P244 Modification will share resources with P243 'Generator Forward Availability by Fuel type' such as the same Modification Group and timescales, enabling for a more cost effective progression. This is in line with previous industry discussions, where the P220 Modification Group believed that amendments to the fuel type categories should be implemented alongside other changes to the BMRS and National Grid systems, so as to avoid the full standalone costs from being incurred.

Proposed Solution

P244 seeks to establish BritNed as an additional fuel type category on the BMRS so that its contribution to generation can be included in the relevant reports.

The BMRS reports that include a breakdown by fuel type will be modified to include an additional category for the BritNed flow. Four reports are affected:

- Instantaneous Generation by Fuel Type (FUELINST, graphical and tabular)
- HH Generation by Fuel Type (FUELHH, graphical and tabular)
- BM Unit Fuel Type (spreadsheet)
- Average Half Hourly Interconnector Flows (graphical and tabular)

These reports are available from the Electricity Summary Page of the BMRS

The Proposer notes that the BritNed Interconnector is not scheduled 'go live' until late 2010, but that it is prudent to raise a Modification now so that it can be implemented in plenty of time.

Interaction with P243

Modification P243 'Generator Forward Availability by Fuel Type' is currently in the Assessment Phase of the Modification Process and also seeks to add further reporting on the BMRS.

Whilst P243 and P244 are not contingent on each other, it seems both pragmatic and efficient that these Modifications should be progressed to identical timescales using the same Modification Group.

There are also potential cost savings to be had by progressing and implementing P243 and P244 together. National Grid have indicated that as both Modifications would involve changes to National Grid's IT systems, it would be more cost efficient to implement multiple changes at the same time. A similar rationale with respect to costs would be applicable for the BMRS. Any potential savings will be identified as part of the impact assessments of P243 and P244.

Applicable BSC Objectives

The Proposer believes that this Modification would better facilitate the Applicable BSC Objectives (b) and (c) respectively as:

- The provision of clear and transparent information should have a positive impact on the self balancing of market participants. Consequently, this should improve the efficient, economic and co-ordinated operation of the national electricity transmission system (Applicable BSC Objective (b)); and
- Information that is easily accessible and transparent to all of the market should provide a level playing field for all market participants. This in turn is believed to promote effective competition in the generation and supply of electricity (Applicable BSC Objective (c)).

3 Proposed Progression

Terms of Reference

ELEXON believes that the P244 Modification Group should be the same group members (SSMG) that are involved in the assessment of Modification Proposal P243.

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
1	Identify the impact of P244 on the BMRS and the Transmission Company
2	Confirm that P244 should be implemented with P243
3	The benefits and drawbacks of P244.
4	Whether an Alternative Modification is required

Timetable and costs

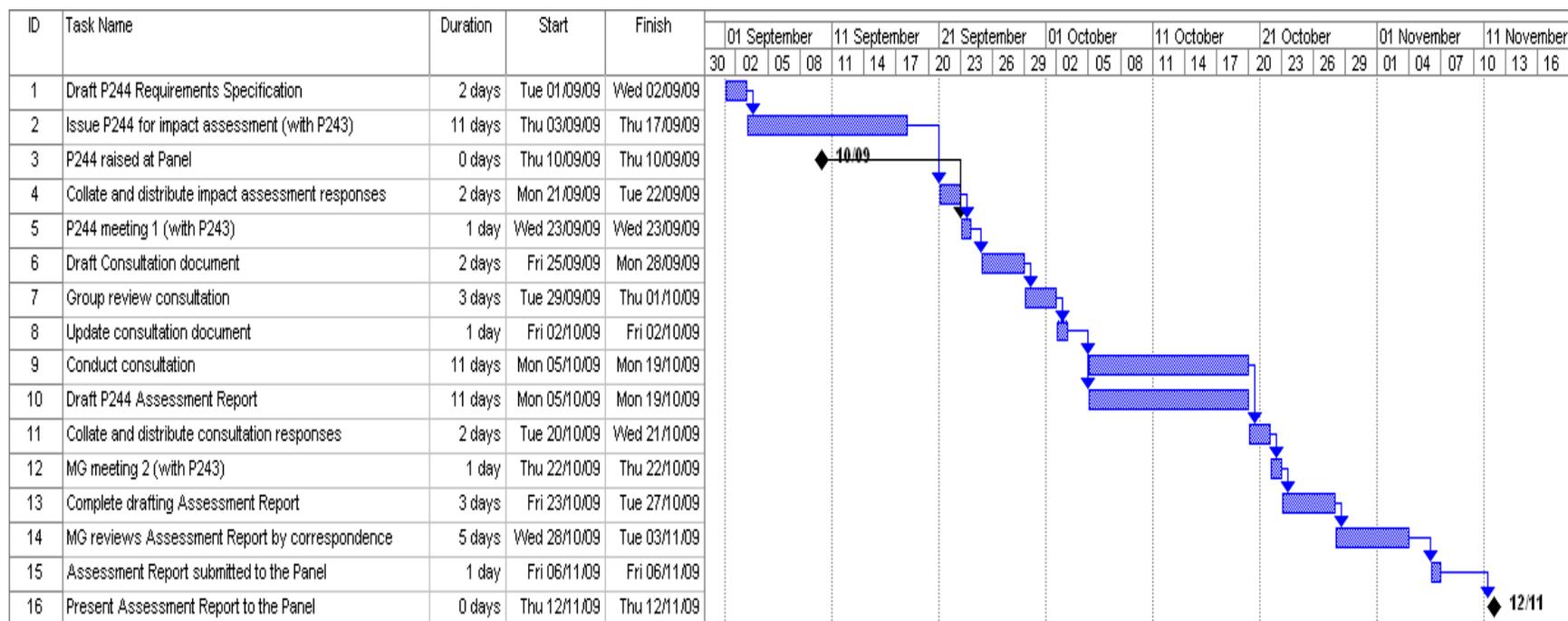
Estimated progression costs based on proposed timetable	
Meeting costs (including Modification Group member expenses)	£ 500 (shared with P243)
ELEXON resource	21 man days, equating to £10,000

As the areas for consideration are well defined, BSCCo recommends a 2 month Assessment Procedure for P244. This time will be used to further consider and consult upon the areas raised in this IWA.

We estimate that progression of P244 will require:

- 2 Modification Group meetings, which will be shared with P244;
- 1 impact assessment;
- 1 industry consultation/impact assessment ; and
- 1 request for Transmission Company analysis.

Timetable and Costs



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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

BMRS High Grade users will be able to receive the additional data via the website and/or TIBCO messaging. Low Grade users will be able to receive the additional data through via the public website. Both types of user may need to alter systems or processes to accommodate the changes.

Impact on Transmission Company

Changes will be required to the National Grid systems, in order to submit new 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 BMRS.

Impact on Code

Code section	Potential impact
Section Q	This section will need amendment to reference BritNed as one of the fuel type categories used for BMRS reporting. Other sections of the BSC may require amendment.

Impact on Code Subsidiary Documents

CSD	Potential impact
BMRA Service Description	Change would need to be captured in this document to reflect the P244 solution

Impact on Core Industry Documents and other documents

Document	Potential impact
None	

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Impact on other Configurable Items	
Configurable Item	Potential Impact
BMRA & SAA Interface Specification	Changes may be needed to reference the transfer of the additional data
BMRA User Requirements Specification (URS)	Changes to these documents will be required to reference the revised data flows, tables and graphs
Logica Interface Definition and Design (IDD) Part 1	
BMRA Design Specification	
BMRA System Specification	

Assessment Length

BSCCo recommends an Assessment Procedure of 2 months

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 P244 progresses to the Assessment Procedure;
- AGREE the Assessment Procedure timetable of 2 months, where an Assessment Report should be completed and submitted to the Panel at its meeting in November 2009;
- DETERMINE that the P244 Modification Group should consist of the same group members (SSMG) that are involved in the assessment of Modification Proposal P243; and
- AGREE the Modification Group's Terms of Reference.

6 Further Information

Further information is included in the **P244 Modification Proposal** form, which is included as Attachment A to this document.

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